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**Market study Bulgaria: the agro sector - December 2018**

1. **INTRODUCTION**

Bulgaria is a country located in South East Europe with a territory of 110.9 thousand sq. km and 7.050 million inhabitants (2018) with the lowest average gross wage in the EU 28 (about 9,156 € annual gross in the capital and 5,652 € for the rest of the country). The country’s economic growth has been on an upward trend and is estimated to reach 3.8 percent in 2018, driven by private demand, strong exports, easier financial conditions, and growing confidence, according to [IMF](http://www.imf.org/en/Countries/BGR). Investments and public consumption also contribute positively. Consumption is fueled by the improving labor market. The unemployment rate has declined to 5.2 percent, the lowest level since the global financial crisis. The administration, transport, IT, & trade sector accounts for around two thirds of economic activity (67.7%), industry 28% and agriculture 4.3%.

Prospects for the Bulgarian economy are improving in accordance with the forecasted GDP growth and the expectations that it will keep pace by adding another 3.6% in 2019.

Bulgaria is in currency board regime and there is a fixed exchange rate of 1€ = 1.95583 BGN.

The agricultural sector still accounts for a significant share of the activity of the country. It employs nearly 7% of the working population. The useful agricultural surface (UAS) is almost half the national territory. Vegetable production traditionally represents more than 60% of both the UAS and the value of agricultural production. It is dominated by cereals (wheat, barley, rye, oats, triticale) and oleo-protein crops: sunflower and rapeseed. The cereals alone cover 36% of the UAS. The average area of ​​a farm is 15.5 ha. However, 1.5% of Bulgarian farms manage more than 82% of total UAS of the country, whereas 73% of all farms have an area of ​​less than 2 ha. After the country's entry into the EU, agriculture is largely driven by subsidies and funding under European programs. Mainly holders of large farms and producers of arable crops, which are often the same, have benefited from this influx of funds. In fact, 6% of the farmers receive 80% of these direct payments. The single European simplified payments per surface scheme has favored biggest farmers and biggest livestock farmers, not only without benefiting but even to the detriment of most of the small-scale farmers and very small producers with few areas. The expansion of the exploited areas was mainly achieved by the absorption and/or dismemberment of medium farms. The process has been accompanied by a strong increase in yields and overall agricultural production - f.ex. 27% increasing of oil crops between 2004 and 2010, but also by disappearance of 30% of agricultural holdings during this very period. Bulgaria is the EU country with the highest concentration of agricultural land in just a few companies. This gives rise to a very high degree of political dependence of the sector. On the other hand, the extremely fragmented small-scale agricultural properties near populated places represent also a problem for small family farmers who wish to enlarge. Inheritance lands distributed among multiple owners prevent landlords from undertaking larger-scale development plans. Often, for terrains with an area of ​​10 hectares, more than 20 heirs are lawful, but their consent is necessary to determine what culture the terrain will be used for. If an entrepreneur decides to use European funds, he must either own the whole land or have the consent of all owners for his upcoming plans. Despite its strong development in recent years, the agricultural sector suffers from wide disparities and extremely limiting factors. The imbalance between large farms largely subsidized and small subsistence farms is still an issue for the Bulgarian agriculture. There are no strong professional unions, nor cooperatives or public advisory structures for farmers.

Despite business structural problems, Bulgaria is traditionally among European leaders in quality or quantity of agricultural products such as wheat, sunflower, essential oils, grapes, tobacco, tomatoes and cherries. Quite important for the agriculture sector are preserved traditions in the processing of milk and the tradition in sheep breeding for milk. Land register and cadastral identification regulations are still dispersed among various laws and regulations. Bulgaria does not have a single land code.

1. **AGRICULTURE and FARMING**

# **2.1. Branch Cereals and Oil Seeds**

The branch Cereals and Oil Seeds consists of the richest companies in Bulgarian agricultural business. Those 6% of farmers who receive 80% of direct payments are from this very branch. It is the most developed one in the agriculture sector of Bulgaria. The branch concentrates the largest companies in turnover of the sector as well as the best-equipped ones with modern materials and technologies. It is the most crucial branch of the Bulgarian agricultural sector. It provides all local breeders with feed for animals and almost all local producers of bread and bakery products and edible oils with raw material. In 2018, Bulgaria remained one of the largest producers of sunflower seeds in EU. The country ranks second with close to 2.1 million tons after Romania with 2.9 million tons. In 2018 the decline in rice crops continued, while there was a growth in processing capacity for rice flour and finished rice flour products. Among the major players in the branch is the company Agro Tsar Petrovo with a Belgian investor and CEO – Mr Victor ROMBAULT.

