Standard documentation
Meta information
(definitions, explanations, methods, quality)
on
Statistics for
crops on arable land (cultivated area)

This documentation is valid as of:
2005 reporting year

These statistics were the subject of a feedback quality meeting on 27 September 2007

Status: 11 February 2009

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Contents

1. Summary and important hints ..................................................................................3

   Preliminary remarks ..................................................................................................3

   Objective and purpose ...............................................................................................3

   Subject of the statistics .............................................................................................3

   Data sources, coverage .............................................................................................3

   Data preparation ........................................................................................................4

   Quality .....................................................................................................................4

   Publication ................................................................................................................4

2. General information ..................................................................................................5

   Type of statistics .......................................................................................................5

   Subject area...............................................................................................................5

   Responsible organisational unit and contact details ....................................................5

   Objective and purpose, history .................................................................................5

   Periodicity ................................................................................................................6

   Contracting entity .....................................................................................................6

   Main users ................................................................................................................6

   Legal basis ................................................................................................................6

3. Statistical concepts and methodology ....................................................................7

   Subject of the statistics .............................................................................................7

   Observed unit / reporting unit / presentation unit .......................................................7

   Data sources ..............................................................................................................9

   Reporting unit and responders ..................................................................................9

   Survey format ...........................................................................................................9

   Sample characteristics .............................................................................................9

   Survey techniques / data transmission .....................................................................9

   Survey questionnaire (including explanatory notes) ..................................................9

   Survey participation (mandatory or voluntary) .........................................................9

   Variables surveyed and derived, indicators (including definition) ..........................9

   Classifications used ................................................................................................10

   Regional breakdown of the results .........................................................................10

4. Production of statistics, processing, Quality assurance measures ....................11

   Data capture .............................................................................................................11

   Coding .....................................................................................................................11

   Editing and verification of data sources used ...........................................................11

   Imputation (where responses are missing or data incomplete) ................................11

   Grossing up procedures (weighting) .....................................................................11

   Compilation of the final data set, (other) models and statistical estimation techniques used 11

   Other quality assurance measures .......................................................................12

5. Publication (accessibility) .......................................................................................12

   Preliminary results....................................................................................................12

   Final results .............................................................................................................12

   Revisions ................................................................................................................12

   Published in: ............................................................................................................12

   Treatment of confidential data ...............................................................................13

6. Quality ....................................................................................................................13

   6.1. Relevance ..........................................................................................................13

   6.2. Accuracy ............................................................................................................13

      6.2.1. Sampling effects .........................................................................................13

      6.2.2. Non-sampling effects ...............................................................................13

         Quality of data sources used .............................................................................13

         Coverage (misclassifications, undercoverage/overcoverage) .............................13

         Missing responses (unit non-response, item non-response) .............................14

         Measurement errors (entry errors) .................................................................14

         Processing errors ............................................................................................14

         Model assumption effects ..............................................................................14

   6.3. Timeliness and punctuality ...............................................................................15

   6.4. Comparability ....................................................................................................15

   6.5. Coherence .........................................................................................................15

Reference to supplementary documentation/publications .....................................16

Annex: Glossary and list of abbreviations .................................................................16
1. Summary and important hints

Preliminary remarks

Until 2004, cultivated area for crops on arable land was published according to the business principle, i.e. the area was not assigned to the individual municipality according to its actual location, but was recorded in the municipality in which the farmer's place of business or place of residence was located. This led to some distortion in the results when they were broken down regionally. Since 2005 cultivated area is evaluated and publishes according to the location principle.

In the case of time series comparisons that date back some time (prior to 1950), it should also be noted that changes in territorial assignment occurred within some regional units (the affiliation of individual political districts shifted between provinces, e.g. Lienz belonged to the province of Carinthia between 1938 and 1947).

Furthermore when comparing space data from the Farm Structure Survey it should be noted that in this survey records also holdings which have not submitted an application for funding. Within the Farm Structure Survey cultivated area should be seen in connection with agricultural and forestry holdings (property of holdings) and therefore is not comparable with land classified under cultivation on arable land (location principle).

Until 2006, energy crops (Miscanthus, Sudan grass) were not included in statistics for crops on arable land, but instead were only recorded in the farm structure surveys under the item "Timber production areas". Since these grasses are cultivated on arable land and are becoming increasingly important, they were assigned to arable land in 2007 for the first time.

