

# 2004 Cereal Harvest: The most productive harvest in ten years

## Statistics in focus

### AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES

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### Cereal production: +24%

The 2003-2004 cereal crop year was very positive in comparison with the last ten years in the EU-25. According to the estimates, the volume of cereal production (excluding rice) is 287.3 million tonnes in this year in the EU-25, and harvested production increased by 24.0%. This big difference is caused partially by the very low level of harvest in 2003. In addition, in the 2003-2004 crop year a high yield was recorded, namely 54.7 hundred kg per hectare. Thus the yields increased by 9.7 hundred kg per hectare. Areas under cereals reached 52.5 million ha in the EU-25. This figure is 2.1% up on the previous crop year (partially due to less fallow areas). However, it conceals major differences from one country to another and from one cereal variant to another.

Cereal production (1000 tonnes, excluding rice)								
	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004 estimates	% changes 2004/2003
BE	2,535.9	2,406.6	2,512.9	2,358.5	2,639.3	2,613.2	2,836.5	8.5%
CZ	6,668.9	6,928.3	6,454.2	7,337.6	6,770.8	5,762.4	8,869.1	53.9%
DK	9,355.5	8,775.0	9,412.7	9,423.1	8,803.7	9,050.9	9,039.0	-0.1%
DE	44,574.9	44,452.0	45,271.2	49,709.3	43,391.3	39,426.0	50,812.9	28.9%
EE	576.0	401.5	696.1	558.4	524.7	505.7	599.7	18.6%
GR	4,419.0	4,288.0	4,062.0	4,091.3	4,074.9	4,110.0	4,330.2	5.4%
ES	21,778.5	17,321.0	23,739.8	17,179.2	20,863.8	20,308.3	23,805.3	17.2%
FR	67,807.7	64,135.9	65,582.5	60,143.1	69,555.7	54,807.1	69,644.0	27.1%
IE	1,865.0	2,011.3	2,173.9	2,164.1	1,963.6	2,146.9	2,418.3	12.6%
IT	19,305.0	19,641.5	19,392.5	18,660.3	19,877.3	16,461.8	20,937.0	27.2%
CY	64.9	127.0	48.0	127.4	141.8	151.0	80.0	-47.0%
LV	958.9	783.4	923.6	928.0	1,028.5	932.4	1,043.0	11.9%
LT	2,716.8	2,048.6	2,657.7	2,345.3	2,539.1	2,631.8	2,800.1	6.4%
LU	167.2	153.8	152.8	144.3	168.8	164.1	179.2	9.2%
HU	12,997.4	11,384.9	10,026.5	15,039.2	11,695.9	8,758.4	16,557.0*	89.0%
NL	1,569.3	1,416.5	1,818.8	1,862.6	1,823.9	1,917.1	1,973.6	2.9%
AT	4,771.6	4,806.5	4,490.2	4,833.8	4,757.3	4,263.8	5,315.3	24.7%
PL	27,158.7	25,750.3	22,340.6	26,960.3	26,877.3	23,390.8	29,037.7	24.1%
PT	1,279.5	1,506.0	1,465.5	1,151.9	1,350.8	1,037.9	1,068.6	3.0%
SI	557.1	478.6	493.8	496.0	610.7	398.7	565.1	41.7%
SK	3,474.5	2,829.4	2,201.3	3,212.0	3,193.6	2,490.3	3,900.4	56.6%
FI	2,768.6	2,868.4	4,089.3	3,661.0	3,939.4	3,782.8	3,618.7	-4.3%
SE	5,618.4	4,931.3	5,670.3	5,390.7	5,461.9	5,352.1	5,511.7	3.0%
UK	22,616.0	22,119.0	23,985.0	18,959.4	22,965.4	21,323.3	22,387.0	5.0%
EU-15	210,432.0	200,832.8	213,819.5	199,732.7	211,637.1	186,765.4	223,877.2	19.9%
EU-25	265,605.2	251,564.8	259,661.3	256,736.8	265,019.5	231,786.8	287,329.3*	24.0%

