

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

# GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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## Poland

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### Grain and Feed Annual - Poland 2016

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**Report Highlights:**

Total Poland production of grain for marketing year (MY) 2016/17 is forecast to increase by about 6 percent to 29.5 million metric tons (MMT). This would be the result of better average yield expectations for this year in comparison with last year's very bad results. Total acreage for grain plantings is estimated to be higher by three percent than for 2015. Winterkill losses in winter wheat and winter barley has been reported at the end of February 2016. It is expected that winter grain losses will be offset by spring grain.

Please Note: This report is to be read in conjunction with the Annual EU28 Consolidated Grain and Feed Report ([Grain and Feed Annual London EU-28 4-1-2016](#)) and provides further information on Poland's market of grain and feed.

## Grains Area and Production

### **MY 2016/17**

Total production of wheat, rye, mixed grains, triticale, barley, corn and oats in 2016/17 MY is forecast to increase by about 6 percent to 29.5 million metric tons (MMT). This would be a result of better average yield expectations in comparison with last year's very bad results that resulted from unfavorable summer weather conditions. Total acreage for grain plantings is estimated to be higher by three percent over 2015.

Current winter planting health is very diverse regionally. In autumn 2015 a lack of soil moisture, especially on sandy stands and lower class soils, made farmers start sowing later than optimal. In November 2015 winter rye and winter mixed grain plant health was assessed lower than in November 2014. In February 2016 some winterkill of winter grains were noticed. This was the result of a sudden weather change at the end of December 2015 when temperatures suddenly dropped from 15 to minus 22 Celsius degrees, without snow cover and with frosty winds. In the north and east northern part of the country, plant condition is assessed worse than for the same time of last year. Total losses are currently assessed for 15 percent of the planting area. It is expected that winter grain losses will be offset by spring grains output.

Spring grain acreage will increase significantly; partially due to about 100,000 HA lower acreage in rapeseed sowings. During winter rapeseed sowing time the soil was too dry for planting in some regions. It is expected that this lost area is to be replaced mostly by spring wheat on better soil stands and by spring mixed grains and oats on sandy soil stands. Spring barley should replace planting area suffering from winterkills and rapeseed if there is a late start to the spring vegetation period.

Winterkill losses were relatively small in the southern parts and the west central part of Poland, the main base of wheat production.

### **MY 2015/16**

Poland's 2015 grain production is estimated at 27.9 million metric tons. The crop result is worse than that for the last three consecutive years of very good grain crops. Lower crops resulted from drought in summer 2015.

The weather conditions for winter grain development in Poland were good until the end of March 2015. The winter was very mild and there was no winterkill. Soil moisture was reported to be well enough as well. A lack of rain and dry soils in summer changed the situation rapidly, diminishing yields. Corn crops losses were the biggest. Losses in rye and mixed grains were very significant as well. In some regions plants rested on the fields as they dried out and they were not harvested. In 2015 total grain acreage remained on par with 2014 acreage, estimated at 7.4 million HA.

Area, yields, production of grains total in Poland

<b>Poland</b>	<b>Area (million/Ha)</b>	<b>Yield (MT/Ha)</b>	<b>Total Production (MMT)</b>
2014	7.4	4.27	31.8
2015	7.4	3.73	27.9
2016*	7.6	3.85	29.5
2015=100	1.03	1.03	1.06

Source: Main Statistical Office, Poland

\* FAS/Warsaw forecast

Area of grain sowings in Poland in the years 2013 – 2016, (000) HA

Poland	2013	2014	2015	2016*	Structure of sowings in 2015 (%)	Structure of sowings in 2016 (%)
Wheat	2,138	2,339	2,400	2,350	33.5	32.0
Rye	1,173	885	700	900	9.8	12.2
Mixed grains and triticale	2,189	2,186	2,300	2,300	29.3	28.6
Barley	820	808	800	850	11.2	11.6
Corn	614	678	673	650	9.4	8.8
Oats	434	480	500	500	7.0	6.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,368</b>	<b>7,376</b>	<b>7,373</b>	<b>7,550</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Main Statistical Office, Poland

\* FAS/Warsaw estimation and forecast

Production of grains in Poland in the years 2013 – 2016, (000) Metric Tons

Poland	2013	2014	2015	2016*	Structure of production in 2015 (%)	Structure of production in 2016 (%)
Wheat	9,485	11,629	11,000	10,500	39.5	35.6
Rye	3,359	2,793	2,000	2,500	7.2	8.5
Mixed grains and triticale	7,295	8,100	7,500	7,900	26.9	26.8
Barley	2,934	3,275	3,000	3,180	10.8	10.8
Corn	4,040	4,470	3,170	4,030	11.4	13.7
Oats	1,190	1,500	1,200	1,400	4.3	4.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>28,303</b>	<b>31,767</b>	<b>27,870</b>	<b>29,510</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Main Statistical Office, Poland

\* FAS/Warsaw estimation and forecast

## Trade

For 2015/16 Poland's grain export potential decreased in comparison with the previous year's, due to lower crops and lower demand from the EU countries. For 2015/16 MY total grain exports are expected to reach 3.9 MMT with the biggest share to soft wheat (70 percent of total grain export volume). In 2015/16 MY wheat exports are expected to diminish to the half of the volume exported in 2014/15. The quality of grain was not as good as last year. Grains were smaller and dry. Saudi Arabia, Germany, Algeria and Morocco are the main export destinations for Poland.