Explanations of various specialist terms and abbreviations can be found in the Glossary and list of abbreviations at the end of the standard documentation.

Objective and purpose

Statistics for crops on arable land relate to recording the cultivated area of field crops on arable land.

These statistics are compiled annually and provide the basis for calculation of the annual harvest yield. The data is also used in the supply balance sheets as well as in the Economic Accounts for Agriculture and Forestry (EAA).

Since the Farm Structure Surveys (full or sample-based survey) also cover cultivated area, the secondary statistical data on cultivated area has also been incorporated in the Farm Structure Surveys since 1997.

Subject of the statistics

Cultivated area of individual field crops on arable land

Data sources, coverage

Since 1996 (one year after the IACS [Integrated Administration and Control System] aid system was introduced), the statistics have been based on administrative data and thus compiled as secondary statistics. An expert evaluation is necessary for individual characteristics because administrative data are not available for all characteristics in the required quality.

Under current EU regulations, 95% of the area under cultivation must be recorded. In 1999, 99.3% of the arable area under cultivation (in comparison with the Farm Structure Survey – full survey) was covered. Since no measures are available in certain sectors and not all agricultural holdings participate in the funding measures, undercoverage related to funding applications exists in the horticultural sector (vegetable, flower and ornamental plant cultivation). Moreover, undercoverage is observed for individual items (e.g. oil squash in Styria) due to funding.
Additional corresponding estimates therefore need to be made by experts at the chambers of agriculture.

Data preparation
The data is provided in electronic form by the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management. Expert estimates are obtained from an e-mail survey or telephone consultation.

After the data has been edited and aggregated at provincial level, the results undergo a macro plausibility check by being compared with the previous year's values and with various data from administrative sources (e.g. publications from the chambers of agriculture).

Items for which there is undercoverage due to multiple area applications (horticultural sector [vegetable, flower and ornamental plant cultivation] and oil squash in Styria) are adjusted accordingly in consultation with the relevant experts at the chambers of agriculture and the BMLFUW. In the horticultural sector, estimates or adjustments are carried out by the experts at the chambers of agriculture based on the results of the last horticultural survey at provincial level.

At the request of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management sugarbeet area was – in order to better coherence to the harvest statistics – taken over by the Austrian sugarbeet growers association in 2007.

Quality
Agrarmarkt Austria (AMA) verifies the data in the multiple area application by carrying out both administrative and on-the-spot checks for at least 5% of all applicants in line with the Integrated Administration and Control System (IACS pursuant to COUNCIL REGULATION (EC) No. 1782/2003 of 29 September 2003 establishing common rules for direct support schemes under the common agricultural policy and establishing certain support schemes for farmers and to Commission Regulation (EC) No. 796/2004 of 21 April 2004 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of cross-compliance, modulation and the integrated administration and control system provided for in Council Regulation (EC) No. 1782/2003 establishing common rules for direct support schemes under the common agricultural policy and establishing certain support schemes for farmers).

Checking cultivated area data essentially comprises verifying and measuring declared agricultural parcels by comparing them with the land property database and by using the IACS GIS farm map (illustration of field plots by holding, based on relevant orthophotos and plot data such as parcel numbers and extent of cultivated area) as well as on-the-spot inspections to verify the actual size of the field plot and the crops.

It can therefore be assumed that the data is of a high quality.

Publication
National publication of the results

- Summary report
- Statistische Nachrichten
- Standard publication: Agricultural statistics
- Statistical yearbook of Austria
- Statistics Austria website
- ISIS database
- Österreichischer Zahlenspiegel

In addition, results are published in the following national media:
2. General information

Type of statistics
Secondary statistics: full survey based on administrative data with expert estimates. The expert estimates are needed for individual characteristics for which there is no administrative data available of the required quality.

Subject area
Agricultural statistics/farm structure

Responsible organisational unit and contact details
Agriculture and Forestry Division; Directorate Spatial Statistics
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Objective and purpose, history
Statistics for crops on arable land relate to recording the cultivated area of field crops on arable land.