\* Eurostat Estimate

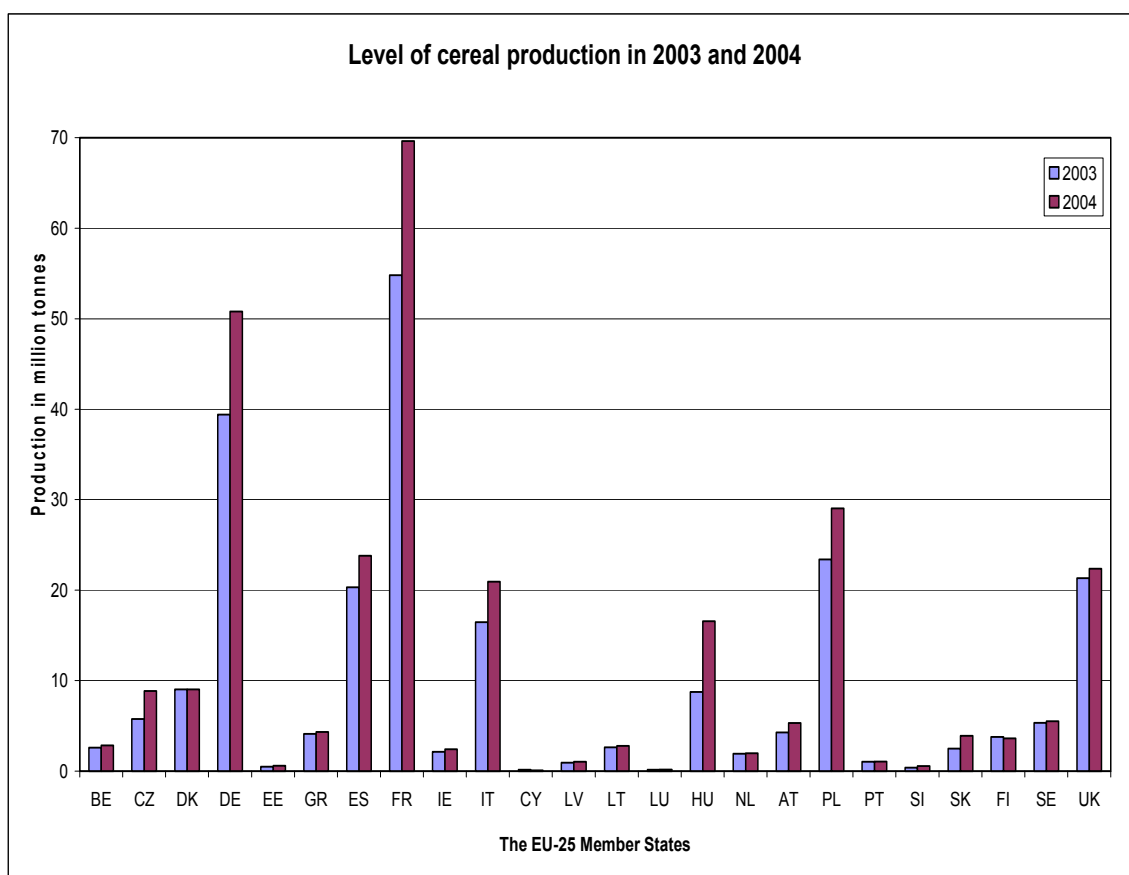
Source: Eurostat New Cronos Database, 25 January 2005

The biggest increases between 2003 and 2004 – more than 50% - were recorded in Hungary (around +89%), in Slovakia (+56.6%) and in the Czech Republic (+53.9%). In Slovenia, the estimated increase in production exceeded 40%.

The other EU Member States, except Denmark, Cyprus and Finland, had a bigger harvest in 2004 than in 2003. Germany, France, Italy, Austria and Poland showed growths ranging from 20% to 30%. In Germany cereal production showed an increase of 11.4 million tonnes or 28.9% in comparison with year 2003. France, the largest cereal-producing state in the EU, harvested 69.6 million tonnes cereals in 2004 while their harvest in 2003 was 54.8 million tonnes (+27.1%). Poland, the largest producer of cereals among the ten new Member States, harvested 29 million tonnes of cereal, up 24.1% on the previous year (23.4 million tonnes).



In Estonia, Spain, Ireland and Latvia the growth of the cereal production rose by 10% to 20%. Increases of cereal production below 10% were recorded in Belgium, Greece, Lithuania, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Portugal, Sweden, and the United Kingdom.



### Common wheat production: +27.2%

A record volume of common wheat production for the past ten years was observed in 2004. The production made up 43.4% of the total cereal production. Almost 125 million tonnes was produced by the 25 Member States against last year's 98 million tonnes. According to estimates, production of the EU-25 in 2004 was 26.7 million tonnes (+27.2%) higher than the final figures from the year before. The ten new Member States accounted for 24.6 million tonnes or 19.7%.

Common wheat was grown on 19.2 million hectares in the EU-25. Areas in the EU-15 were slightly up at 13.9 million ha, or 72.3% of the total area under common wheat. Yields were extremely high: they increased by 20.9% (from 53.6 hundred kg per hectare to 64.8 hundred kg per hectare) in the EU-25.

The three largest producers of common wheat in the EU-25, France, Germany, and the United Kingdom, accounted for more than 60% of the total EU production. France harvested 37.6 million tonnes of wheat while the previous harvest was 29.0 million tonnes (+29.4%). Germany recorded an increase in production of 31.6% whilst the estimated production in the United Kingdom was up by 11.5% to 15.7 million tonnes in the 2003-2004 crop year.