The share of non EU exports in total grain export sales from Poland has continued to increase each year with wheat exports developing fastest. Exports of other grains like rye, barley, triticale and corn is forecast to decline for 2015/16 in comparison with 2014/15 MY. A sharp decline of rye exports is predicted for 2015/16 MY. Lower than average yields did not offset the lower planted acreage that decreased domestic supply and export potential for rye for Poland. The availability of corn from Poland diminished dramatically. It is estimated that 2015/16 exports of corn will drop by 60 percent. Nevertheless the quality of corn for feedstuff is assessed generally good. Due to dry weather during the vegetation period the threat of mycotoxine contamination was limited to a minimum.

Poland's main grain and cereal products suppliers are the EU states. Their share of total Polish grain imports is estimated to reach 82 percent in MY 2015/16. For 2015/16 it is forecast that total grain import, including intra EU trade, will amount to 1.9 MMT, much more in comparison with last year.

Grain Exports from Poland, (000) MT

	MY 2013/14	MY 2014/15	MY 2015/16*
	Total exports	Total exports	Total exports
Wheat	2,685	4,680	2,640
Rye	1,046	597	300
Corn	925	737	310
Barley	194	198	180
Mixed grains & triticale	266	584	400
Oats	33	87	50
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,149</b>	<b>6,883</b>	<b>3,880</b>

Source: Global Trade Atlas Eurostat

\*FAS/Warsaw forecast

Grain Imports to Poland, (000) MT

	MY 2013/14	MY 2014/15	MY 2015/16*
	Total imports	Total imports	Total imports
Wheat	759	671	473
Rye	11	10	23
Corn	402	279	800
Barley	268	144	350
Mixed grains & triticale	6	6	3

Oats	17	20	50
<b>Total</b>	<b>1463</b>	<b>1130</b>	<b>1699</b>

Source: Global Trade Atlas Eurostat

\*FAS/Warsaw forecast

## **Wheat**

### Wheat Production, Trade, Consumption

<b>Poland</b>	<b>2013/14</b>	<b>2014/15</b>	<b>2015/16*</b>	
<b>Marketing Year Begin</b>	<b>July 2013</b>	<b>July 2014</b>	<b>July 2015</b>	
Area	2,138	2,339	2,400	(000) HA
Production	9,485	11,629	11,000	(000) MT
MY Imports	759	671	473	(000) MT
MY Exports	2,685	4,680	2,640	(000) MT
Total Consumption	8,503	8,000	8,610	(000) MT

Source: FAS/Warsaw, Global Trade Atlas, Main Statistical Office, Poland

\*FAS/Warsaw estimation and forecast

### **MY 2016/17**

For 2016/17 wheat production in Poland is forecast at 10.5 MMT. The acreage of wheat plantings for the harvest 2015 is expected to diminish by 50,000 HA, 2 percent less in comparison with the previous year. Domestic consumption is expected to increase due to forecast growth in feed use. Yield prospects are moderate due to winterkills and a good condition of winter wheat in February. It is expected that higher acreage of spring winter sowings will offset the losses in winter grains.

### **MY 2015/16**

The wheat harvest for 2015 is estimated at 11.0 MMT, 5.4 percent lower than in 2014. Good profitability expected for wheat production in comparison to other grains and export demand and a low initial stocks level were the main drivers for the growing acreage of wheat sowings in 2015. Wheat acreage is estimated at 2.4 million hectares, almost in line with 2014. For 2015/16 the total supply of wheat is much lower than last year's level. Feed use is expected to show a growing tendency, mostly due to poultry industry development. Beginning 2014 the falling prices of feedstuffs created an incentive for hog production. The demand for feed quality wheat increased from both the feed industry and swine producers who prepare on-farm feedstuffs. Human consumption of wheat is forecast to increase due to growing demand from the food processing industry. For 2015/16 Poland is expected to lose its high position as an exporter of wheat gained in 2014/15 MY. A lower than 2014 harvest diminished the surplus of grain for export. In the first five months of MY 2015/16 non EU exports decreased by over 50 percent in comparison with the last season. Growing demand for soft wheat from Saudi Arabia, Algeria and Morocco was the main driver for the fast export growth dynamics in the last years.