Data on cultivated area has been published annually since 1871, initially in the Statistisches Jahrbuch des K. K. Ackerbauministeriums [Statistical yearbook of the imperial-royal ministry of arable farming] (1871-1917), later in Anbauflächen und Ernteergebnisse in der Republik Österreich [Cultivated area and harvest yield in the Republic of Austria] (1918-1924) and in Statistik der Ernte in Österreich [Harvest statistics in Austria] (1925-1936). Since 1937, data on the area under cultivation has been included in the series Ergebnisse der Landwirtschaftlichen Statistik [Results of agricultural statistics], which was renamed Statistik der Landwirtschaft [Agricultural statistics] in 2000.

While the data was initially based on official sources and estimates by the district chambers of agriculture, data was obtained using primary statistical surveys (full or sample-based surveys) from 1939, with some of these surveys being conducted as part of the agricultural and forestry holding censuses or farm structure surveys as well as for land use surveys. Since this cultivated area is required annually, this survey – which was conducted as a primary statistical survey until 1995 – was conducted as an independent survey in the form of its own sample-based surveys (around 20 000 holdings) in the years (1980-1994) between the land use surveys and the agricultural and forestry holding censuses.

This cultivated area provides the basis for calculation of the annual harvest and is subsequently incorporated in the supply balance sheets and EAA.

Since 1996 (one year after the IACS [Integrated Administration and Control System] aid system was introduced) statistics base on administrative data and thus compiled as secondary statistics.

The Integrated Administration and Control System (IACS) was introduced in 1995 when Austria joined the EU. Under IACS, detailed data by agricultural parcel on the cultivated area of individual field crops is entered by Agrarmarkt Austria (AMA) using the "multiple area
In order to reduce the respondents' workload and make increased use of administrative data, crops on arable land became a secondary statistical survey as of 1996. Data on the cultivation of field crops is now taken from the multiple area application of Agrarmarkt Austria and evaluated as secondary statistics by Statistics Austria.

The results undergo thorough checks before they are published and are supplemented by expert estimates (chambers of agriculture) in areas (primarily in the vegetable, flower and ornamental plant sectors) of undercoverage with respect to funding applications.

**Periodicity**

Annual

**Contracting entity**


**Main users**

- EU (Eurostat, DG Agri)
- Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management (BMLFUW, also known as the Ministry of Life)
- Austrian Chamber of Agriculture (LKO)
- Provincial chambers of agriculture
- Provincial government departments
- Austrian Institute of Economic Research (WIFO)
- Federal Institute of Agricultural Economics (AWI)
- Agency for Health and Food Safety (AGES)
- Agricultural colleges
- Universities
- Municipalities
- Media
- Business/enterprises
- Internal users at Statistics Austria
- Harvest statistics and subsequently supply balance sheets, Economic Accounts for Agriculture (EAA), environmental and energy statistics.

**Legal basis**

National legal basis:

EU legal basis:
Council Regulation (EEC) No. 959/93 of 5 April 1993 concerning statistical information to be supplied by Member States on crop products other than cereals.

Commission Regulation (EC) No. 2197/95 of 18 September 1995 amending the Annexes to Council Regulations (EEC) No. 837/90 concerning statistical information to be supplied by the Member States on cereal production and (EEC) No. 959/93 concerning statistical information to be supplied by the Member States on crop products other than cereals.


3. Statistical concepts and methodology

Subject of the statistics
Cultivated area of all field crops on arable land

Observed unit / reporting unit / presentation unit
All operators of agricultural and forestry holdings (in accordance with the Agricultural and Forestry Register)

Definition of holding: An agricultural and forestry holding is a technical and economic unit under single management which produces agricultural and forestry products. In addition, the holding may also produce other (non-agricultural) products and services.