On the other hand, Greek production recorded a fall of 15.2%, and an area decrease of 28.9%. Portugal production was unchanged, although areas rose by 16.3% and yields fell by 14.0%.

Only a small growth in production was recorded in Denmark (+1.8%) and in Sweden (+5.5%). From the former EU-15 Member States, Belgium and Spain recorded growths just below 10% in common wheat production (+9.7% and +9.0% respectively) while the Netherlands (+10.5%), Luxembourg (+16.9%) and Finland (+15.2%) showed growths between 10% and 20%.

Ireland (+21.1%) and Italy (+21.5%) exceeded a 20 per cent increase in common wheat production. Austria recorded production growth of 44.6%, because the yields rose by 35.4%.

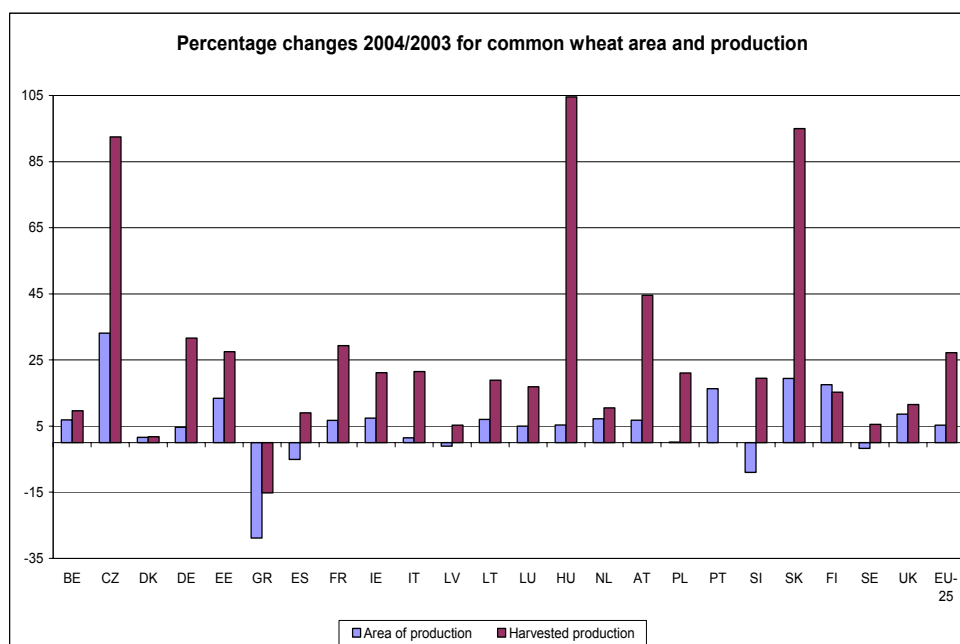
The situation was just as variable in the new Member States, with changes ranging from +5.3% in Latvia to

+104.6% in Hungary, where harvested production was twice as great as in 2003 (yields increased by 94.3%). Almost 6 million tonnes of common wheat was harvested from 1.2 million hectares. Slovakia recorded an increased harvest up by 94.9% because the production was 871.3 thousand tonnes higher than in 2003. A similar situation existed in the Czech Republic, where production was up by 92.5% on the previous year. This reflects the fact that the yields of winter wheat reached an unprecedented level in the history of Czech agricultural statistics (59.9 hundred kg per hectare).

Slovenia and Estonia recorded increases of 19.5% and 27.5% respectively in production of common wheat. Poland recorded growth in its harvest of 21.1%, specifically from 7.9 million tonnes in 2003 to an estimated 9.5 million tonnes in 2004. Lithuania has a similar percentage rise (+18.9%) and Latvia was up by 5.3% on the previous year.