## **Rye**

### Rye Production, Trade, Consumption

<b>Poland</b>	<b>2013/14</b>	<b>2014/15</b>	<b>2015/16*</b>	
<b>Marketing Year Begin</b>	<b>July 2013</b>	<b>July 2014</b>	<b>July 2015</b>	
Area	1,173	885	700	(000) HA
Production	3,359	2,793	2,000	(000) MT

MY Imports	11	10	23	(000) MT
MY Exports	1,046	597	300	(000) MT
Total Consumption	2,363	2,160	1,840	(000) MT

Source: FAS/Warsaw, Global Trade Atlas, Main Statistical Office, Poland

\*FAS/Warsaw estimation and forecast

### MY 2016/17

For 2016 production of rye is estimated higher than for 2015, to increase to 2.5 MMT, by 25 percent. The acreage of plantings for the 2016 harvest is reported to be much higher than for last year's, up by 29 percent. Industry demand and very low level of stocks raised farmers' interest for increasing rye planting. Human consumption will remain stable. Feed use is expected to increase but at a lower level than in the past few years.

### MY 2015/16

For 2015 production of rye decreased by almost 29 percent and amounted to 2.0 MMT. The sharp drop in production was the result of much lower rye acreage and very bad yields due to drought. Very high prices for rye in Poland led to a diminishing demand for rye as a feedstuff. Rye was mostly replaced by triticale which was much more profitable. The declining tendency of human consumption of rye foodstuffs stopped. For 2015 /16 MY human consumption is expected to stabilize at the level of 850,000 MT. The use of grains in the feed industry shows quite the opposite direction. Export demand was the main driver for rye production dynamics.

### Mixed Grains & Triticale\*

Mixed Grains and Triticale Production, Trade, Consumption

Poland	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16*	
Marketing Year Begin	July 2013	July 2014	July 2015	
Area	2,189	2,186	2,300	(000) HA
Production	7,295	8,100	7,500	(000) MT
MY Imports	6	6	3	(000) MT
MY Exports	266	584	400	(000) MT
Total Consumption	7,280	7,290	7,390	(000) MT

Source: FAS/Warsaw, Global Trade Atlas, Main Statistical Office, Poland

\*Mixed grain & triticale complex include triticale and the threshed seeds of different varieties of grains like wheat, barley, oat, rye planted on the same field as a one crop.

\*\*FAS/Warsaw estimation and forecast

### MY 2016/17

The declining tendency for mixed grains production, with replacement by triticale, is expected to continue. A small recovery in hog production has increased farmers' interest in growing triticale in the past three years. Outbreaks of African Swine Fever (ASF) stopped hog production growth dynamics. Higher domestic demand for mixed grains is not predicted. Mixed grains and triticale are traditionally used for feedstuff mostly on poor soils where this is the only profitable economic choice for farmers. Use for bio-ethanol production is relatively small, amounting to about 2.5 percent of domestic consumption. The demand for both varieties of grains from the industry is very unstable.

For 2015/16 year it is forecasted to increase in comparison with the last year.

### **MY 2015/16**

The declining tendency to grow mixed grains continues in Poland. In 2015 the additional factor behind diminishing crops of mixed grains was dry weather. A lack of rain and soil moisture led to crops damage, especially on sandy light soils. The acreage of mixed grains diminished while acreage of triticale increased. Total acreage of mixed grains in 2015 was higher by 5 percent over last year's. Despite the higher planted area production was less and fell to 7.5 MMT, 7.4 percent down. The main direction of mixed grains use is on-farm feed use which is more and more unprofitable and being replaced by more profitable triticale. Changes in inner structure of mixed grain production are going on as well. The share of triticale production in total mixed grains is growing. An ample supply of triticale also resulted in increased exports in 2014, mostly to Germany, but also to the Scandinavian and the Baltic countries. This success was not repeated in 2015. Exports of triticale are estimated to decline by 32 percent in 2015.

### **Barley**

Barley Production, Trade, Consumption

<b>Poland</b>	<b>2013/14</b>	<b>2014/15</b>	<b>2015/16*</b>	
<b>Marketing Year Begin</b>	<b>July 2013</b>	<b>July 2014</b>	<b>July 2015</b>	
Area	820	808	800	(000) HA
Production	2,934	3,275	3,000	(000) MT
MY Imports	268	144	350	(000) MT
MY Exports	194	198	180	(000) MT
Total Consumption	3,285	3,265	3,110	(000) MT

Source: FAS/Warsaw, Global Trade Atlas, Main Statistical Office, Poland

\*FAS/Warsaw estimation and forecast

### **MY 2016/17**

According to reports on the planted acreage for 2016 harvest, total barley planted area will increase to 850,000 ha and the predicted crop would amount to 3.18 MMT. The crop forecast will be higher by 6 percent as the result of bigger planted area. Acreage will be higher due to higher acreage of spring barley which is expected to replace other winter grain plantings lost after winter. Winter barley is reported to be in a worse health condition than other winter varieties of grains. Although as the larger proportion of barley in Poland is being sown in spring, the condition of winter plants should not affect the main barley crop. It is forecasted that domestic use of barley for feed will exceed last year's use by 5 percent. Demand from the industry for beer production use should stay below last year's level.