The following table contains a list of characteristics that may be covered by administrative data and the characteristics for which additional expert estimates need to be carried out.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field crops</th>
<th>Administrative data</th>
<th>Expert estimate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Winter wheat</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer wheat</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Durum wheat</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelt</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rye</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winter barley</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer barley</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oats</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winter meslin</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Triticale</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer meslin</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other cereals (sorghum, millet, buckwheat, quinoa, amaranth, etc.)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grain maize</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maize for corn-cob-mix (CCM)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silage maize</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green maize</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garden peas</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broad beans</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweet lupins</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lentils, chickpeas and vetches</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other pulses</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early and medium early table potatoes</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Late potatoes</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sugar beet (excluding seeds)</td>
<td>(X)</td>
<td>X (^1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fodder beet and other fodder roots and brassicas</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hops</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tobacco (until 2006)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy crops (Miscanthus, Sudan grass) (from 2007)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winter rape for oil production</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer rape and turnip rape</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunflowers</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soya beans</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poppy seed</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oil flax</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oil squash</td>
<td>X (^2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flax (fibre flax)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hemp</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other oil seed crops (safflower, mustard, sesame, etc.)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aromatic, medicinal and culinary plants</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other industrial plants</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strawberries</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor vegetables: open field</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor vegetables: horticulture</td>
<td>X (^3)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vegetables under glass or plastic</td>
<td>X (^3)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flowers and ornamental plants: outdoor</td>
<td>X (^3)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flowers and ornamental plants: under glass</td>
<td>X (^3)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red clover and other species of clover</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lucerne</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clover grass</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other field fodder crops (hybrids, etc.)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arable/temporary grassland (until 2006)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporary grass (temporary grassland, arable pastures) (from 2007)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seeds and seedlings</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fallow land without any subsidies</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fallow land subject to set-aside incentive schemes</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other arable land crops</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes: 1) Data of the Austrian sugarbeet growers association. - 2) Additional estimate for individual Laender (federal provinces). - 3) Additional estimates for all Laender. – The table shows the minimum additional estimates that need to be carried out annually, i.e. the characteristics for which it is known that there is undercoverage from the administrative data. The list of characteristics for which additional estimates are required may vary slightly from year to year, depending on the quality of and data provided by the administrative data.
Data sources

- Administrative data from Agrarmarkt Austria (multiple area application) and since 2007 data of the Austrian sugarbeet growers association
- Expert estimates by the chambers of agriculture

Reporting unit and respondents

Cultivated area data for all units that have made a relevant multiple area application for funding are supplied electronically to Statistics Austria by AMA free of charge.

Survey format

Full survey based on administrative data and expert estimates for certain characteristics.

Sample characteristics

Not applicable as no sample-based survey.

Survey techniques / data transmission

Once a year, Statistics Austria receives a data file from the BMLFUW with the relevant cultivated area data. This file is supplied by the Computing and Technology Centre for Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management (LFRZ), which is commissioned by the BMLFUW to carry out the evaluation from IACS. For this purpose, Statistics Austria needs to specify annually how the data available in IACS in the context of multiple applications should be assigned to the items required according to the survey programme. The data file is designed in such a way that it meets the requirements of statistics for crops on arable land as well as those of the Farm Structure Survey.

Survey questionnaire (including explanatory notes)

No Statistics Austria survey questionnaire (not a primary survey); these secondary statistics are based on the multiple area application data from Agrarmarkt Austria.

Survey participation (mandatory or voluntary)

All holdings that submit a multiple area application for funding to Agrarmarkt Austria are obliged to supply administrative data in accordance with the Federal Statistics Act as amended.

Variables surveyed and derived, indicators (including definition)

See also harvest survey specifications and legal basis (see above).

Cultivated area for:

- Winter wheat
- Summer wheat
- Durum wheat
- Spelt
- Rye
- Winter barley
- Summer barley
- Oats
- Winter meslin
- Triticale
- Summer meslin
- Other cereals (sorghum, millet, buckwheat, quinoa, amaranth, etc.)
Grain maize
Maize for corn-cob-mix (CCM)
Silage maize
Green maize
Garden peas
Broad beans
Sweet lupins
Lentils, chickpeas and vetches
Other pulses
Early and medium early table potatoes
Late potatoes
Sugar beet (excluding seeds)
Fodder beet and other fodder roots and brassicas
Hops
Tobacco (until 2006)
Energy crops (Miscanthus, Sudan grass) (from 2007)
Winter rape for oil production
Summer rape and turnip rape
Sunflowers
Soya beans
Poppy seed
Oil flax
Oil squash
Flax (fibre flax)
Hemp
Other oil seed crops (safflower, mustard, sesame, etc.)
Aromatic, medicinal and culinary plants
Other industrial plants
Strawberries
Outdoor vegetables: open field
Outdoor vegetables: horticulture
Vegetables under glass or plastic
Flowers and ornamental plants: outdoor
Flowers and ornamental plants: under glass
Red clover and other species of clover
Lucerne
Clover grass
Other field fodder crops (hybrids, etc.)
Arable/temporary grassland (until 2006)
Temporary grass (temporary grassland, arable pastures) (from 2007)
Seeds and seedlings
Fallow land without any subsidies
Fallow land subject to set-aside incentive schemes
Other arable land crops
Total arable land