Common wheat production (1000 tonnes)									
	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004 estimates	% changes 2004/2003	Differences 2004-2003
BE	1 771.8	1 528.5	1 687.6	1 457.4	1 675.0	1 692.9	1 856.4	9.7%	163.5
CZ	3 844.7	4 028.3	4 084.1	4 476.1	3 866.5	2 637.9	5 077.0	92.5%	2 439.1
DK	4 928.0	4 471.0	4 693.4	4 663.9	4 056.2	4 701.4	4 787.0	1.8%	85.6
DE	20 127.5	19 550.7	21 578.1	22 814.0	20 792.0	19 225.1	25 297.6	31.6%	6 072.5
EE	118.0	88.4	146.8	132.9	148.4	144.9	184.7	27.5%	39.8
GR	595.0	621.0	408.0	401.2	381.0	322.7	273.7	-15.2%	-49.0
ES	4 071.5	4 555.0	5 354.4	3 108.2	4 669.0	4 029.8	4 393.3	9.0%	363.5
FR	38 245.1	35 394.6	35 668.4	30 188.7	37 319.7	29 046.9	37 577.0	29.4%	8 530.1
IE	673.0	597.4	737.4	769.2	867.2	794.1	961.9	21.1%	167.8
IT	3 447.7	3 228.3	3 117.3	2 789.3	3 279.9	2 512.0	3 052.4	21.5%	540.4
LV	385.3	351.9	427.4	451.7	519.5	468.4	493.0	5.3%	24.6
LT	1 031.0	870.9	1 237.6	1 076.3	1 217.6	1 204.1	1 431.6	18.9%	227.5
LU	60.1	46.4	61.2	54.0	71.7	68.6	80.3	16.9%	11.6
HU	4 862.4	2 604.1	3 648.0	5 147.7	3 867.6	2 917.5	5 968.7	104.6%	3 051.2
NL	1 072.0	851.4	1 142.7	990.7	1 056.6	1 130.1	1 248.6	10.5%	118.5
AT	1 275.7	1 317.8	1 269.3	1 462.2	1 384.8	1 127.6	1 630.2	44.6%	502.7
PL	9 536.6	9 051.3	8 502.9	9 283.0	9 304.0	7 858.2	9 513.4	21.1%	1 655.2
PT	123.1	238.0	182.2	50.9	85.8	36.2	36.2	0.0%	0.0
SI	169.1	117.3	162.6	181.1	174.9	122.9	146.8	19.5%	23.9
SK	1 776.2	1 173.5	1 243.6	1 766.1	1 542.1	917.7	1 789.0	94.9%	871.3
FI	396.9	254.1	538.3	488.9	569.0	679.0	782.3	15.2%	103.3
SE	2 248.7	1 658.9	2 399.9	2 344.8	2 112.6	2 282.7	2 409.0	5.5%	126.3
UK	15 417.0	14 860.0	16 694.0	11 574.0	15 954.3	14 079.9	15 700.0	11.5%	1 620.1
EU-15	94 453.1	89 173.0	95 532.3	83 157.5	94 274.9	81 728.9	100 085.9	22.5%	18 357.0
EU-25	116 176.4	107 458.7	114 985.2	105 672.4	114 915.5	98 000.4	124 690.1	27.2%	26 689.6

Source: Eurostat New Cronos Database, 25 January 2005



## Durum wheat production: +39.5%

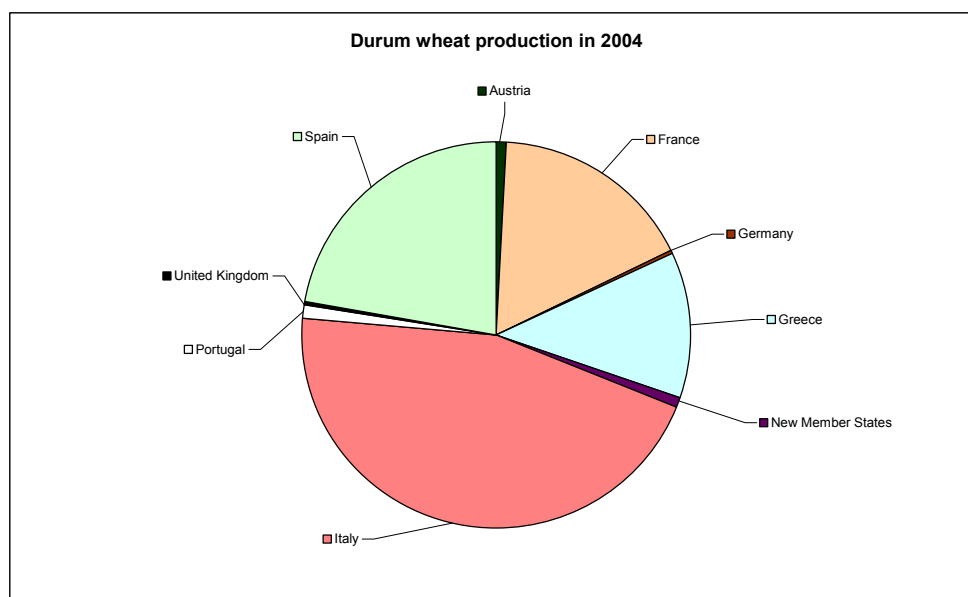
The durum wheat production reached a 10-year record volume in 2004. It was grown in eleven Member States and occupied an area of 4 million hectares in the whole EU-25. The impact of the EU enlargement on area under durum wheat was minimal: of the ten new Member States only Hungary, Slovakia and Cyprus grow durum wheat and their areas represent less than 1% of the EU-25.

Initial estimates show that production of durum wheat reached more than 12 million tonnes, a number which was up by almost 40% on the previous year. Yields also grew considerably, in this case by 34.3%.

