Standard-documentation
Meta information
(Definitions, comments, methods, quality)

on the

Harvest Survey

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Executive Summary

Harvest statistics provide comprehensive information on the production of main field crops, fruits, vegetables and wine in Austria.

To achieve the necessary information, different data sources are used: These are on the one hand administrative data and secondary statistics, on the other hand regular reports from experts of agricultural chambers and user organizations as well as from voluntary harvest consultants (mainly farmers), who report yields for regionally defined unit areas by taking into account harvest losses (for instance due to storms, pests, etc). The total harvest (tons) for most of the products is calculated by multiplying the per-hectare-yield (or per-tree-yield) with the corresponding area. The results must therefore not be equated with the marketed production; rather, they correspond to the usable quantity (gross production minus field losses).

As the recorded data are collected from different sources, the individual characteristics of the basic information must be taken into account when evaluating the results. For data based exclusively on estimates by harvest consultants, it is important to note that such data is practical empirical data which principally allows a very good comparison over a period of many years. Whenever possible, information from external institutions (administrative data, data from producers' organisations, etc.) is used as secondary statistics for the harvest survey, in order to reduce respondent burden and save costs.

As the results are included both in the supply balance sheets (SB) and the Economic Accounts for Agriculture (EAA), there is a constant exchange of survey parameters, methodology and result evaluation internally between the project managers involved. In addition, working group meetings with external experts are held to evaluate the yield estimates for vegetables, fruit and field crops as well as discussing issues regarding content and methodology.

In the case of time series comparisons that date back to earlier years (prior to 1950), it should be noted that there have been changes in territorial assignment within some regional units (the affiliation of individual political districts shifted between provinces, e.g. between 1938 and 1947 Lienz belonged to the province of Carinthia). Also more recently, changes of administrative units following administrative reforms (for example merging of political districts) have to be considered.

Harvest Survey – Main Features	
Subject Matter	Crop Production in Austria (field crops, vegetables, fruits and wine).
Population	Not relevant (no survey in the strict sense)
Type of statistics	Estimates (consultation of experts) and secondary statistics
Data sources/ Survey techniques	Administrative data: Agrarmarkt Austria (evaluation of funding applications („Mehrfachanträge"), harvest survey), BMNT (wine database) Basic statistics: Survey on fruit plantations, Horticultural and Field Vegetable Cultivation Survey, Farm structure survey Primary statistics: Yield estimates by harvest consultants (farmers and other agricultural experts), experts of agricultural chambers and other institutions
Reference period or due day	Year
Periodicity	Annual preliminary (May to November) and final results
Survey participation (in case of a survey)	Voluntary
Main legal acts	VO (EG) 543/2009; BGBl. II Nr. 83/2012; BGBl. I Nr. 111/2009 idgF
Most detailed regional breakdown	Laender (federal provinces), political districts
Availability of results	Preliminary data: t + 14 Final data: t + 30
Other	-