Classifications used

Statistics Austria's municipal code numbers: data shown regionally.
NUTS: data shown regionally.
Regional breakdown of the results

- Austria
- Laender
- Political districts (data can be provided as a special evaluation)
- Municipalities (data can be provided as a special evaluation)

4. Production of statistics, processing, Quality assurance measures

Data capture

No data acquisition by Statistics Austria.
The data is provided in electronic form by the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management.
Expert estimates are obtained from an e-mail survey or telephone consultation.

Coding

None

Editing and verification of data sources used

After the data has been edited and aggregated at provincial level, the results undergo a macro plausibility check by being compared with the previous year's values and with various data from administrative sources (e.g. publications from the chambers of agriculture). In the event of inconsistencies or deviations (e.g. oil squash in Styria), experts (from the provincial chambers of agriculture or the BMLFUW) are consulted and the relevant corrections are made at provincial level where necessary. Since no relevant funding measures are available for individual areas (primarily the horticultural sector: vegetable, flower and ornamental plant cultivation) and therefore not all holdings participate in the funding measures, additional estimates need to be carried out by experts in order to prevent undercoverage.

Items for which there is undercoverage due to multiple area applications (horticultural sector [vegetable, flower and ornamental plant cultivation] and oil squash in Styria) are adjusted accordingly in consultation with the relevant experts at the chambers of agriculture and the BMLFUW. In the horticultural sector, estimates or adjustments are carried out by the experts at the chambers of agriculture based on the results of the last horticultural survey at provincial level. At the request of the the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management sugarbeet area was – in order to better coherence to the harvest statistics – taken over by the Austrian sugarbeet growers association in 2007

Imputation (where responses are missing or data incomplete)

No imputation at micro data level

Grossing up procedures (weighting)

No projection

Compilation of the final data set, (other) models and statistical estimation techniques used

Since not all agricultural and forestry holdings that are relevant for compiling statistics for crops on arable land participate in the funding programme, this results in undercoverage for individual items. Experts from the competent chamber of agriculture provide additional estimates to compensate for this undercoverage.
After the checks have been completed, the data from AMA and the results from the expert estimates are used to generate the authentic database.

**Other quality assurance measures**

Agrarmarkt Austria (AMA) verifies the data in the multiple area application by carrying out both administrative and on-the-spot checks for at least 5% of all applicants in line with the Integrated Administration and Control System (IACS pursuant to COUNCIL REGULATION (EC) No. 1782/2003 of 29 September 2003 establishing common rules for direct support schemes under the common agricultural policy and establishing certain support schemes for farmers and to Commission Regulation (EC) No. 796/2004 of 21 April 2004 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of cross-compliance, modulation and the integrated administration and control system provided for in Council Regulation (EC) No. 1782/2003 establishing common rules for direct support schemes under the common agricultural policy and establishing certain support schemes for farmers).

Checking cultivated area data essentially comprises verifying and measuring declared agricultural parcels by comparing them with the land property database and by using the IACS GIS farm map (illustration of field plots by holding, based on relevant orthophotos and plot data such as parcel numbers and extent of cultivated area) as well as on-the-spot inspections to verify the actual size of the field plot and the crops.

It can therefore be assumed that the data is of a high quality.

### 5. Publication (accessibility)

#### Preliminary results

None

#### Final results

February of the following year

#### Revisions

None

**Published in:**

- National publication of the results
  - **Summary report**
    A summary report of the results (text and tables) is published. Textual analyses of the results in comparison with previous surveys, accompanied by graphics, complete this publication.


- **Statistische Nachrichten** [Statistical news]
  An article about crops on arable land is published in Statistische Nachrichten.