Durum wheat production (1000 tonnes)									
	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004 estimates	% changes 2004/2003	Differences 2004-2003
DE	60.0	64.6	43.4	23.8	25.8	34.7	48.9	40.9%	14.2
GR	1 468.0	1 400.0	1 450.0	1 429.2	1 402.0	1 309.0	1 500.0	14.6%	191.0
ES	1 364.8	726.0	1 939.2	1 899.5	2 153.2	1 989.2	2 714.6	36.5%	725.4
FR	1 551.9	1 558.7	1 685.0	1 351.6	1 613.7	1 427.8	2 063.0	44.5%	635.2
IT	4 890.6	4 514.5	4 310.3	3 624.0	4 267.8	3 717.5	5 497.6	47.9%	1 780.1
CY	11.6	14.0	10.0	10.5	12.9	13.0	8.3*	-36.2%	-4.7
HU	32.8	34.2	44.5	49.1	42.6	23.8	51.4	116.3%	27.7
AT	66.1	98.4	43.7	46.1	49.5	63.8	88.6	38.8%	24.8
PT	28.0	115.0	172.5	102.7	327.2	113.4	144.2	27.1%	30.7
SK	13.1	13.8	10.7	33.9	12.4	12.6	34.0	169.1%	21.4
UK	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	18.7	20.8	21.0	0.8%	0.2
EU-15	9 435.3	8 483.2	9 650.1	8 483.0	9 857.8	8 676.3	12 077.9	39.2%	3 401.6
EU-25	9 492.9	8 545.3	9 715.3	8 576.5	9 925.7	8 725.7	12,171.6*	39.5%	3 445.9

\* Eurostat Estimate

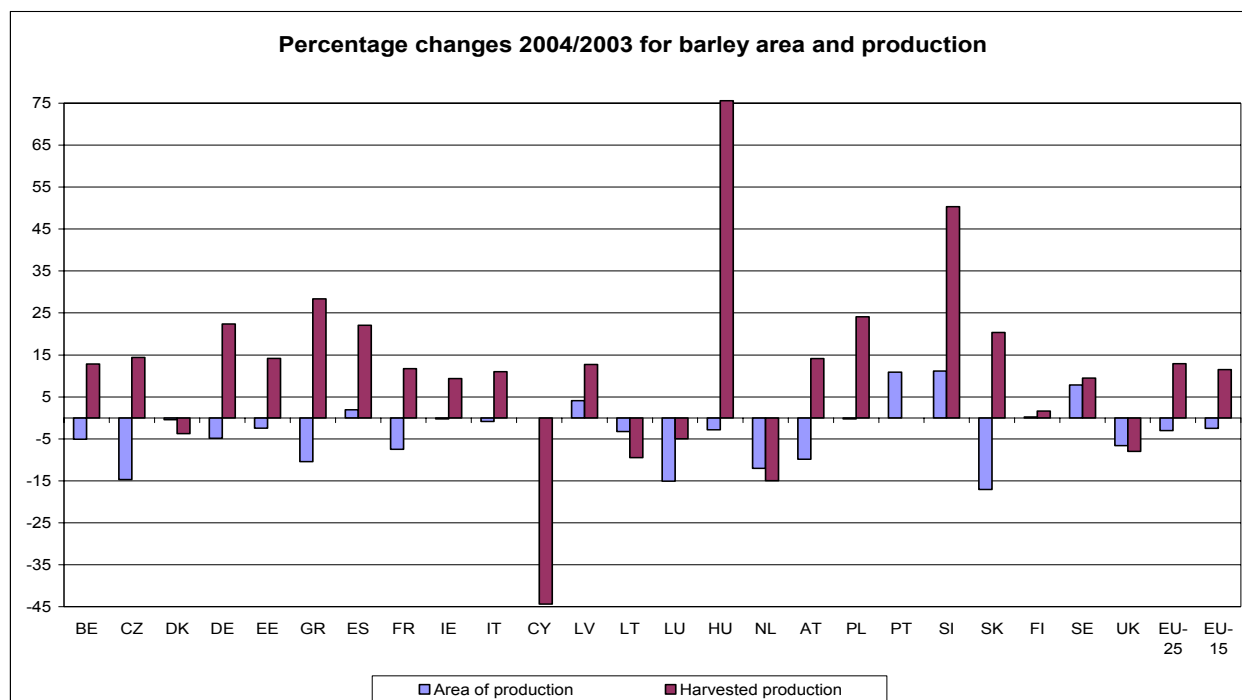
Source: Eurostat New Cronos Database, 25 January 2005



Italy, the largest producer of durum wheat, recorded almost 5.5 million tonnes of production, a rise of 47.9% on the previous year. This was due to yields up by 42.5%. In Spain the production exceeded 2.7 million tonnes, a rise of 36.5%. A sharp rise in production was recorded in France (+44.5%), where the harvest was 2.1 million tonnes. The Greek production recorded an increase of more than 14%. In the group of the less significant durum wheat producers from the EU-15, Austria, Portugal, Germany and the United Kingdom, different levels of increase were recorded. The Austrian harvest rose by 38.8%, Portugal showed an increase of 27.1%, Germany harvested more than 40% more (48.9 thousand tonnes) and estimated production in the United Kingdom grew slightly, by 0.8%. Lastly, in the new Member States, Hungary and Slovakia recorded sharp growths of production (+116.3% and 169.1% respectively). Both countries harvested more than twice the production of the year 2003: Hungarian production was 51.4 thousand tonnes and Slovakian was 34 thousand tonnes.

