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## Romania

**Post:** Bucharest

### **Romanian oilseed crops continue the upward trend**

**Report Categories:**

Oilseeds and Products

Grain and Feed

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**Report Highlights:**

Sunflower and rapeseed crops have responded well to the favorable climatic conditions in 2014.

Rapeseed exports are poised to grow in MY 2014/15 by 85 percent due to the large supply, and remain steady in case of sunflower seeds.

## General Information:

### Rapeseeds

Mild winter, warm temperature and improved soil moisture have been the major factors playing in favor of good yields for the MY 2014/15 crop. Frequent rains and strong storms in June and beginning of July interrupted or delayed the harvesting process, with an effect on the quality. In terms of volume, production exceeded the initial estimates, being now estimated at 1.15 million MT, which is more than 50 percent compared to 2013.

The high rapeseed availability is reflected into the large volume exported in the first month of the season (492,000 MT in July 2014 versus 187,000 MT in July 2013), which is about more than half of the quantity anticipated to be exported during the entire year. The EU member states with significant crushing capacities are in general the major rapeseed buyers (Belgium, Netherlands and in a limited extent France). The table below shows the rapeseed export structure for the past three MYs.

**Table 1 – Romania’s rapeseed exports (major destinations)**

Partner Country	Unit	Quantity			% Change
		July 2011- June 2012	July 2012- June 2013	July 2013- June 2014	2014/2013
World, of which	T	606,869	33,469	486,467	1353.48
Belgium	T	245,573	-	183,722	0.00
Netherlands	T	115,086	18,581	139,253	649.42
France	T	38,947	1,571	34,741	2111.97
Hungary	T	92,808	4,807	28,778	498.63
Germany	T	70,356	5,474	27,439	401.29
Canada	T	-	-	23,471	0.00
Turkey	T	-	24	15,140	∞
Slovakia	T	9,788	555	10,688	1826.44
Poland	T	1,436	48	6,155	∞
Israel	T	22,486	-	5,250	0.00
Spain	T	-	-	4,114	0.00

Source of Data: Global Trade Atlas

In respect to MY 2015/16 rapeseed crop, reports from the major players in this field suggest a 20 percent expansion of the area. This year crop’ performance and the decision taken by the Romanian authorities to temporarily authorize the use of Neonicotinoides plant treatment for rapeseed may have played a role in farmers’ decision to increase plantings. The authorization does not cover 2015 corn and sunflower crops though, a separate derogation being needed in this regard.

### Sunflower seeds

In 2014, the area sown with sunflower seeds slightly dropped as a result of the smaller area available for

spring crops (rapeseed expanded) and the mild winter which did not trigger rapeseeds replanting. Excess rains in March and April prevented farmers to enter field during the proper timeframe for sowing in many areas, thus the development stages varied widely. Once emerged, improved soil moisture and moderate temperatures ensured a very good development of the plants. The harvested output is expected to be similar to last year record of 2.150 MMT, with the amount to be divided between domestic crush (about 900,000 MT) and export market (1.2 – 1.3 MMT) in MY 2014/15.

In terms of export destinations during the first ten months of the MY 2013/14, France (203,000 MT), Pakistan (185,000 MT), Netherlands (129,972 MT), Hungary (109,000 MT) and Portugal (108,000 MT) accounted for about two thirds of sunflower seed exports. The table below provides the major sunflower seeds export destinations (10 month –trade data).

**Table 2 – Romania’s sunflower seeds exports (major destinations)**

Partner Country	Unit	Quantity		
		October 2011 – July 2012	October 2012 – July 2013	October 2013 – July 2014
World, of which	T	745,636	597,833	1,019,103
France	T	161,689	63,417	203,509
Pakistan	T	156,435	-	185,985
Netherlands	T	51,606	154,405	129,972
Hungary	T	67,951	40,571	109,354
Portugal	T	41,016	71,395	108,039
South Africa	T	-	-	90,210
Turkey	T	74,769	132,395	68,662
Spain	T	38,510	60,731	46,527
Italy	T	42,777	30,393	38,249
Germany	T	11,633	13,950	16,372

Source of Data: Global Trade Atlas