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## Czech Republic

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### Record Breaking Rapeseed and Good Grains Crop in the Czech Republic

**Report Categories:**

Grain and Feed  
Oilseeds and Products  
Agriculture in the News

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**Report Highlights:**

Despite recent flooding, the first estimates of 2013 Czech crops are very positive. Grains overwintered well. Higher yields will generate nearly 16 percent increase in total production on slightly smaller total planted area. Total grains production is forecast to reach 6.5 MMT. The 2013 rapeseed crop keeps pushing Czech agronomical limits with the largest sown area, and an increasing yield which should generate a record breaking rapeseed harvest of 1.3 MMT.

## **General Information:**

In general, grains overwintered very well, especially winter wheat which is classified as in a very good shape. Exportable surplus of decent quality wheat is expected. Winter wheat yield, which improved significantly compared to last year, is forecast at 5.41 MT/HA. With only an insignificant increase of sowing area, the result will be one third higher wheat production y-o-y, providing the weather stays favorable through harvest

Winter barley sowing area went slightly up, as well, but spring barley area dropped significantly. Because of that, total barley sowing area declined compared to last year by 9 percent, which will result in a projected total barley production decline of three percent.

A long and cold winter caused planting of spring crops to be delayed approximately two weeks. Unless a distinct period of very warm weather occurs, farmers will need to delay harvest of spring crops to compensate for the late plantings which to date considered in poor condition due to persistent cool rainy weather throughout the spring. In some regions farmers faced problems with excessive soil moisture and flooding. Area planted to spring grains was minimal this year, due to the high survival rate of winter grains that necessitated minimal reseeding in the spring.

The only grains foreseen to have a lower average yield compared to last year are rye and oats. Rye sowing area, however, has been increased over the last couple years, and owing to that total rye production is expected to be nearly 14 percent up this year. Sowing area of oats declined this year, and total production is estimated 16 percent lower than last year.

Rapeseed sowing area hit its highest level this year, reaching 419 thousand hectares. While some view this record crop as a plus, others view it differently as such a large area of rapeseed will hinder proper crop rotation. Being a profitable crop, rapeseed has grown to become the second largest crop in the Czech Republic after wheat. Its record breaking production will amount 1,313 thousand MT this year.

For more details you can see sowing areas, yields and total production estimates made to June 20, 2013 by the Czech Statistical Office (CZSO) in the table below. These estimates were published on July 11, 2013 and can be found on the CZSO website with further details.

## **Author Defined:**

	<i>Sowing area (ha)</i>		<i>Yield (MT/ha)</i>		<i>Production (MT)</i>	
	2012	2013	<i>Final harvest 2012</i>	<i>Estimate June 2013</i>	<i>Final harvest 2012</i>	<i>Estimate June 2013</i>
<b><i>Grains total</i></b>	1,323,238	1,306,257	4.27	5.00	5,644,671	<b>6,531,903</b>
<b><i>Wheat total</i></b>	815,381	829,393	4.32	5.35	3,518,896	<b>4,440,271</b>
<b><i>Winter wheat</i></b>	746,002	788,422	4.34	5.41	3,234,859	<b>4,265,109</b>
<b><i>Spring wheat</i></b>	69,379	40,970	4.09	4.28	284,037	<b>175,162</b>
<b><i>Rye</i></b>	30,557	37,498	4.81	4.45	146,962	<b>166,861</b>
<b><i>Barley total</i></b>	382,330	348,992	4.23	4.49	1,616,467	<b>1,567,414</b>
<b><i>Winter barley</i></b>	98,004	106,265	3.98	4.71	390,385	<b>500,007</b>
<b><i>Spring barley</i></b>	284,326	242,727	4.31	4.40	1,226,082	<b>1,067,407</b>
<b><i>Oats</i></b>	50,770	43,559	3.39	3.33	171,976	<b>144,997</b>
<b><i>Triticale</i></b>	44,200	46,816	4.31	4.54	190,370	<b>212,360</b>
<b><i>Rapeseed</i></b>	401,319	418,808	2.76	3.13	1,109,137	<b>1,312,919</b>

Source: Czech Statistical Office, [www.czso.cz](http://www.czso.cz)