## Barley production: +12.9%

In the 2003-2004 crop year, barley production was 61.6 million tonnes in the EU-25 according to the initial estimates. Harvested barley rose from 54.6 million tonnes in 2003, up by 12.9%. The volume of harvest reached the same production level as was in the years 1996-1998. The EU-15 made up around 84% of this harvest, with the remaining 16% being the ten new Member States. The 7.0 million tonnes increase of barley production was caused by higher yields (+16.5%) because areas were slightly down (-3.0%) covering almost 13 million ha. The areas have been decreasing steadily since 1997 in the EU-25.



Barley production (1000 tonnes)									
	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004 estimates	% changes 2004/2003
BE	372.5	374.5	387.6	333.4	368.7	342.7	270.9	305.6	12.8%
CZ	2 484.5	2 093.1	2 137.4	1 629.4	1 965.6	1 792.5	2 068.7	2 366.8	14.4%
DK	3 887.0	3 565.0	3 675.0	3 979.8	3 966.2	4 120.9	3 775.6	3 634.0	-3.8%
DE	13 398.8	12 512.3	13 301.0	12 105.8	13 494.6	10 928.0	10 595.6	12 967.2	22.4%
EE	311.7	272.8	186.4	347.5	270.0	249.4	253.6	289.5	14.2%
GR	350.0	331.0	320.0	258.0	249.0	201.0	185.5	238.1	28.4%
ES	8 549.5	10 895.3	7 459.0	11 063.0	6 249.1	8 362.3	8 693.8	10 608.7	22.0%
FR	10 004.0	10 431.2	9 377.4	9 709.3	9 799.1	10 987.7	9 844.3	10 999.0	11.7%
IE	1 087.2	1 073.0	1 277.5	1 309.9	1 277.2	962.8	1 197.7	1 309.5	9.3%
IT	1 179.6	1 359.1	1 313.3	1 261.6	1 125.7	1 190.3	1 020.8	1 133.1	11.0%
CY	36.0	53.0	112.7	37.6	116.5	128.4	128.6	71.5*	-44.4%
LV	359.8	321.7	232.6	261.1	231.1	262.4	246.6	278.0	12.7%
LT	1 193.5	1 104.3	741.6	859.6	776.2	871.1	899.8	814.6	-9.5%
LU	68.6	63.2	67.8	53.5	53.6	51.8	55.3	52.6	-5.0%
HU	1 330.0	1 304.6	1 042.0	900.5	1 299.1	1 045.9	810.2	1 422.7	75.6%
NL	268.3	214.5	364.5	287.8	386.8	315.3	349.1	296.8	-15.0%
AT	1 257.8	1 211.6	1 152.8	854.7	1 012.4	861.4	882.3	1 006.7	14.1%
PL	3 866.1	3 611.7	3 401.1	2 783.4	3 330.5	3 369.9	2 831.5	3 512.7	24.1%
PT	28.8	26.2	29.0	36.3	12.6	20.0	13.0	13.0	0.0%
SI	38.8	43.4	41.5	37.8	44.5	48.1	39.7	59.7	50.3%
SK	868.5	875.0	723.7	396.7	613.3	695.0	804.2	967.7	20.3%
FI	2 003.5	1 316.2	1 567.7	1 984.8	1 786.0	1 739.0	1 697.4	1 724.7	1.6%
SE	2 086.2	1 686.9	1 852.5	1 634.4	1 642.1	1 777.9	1 546.3	1 693.1	9.5%
UK	7 828.0	6 496.0	6 578.0	6 492.0	6 660.0	6 128.0	6 369.5	5 860.0	-8.0%
EU-15	52 370.0	51 555.8	48 723.1	51 364.4	48 083.0	47 989.1	46 497.2	51 842.2	11.5%
EU-25	62 858.9	61 235.4	57 342.0	58 617.9	56 729.8	56 451.8	54 580.1	61,625.4*	12.9%

\* Eurostat Estimate

Source: Eurostat New Cronos Database, 25 January 2005

The biggest increase in barley production was recorded in Hungary. Barley was harvested from 331 thousand hectares (-2.9%) and the average yields increased by 80.8%, while production rose by 75.6% (1.4 million tonnes) on the previous year. Slovenia also recorded a high rise in barley production, up 50.3%.