- Standard publication: Agricultural statistics

- **Statistical yearbook of Austria**
  These publications, which include a CD-ROM, can be obtained for a charge to cover expenses. The data can be downloaded as a PDF file from the Internet free of charge.
• Internet
  On the Statistics Austria website
• ISIS database
  The cultivated area of important field crops is available in connection with the harvest yield at provincial level. External users must pay a charge to access the ISIS database.
• Österreichischer Zahlenspiegel [Austrian breakdown of figures]
  In addition, results are published in the following national media:
  • Green Report from the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management
  Results are published in the following media at EU level:
  • Eurostat database (New Cronos, Agris)

Treatment of confidential data


6. Quality

6.1. Relevance

Statistics for crops on arable land are compiled on the basis of EU legal regulations. Any changes made are agreed with the BMLFUW as well as in-house with those responsible for harvest statistics, EAA and supply balance sheets.

The requirements of the main users are fulfilled.

6.2. Accuracy

6.2.1. Sampling effects

Not applicable as no sampling carried out.

6.2.2. Non-sampling effects

Quality of data sources used

The results of the cultivated area data according to the evaluation of multiple applications are within the admissible error margins laid down in Regulation (EEC) No. 837/90 and Regulation (EEC) No. 959/93. The items subject to undercoverage in the multiple applications are compensated accordingly.

Coverage (misclassifications, undercoverage/overcoverage)

Under current EU regulations, 95% of the area under cultivation must be recorded. In 1999, 99.3% of the arable area under cultivation (in comparison with the Farm Structure Survey – full survey) was covered. Since no measures are available in certain sectors and not all agricultural holdings participate in the funding measures, undercoverage related to funding applications exists in the horticultural sector (vegetable, flower and ornamental plant cultivation). Moreover, undercoverage is observed for individual items (e.g. oil squash in Styria) due to funding.
Additional corresponding estimates therefore need to be made by experts at the chambers of agriculture.

**Missing responses (unit non-response, item non-response)**

*Unit non-response*

Not relevant

*Item non-response*

Not relevant

**Measurement errors (entry errors)**

On the basis of procedural instructions from the AMA paying office, multiple area applications are received by the district chambers of agriculture/district departments, checked for formal accuracy, entered in the data processing system, with defined corrections being obtained from the funding applicant, checked visually (dual control principle) and finally forwarded to AMA. At the paying office, all applications undergo a complete administrative check in the IACS system. The funding applicant is still permitted to make certain corrections in accordance with defined guidelines. In line with regulations, at least 5 per cent of applicants must be checked annually during an on-the-spot inspection.

Recording errors are virtually eliminated due to these checking procedures.

**Processing errors**

Not relevant

**Model assumption effects**

The aggregates at provincial level are based on evaluations of the body of administrative data, supplemented as required by additional expert estimates for certain characteristics.

The following procedures are used for the additional estimates by experts:

1. An e-mail survey is conducted for characteristics where undercoverage is known to exist in the context of the funding applications. In the horticultural sector (outdoor vegetables: horticulture; vegetables under glass or plastic; flowers and ornamental plants: outdoor; flowers and ornamental plants: under glass), horticultural consultants at the chambers of agriculture in the individual Laender are sent a table and asked to estimate the cultivated area in their province.

2. Characteristics where undercoverage is detected during macro plausibility checks are adjusted on the basis of telephone consultations with the relevant experts at the chambers of agriculture and the BMLFUW.

Special evaluations may be carried out if necessary at the level of political districts or municipalities. However, evaluations of this data which is broken down in more regional detail are simply based on the evaluation of the AMA body of data, with the result that aggregates may be underestimated here.

In the case of a special evaluation at the political district or municipal level, the following points should be noted:

- Where characteristics are based exclusively on administrative data (e.g. winter wheat), the data can be totalled to give the published Laender results.

- Where characteristics are subject to expert estimates at provincial level (e.g. outdoor vegetables: horticulture), the data cannot be totalled to give the published level.
6.3. Timeliness and punctuality

If farmers wish to participate in the funding, they need to provide the competent district chamber of agriculture with detailed data by agricultural parcel (multiple area application) on the cultivation of individual field crops by 15 May. Applications received after this date are included in terms of cultivated area, but result in a reduced amount of funding being paid out (application filed by 11 June) or in applicants not qualifying for funding (application filed after 12 June).