### **MY 2015/16**

In 2015/16 barley plantings fell due to economic reasons. In past years low prices for barley made some farmers give up this grain replacing it with other types of grain, especially rapeseed if agro-technical reasons allowed it. For 2015 barley production is estimated to be 8.4 percent lower than last year due to much lower acreage of barley plantings and bad yield. Barley production amounted to 3.0 MM. Domestic demand for beer remains stable for 2014/15 MY. Foreign demand for malt declined.

## Corn

### Corn Production, Trade, Consumption

<b>Poland</b>	<b>2013/14</b>	<b>2014/15</b>	<b>2015/16*</b>	
<b>Marketing Year Begin</b>	<b>October 2013</b>	<b>October 2014</b>	<b>October 2015</b>	
Area	614	678	673	(000) HA
Production	4,040	4,470	3,170	(000) MT
MY Imports	402	279	800	(000) MT
MY Exports	925	737	310	(000) MT
Total Consumption	3,705	4,048	3,797	(000) MT

Source: FAS/Warsaw, Global Trade Atlas, Main Statistical Office, Poland

\*FAS/Warsaw estimation and forecast

### **MY 2016/17**

It is expected that corn acreage in 2016 will slightly diminish in comparison with last year due to lower profitability in 2015 and smaller export demand than in last few years. Farmers' interest in corn increased at the end of February 2016 when winterkills in winter grains were announced. Unfortunately there are difficulties in corn qualified seed supply on the market. Demand for corn seed exceeds supply and remained unmet until March. Corn production is forecast at 4.0 MMT, 27 percent higher than last year's very bad crop. Demand from the feed industry is forecast to stay in line with 2015. Corn consumption will be leveraged mostly by broiler production development. High prices for corn in 2015 after the very bad harvest will keep corn use for bioethanol at a lower level.

### **MY 2015/16**

In MY 2015/16 the acreage of corn for grain (excluding corn for silage) remained a little bit lower than last year's level. It is estimated at 673,000 hectares. Corn acreage declined by 1 percent in comparison with 2014/15 record year. Production of corn is estimated at 3.17 MMT. It is 1.3 MMT lower than last year's record. The summer dry weather conditions affected corn plantations very strongly. In some regions dry plants were not harvested for corn but for silage. For the last few years Poland has remained a net exporter of corn, but in 2015/16 MY the situation changed, imports are expected to exceed exports. Total exports of this grain are forecast to diminish by 60 percent in comparison with 2014/15. The main reason is the Poland's lower export potential after a bad harvest. Corn use for feed diminished despite a continuing rise in poultry production. Poultry production is the main push in corn consumption in Poland. Human consumption of corn is very small and stable. Smaller corn supply diminished industry use of corn for ethanol and isoglucose production.

## Oats

### Oats Production, Trade, Consumption

<b>Poland</b>	<b>2013/14</b>	<b>2014/15</b>	<b>2015/16*</b>	
<b>Marketing Year Begin</b>	<b>July 2013</b>	<b>July 2014</b>	<b>July 2015</b>	
Area	434	480	500	(000) HA
Production	1,190	1,500	1,200	(000) MT
MY Imports	17	20	50	(000) MT
MY Exports	33	87	50	(000) MT
Total Consumption	1,264	1,399	1,219	(000) MT

Source: FAS/Warsaw, Global Trade Atlas, Main Statistical Office, Poland  
\*FAS/Warsaw estimation and forecast

For 2016/17 the total oats supply in Poland is expected to increase in comparison with the previous year. It is forecast that acreage remains unchanged on the level of 2015. Yields are forecast at much higher level than last year's extremely bad results. It is forecast that 2016 oat crop would reach 1.4 MMT.

In 2015 oat production amounted to 1.2 MMT. Almost 90 percent was used for feed purposes. Due to the very bad harvest, the consumption of oats declined in 2015. The acreage of oat plantings varies up and down accordingly to the seasonal changes of prices of other grains – mainly rye and triticale. Oat exports from Poland are almost exclusively directed at the internal EU market, with the biggest share going to Spain.

MY= Poland's local marketing year of July to June except for corn which follows on October to September calendar.

End of Report.