Germany, the largest producer, recorded a harvest volume of almost 13 million tonnes, an increase of 22.4% on the previous year. Greece, Spain, Poland, and Slovakia also showed increases in production of more than 20%. In Slovakia an increase in production of 20.3% was recorded (from 804.2 thousand tonnes in 2003 to an estimated 967.7 thousand tonnes in 2004) while the area was down by 17.1%. In Spain a slight increase of areas (+1.9%) was observed, while falls in areas were recorded in Germany (-4.9%), Greece (-10.4%) and Poland (-0.2%).

Another group of countries (Belgium, the Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Italy, Latvia and Austria) saw an increase in production in the 10% to 20% range. With exception of Latvia, all these countries recorded a smaller area under barley.

Both Ireland and Sweden showed increases of almost 10%, while in Finland it was only up by 1.6%. Portugal had the same volume of production in 2004 as in 2003 because of a yields reduction of 9.8% and an area increase of 10.9%.

Only Denmark, Cyprus, Lithuania, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom showed a decline in barley production. Except for Luxembourg, this was due to both lower areas and lower yields than the previous year. In Luxembourg, because of the drop in area of 15.1%, the volume of production fell by 5% despite yields improving (+11.9%). Denmark recorded a drop in production of 3.8%. In Lithuania, production of barley was estimated at 814.6 thousand tonnes, a decrease of 9.5%. In the Netherlands, production dropped by 15% or -52.3 thousand tonnes. According to estimates from the United Kingdom, their fall in barley production was 8%.

### Grain maize production: +27.7%

According to the earliest data, the 2003-2004 crop year was also the most successful year for grain maize production in the past ten years. The harvest reached around 53 million tonnes, an increase of around 27.7% in the EU-25. The former EU-15 produced 40.7 million tonnes and made up almost 77% of the total production. A rise in production was caused by 22% growth in yields. Areas for the EU-25 were 4.6% more than they were in the 2002-2003 crop year (they reached almost 6.5 million ha). Viewed in the long term there is an upward trend in area under grain maize.

Grain maize production (1000 tonnes)									
	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004 estimates	% changes 2004/2003
BE	255.6	292.3	405.5	397.4	460.9	530.7	554.7	584.1	5.3%
CZ	285.2	200.6	260.5	304.0	408.7	616.2	476.4	558.2	17.2%
DE	3 188.4	2 781.5	3 256.9	3 324.0	3 504.5	3 738.4	3 421.6	4 062.3	18.7%
GR	2 205.0	1 897.0	1 800.0	1 850.0	1 900.0	2 002.0	2 205.7	2 210.0	0.2%
ES	4 451.5	4 349.1	3 731.0	3 991.8	4 981.9	4 425.4	4 355.0	4 681.1	7.5%
FR	16 536.0	14 887.9	15 356.7	16 018.4	16 426.5	16 439.9	11 990.9	15 743.0	31.3%
IT	10 004.7	9 054.6	10 017.2	10 139.6	10 553.7	10 554.4	8 702.3	10 679.0	22.7%
LT	:	:	:	:	:	8.3	8.7	3.7	-57.5%
LU	2.3	4.3	3.1	2.0	4.3	2.3	1.9	3.0	59.3%
HU	6 828.0	6 143.3	7 149.3	4 984.3	7 857.7	6 120.9	4 532.1	8 134.5	79.5%
NL	158.5	150.7	112.2	223.3	336.1	315.3	286.4	280.0	-2.2%
AT	1 574.6	1 386.0	1 464.4	1 617.5	1 493.0	1 666.6	1 452.1	1 653.7	13.9%
PL	416.5	496.4	599.4	923.3	1 361.9	1 962.0	1 883.7	2 434.8	29.3%
PT	913.0	1 023.9	935.0	875.3	906.6	796.6	798.0	798.0	0.0%
SI	355.3	333.5	308.0	282.4	257.5	371.4	224.2	338.4	50.9%
SK	818.7	637.4	779.3	440.4	616.0	753.8	601.4	845.8	40.6%
EU-15	39 289.5	35 827.2	37 082.0	38 439.3	40 567.6	40 471.6	33 768.6	40 694.3	20.5%
EU-25	:	:	:	:	:	50 304.3	41 495.1	53 009.8	27.7%

: unavailable

Source: Eurostat New Cronos Database, 25 January 2005

At national levels, the changes in production ranged from -57.5% to +79.5%. The biggest drop was seen in Lithuania (a decrease of 5 thousand tonnes) because of unsuitable agro climate conditions (only half of grain maize sowed for grain was harvested for the grain). On the other hand, the production in Hungary and Luxembourg climbed by 79.5% (an increase of 3.6 million tonnes) and 59.3% (an increase of 1.1 thousand tonnes) respectively compared to 2003. Slovenia recorded an increase of 50.9%.