On the basis of procedural instructions from the AMA paying office, multiple area applications are received by the district chambers of agriculture/district departments, checked for formal accuracy, entered in the data processing system, with defined corrections being obtained from the funding applicant, checked visually (dual control principle) and finally forwarded to AMA. At the paying office, all applications undergo a complete administrative check in the IACS system. The funding applicant is still permitted to make certain corrections in accordance with defined guidelines. In line with the regulations, at least 5 per cent of applicants must be checked annually during an on-the-spot inspection. All results are then incorporated in the individual statements of measures (e.g. compensatory allowance for less-favoured areas, environmental programme, etc.) and applicants are notified of the results in the form of official notifications or communications.

After various checks have been completed and corrections incorporated by Agrarmarkt Austria, the data is forwarded to Statistics Austria in September once the adjusted data is available. Statistics Austria then edits and checks the data. Data on the area under cultivation is published in October in conjunction with the quantities harvested as part of the statistics on the field crop harvest, and is also published as part of the statistics for crops on arable land once all results of additional estimates are available.

All Eurostat deadlines are met on schedule (see Legal basis above).

As laid down by EU regulation, provisional data must be forwarded by 1 October of the harvest year and final data by 1 April of the following year.

6.4. Comparability

Over time

Comparability over time of the main field crops is ensured at national level. New characteristics that occur in the course of time due to changed requirements can only be compared to a limited extent.

Over time/geographic

Since 2005, it has been possible to evaluate cultivated area according to the location principle, i.e. the area can be assigned to the municipality/province in which it is actually located. Individual regional results can therefore be compared with results prior to 2005 to a limited extent only, since the latter results were previously assigned according to the business principle.

Geographic

International comparability is ensured. Data is forwarded to Eurostat using a form provided by the Commission that is based on the relevant EU legal basis.

6.5. Coherence

In accordance with its publication obligations, AMA publishes certain key data on the area under cultivation. However, this data may vary slightly due to differing reference date evaluations or assignments.

Furthermore, when comparing data with the cultivated area data in the Farm Structure Survey, it should be noted that the Farm Structure Survey also includes holdings that do not apply for funding. Data on cultivated area in the Farm Structure Survey should always be considered in
conjunction with the agricultural and forestry holdings (location of holding) and cannot therefore be compared with the cultivated area reported according to the location principle.

Reference to supplementary documentation/publications

Standard documentation on the Farm Structure Survey

Annex: Glossary and list of abbreviations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Definition</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AMA</td>
<td>Agrarmarkt Austria</td>
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<tr>
<td>AS</td>
<td>Farm Structure Survey</td>
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<tr>
<td>BMLFUW</td>
<td>Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management (also known as Ministry of Life)</td>
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<tr>
<td>DG Agri</td>
<td>The European Commission's Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development is responsible for agricultural policy and policy for developing rural areas. It deals with all aspects of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), including market measures, rural development policy, financial matters and international relations relating to agriculture.</td>
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<tr>
<td>EAA</td>
<td>Economic Accounts for Agriculture</td>
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<td>Eurostat</td>
<td>Statistical Office of the European Communities</td>
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<tr>
<td>IACS</td>
<td>The Integrated Administration and Control System forms the legal basis in the EU for administering the processing of funding. All area and livestock aid schemes are integrated in this system. In addition to provisions for the filing of applications and amendment options, it also contains the procedures for automatic computer checks, on-the-spot inspections and sanctions.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Less-favoured areas</td>
<td>Under EU provisions, less-favoured areas are subdivided into three categories: mountain areas, other less-favoured areas and small areas</td>
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<tr>
<td>LFR</td>
<td>Agriculture and Forestry Register</td>
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<tr>
<td>LFRZ</td>
<td>The Computing and Technology Centre for Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management handles databases with different technologies, such as LFBIS (Information System for Agriculture and Forestry Holdings). The LFRZ is also responsible for the data collected by AMA in the course of funding administration.</td>
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<tr>
<td>LK Österreich</td>
<td>Austrian Chamber of Agriculture</td>
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<td>MAA</td>
<td>Multiple area application</td>
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<tr>
<td>The multiple application, which consists of several forms (cover application form, cultivated area, animal list, etc.), is used by applicants to apply for funding at the competent district chamber of agriculture.</td>
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