France and Italy account for almost half of the production in the EU-25 (49.9%) and for 64.9% of the former EU-15. Both countries recorded significant growths in grain maize production (+31.3% and +22.7% respectively). Their

areas were up by 6.6% (in France) and 2.7% (in Italy) and their yields increase moved around +20%. More than 20% growth of grain maize production was recorded in Slovakia and Poland. Over the last year in Slovakia an increase of 244.4 thousand tonnes or +40.6% was recorded. This increase was caused by higher yields per hectare (+17.5 hundred kg per hectare) while the sown area was 2.1% lower in comparison with 2003. Poland recorded a production increase of 29.3%, partially caused by greater surface area (+16.6%) and higher yields (+10.9%).

The Czech Republic, Germany and Austria recorded a production rise of between 10% and 20%. Except for Germany, both countries had greater areas under grain maize in comparison to 2003.

Belgium and Spain recorded an increase of 5.3% (+29.4 thousand tonnes) and 7.5% (+326.1 thousand tonnes) respectively. The Greek production was up by less than 1% and the Portuguese harvest remains the same as in last year (less areas, but higher yields). The Netherlands recorded a moderate fall of 2.2% because areas fell by 8.7% and yields grew by 7%.

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## Other cereals production

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The estimates for production of the other type of cereals concern rye, oats, triticale and minority types of cereals such as sorghum, buckwheat, millet and canary seed.

### Rye production: +43.1%

In the 2003-2004 crop year, rye production in the EU-25 increased by 43.1%, to 9.9 million tonnes compared with 2002-2003. Rye-growing areas increased by 6.1% in total, but this conceals major differences from one country to another. The ten new Member States make up most (66%) of the EU-25 areas, and Poland alone accounts for 57% of the EU-25 area.

The biggest expansion of rye production was recorded in Slovenia (+154.8%) and in Slovakia (+101.1%). The Czech Republic, Germany, France, Luxembourg, Hungary, Austria saw a growth in production ranging from 50% to 100%. Another group (Belgium, Italy, Latvia, the Netherlands, Poland and Sweden) recorded an increase of less than 50%. Poland harvested more than 1.5 million tonnes rye. However, the Danish, Estonian, Greek, Spanish, Lithuanian and Finnish production had a range of decline from 6.2% to 37.3% (the biggest was in Greece).

A significant increase of areas was observed in Slovenia (+76%), Luxembourg (+54.4%), and the Czech Republic (+41.3%). On the other hand, a sizeable reduction of areas was recorded in Estonia (-38.8%), Greece (-37.6%) and Spain (-15.5%).

### Oats and mixed grain other than maslin production: +6.6%

In the 2003-2004 crop year, production of oats and mixed grain other than maslin in the EU-25 was estimated moderately higher (+6.6%) in comparison to harvests in the 2002-2003 crop year. The highest change in volume of production was recorded in Hungary (+112.7%), followed by Greece (+52.3%), Latvia (+48.8%) and Slovenia (+45.2%).

In Denmark, Spain, France, Italy, Lithuania, Austria, Poland and in Slovakia the production of oats and mixed grain increased by less than 20%. Poland harvested 40.2% of the oats and mixed grain in the EU-25 (5.4 million tonnes).

On the other hand, the Czech Republic, Germany, Ireland and the United Kingdom showed a decrease in harvested production of less than 10%. Lower production of oats in comparison with the year 2003 was recorded in Belgium (-33.4%), Cyprus, Luxembourg (-15.9%), the Netherlands (-25.5%), Finland (-21.3%) and Sweden (-16.4%).

### Triticale production: +35.6%

According to the latest estimates, in the EU-25 about 11 million tonnes triticale was produced (+35.6%). Poland, the largest producer, harvested 33.1% of triticale (3.6 million tonnes) in the EU-25 and occupied 43.2% of the total area. A significant increase in production was recorded mainly in the new Member States: in Slovakia (+130%), Hungary (+117.7%), the Czech Republic (+89.3%) and Slovenia (+61.7%). The remaining Member States which grow triticale recorded increases in production ranging from 1% to 44% (in France).

### Sorghum production: +15.2%

Volume of sorghum production and areas are surveyed separately only in some countries. Production reached almost 0.5 million tonnes (an increase of 15.2% on the previous year) and the area occupied was 91.5 thousand hectares. France's share of the production was 259 thousand tonnes (+11.9%) and Italy produced 190 thousand tonnes (+19.9%).

### Other cereals production: buckwheat, millet and canary seed production: +10.2%

In the 2003-2004 crop year the minority types of cereals represented only 0.24% of total cereal production. Their harvested areas occupied 191.2 thousand hectares in the EU-25 and production reached around 0.7 million tonnes (+10.2%).

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