# ***Statistics for cereals - harvests 2016 and 2017***

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Crop** | **Harvested areas**  **(ha)** | | **Average yield**  **(tons/ha)** | | **Production**  **(tons)** | | |
| **2016** | **2017** | **2016** | **2017** | **2016** | **2017** | **Change**  **2017/2016** |
| Wheat | 1 192 589 | 1 144 519 | 4.75 | 5.36 | 5 662 721 | 6 132 671 | 8.3% |
| Rye | 7 468 | 8 237 | 2.03 | 2.10 | 15 178 | 17 304 | 14.0% |
| Triticale | 16 096 | 18 660 | 3.06 | 3.17 | 49 265 | 59 140 | 20.0% |
| Barley | 159 830 | 128 365 | 4.32 | 4.64 | 689 850 | 595 237 | -13.7% |
| Oats | 15 323 | 13 266 | 2.05 | 2.40 | 31 372 | 31 849 | 1.5% |
| Maize for grain | 406 942 | 398 152 | 5.47 | 6.44 | 2 226 094 | 2 562 569 | 15.1% |
| Rice | 11 988 | 10 434 | 5.40 | 5.61 | 64 773 | 58 523 | -9.6% |

# ***Statistics for oil seeds - harvests 2016 and 2017***

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Crop** | **Harvested areas**  **(ha)** | | **Average yield**  **(tons/ha)** | | **Production**  **(tons)** | | |
| **2016** | **2017** | **2016** | **2017** | **2016** | **2017** | **Change**  **2017/2016** |
| Sunflower | 817 611 | 898 844 | 2.25 | 2.29 | 1 837 677 | 2 056 987 | 11.9% |
| Rape seed | 171 511 | 160 650 | 2.97 | 2.98 | 509 251 | 478 987 | -5.9% |

**Opportunities:** The Bulgarian companies could be potentially interested by spare parts, new facilities for tractors and attachments, tests for the crops quality, GPS and topographic calculations. In the branch, organic production is not yet popular but it will probably follow the European trend towards this kind of production. As a result, there could be sale opportunities for some nature friendly fertilizers with low impact for the soil and tests for chemical pollution detection in water or soil. Some sunflower producers could have interest of all kind of equipment for seed processing and oil extraction, production and bottling

# **2.2. Branch Essential Oils**

The branch Essential Oils is traditionally well developed in Bulgaria. The country is indeed the leading world producer of above-mentioned essential oils. This is due to soil and climate specifics. Most of the rose and lavender oil distilleries have their own plantations. They are well equipped with all necessary materials. Main issue for rose oil producers is the handwork. The collect is made exclusively by hand during short day periods in spring. To the difference of roses, lavender plants could be harvested by machines. In Bulgaria, the lavender collect is made partly by machines, but mostly by hand.

In 2017, Bulgaria was the largest producer of herbs and spices in the European Union. According to Eurostat, in 2017, a total of 81,000 tons of aromatic and medicinal plants and spices were grown in the country.

On the other hand, in 2017 and 2018, there is clearly a market saturation in the supply of rose oil. But the bloom of rose plants leads to overproduction and clogging of raw material. There is still a market for lavender, as Bulgaria is a major supplier to France and Turkey of raw material.

# ***Plants for essential oils - harvests 2016 and 2017***

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Crop** | **Planted areas**  **(ha)** | | **Harvested areas**  **(ha)** | | **Average yield**  **(tons/ha)** | | **Production**  **(tons)** | | |
| **2016** | **2017** | **2016** | **2017** | **2016** | **2017** | **2016** | **2017** | **Change 2017/2016** |
| Lavender | n.a | n.a | 6 266 | 8 038 | 3.11 | 3.44 | 19 504 | 27 659 | 41.8% |
| Rosa Damascena | n.a | n.a | 3 580 | 4 189 | 2.49 | 3.04 | 8 915 | 12 756 | 43.1% |

**Opportunities:** Bulgarian producers of essential oils are world market leaders. Their incomes give them the opportunity to decide the purchase of new equipment without being dependent of EU funds, unlike farmers active in other branches. Machines for lavender collect, new technologies for packaging and presentation of natural products and systems for surveillance of plantations seem to have most potential for the branch of essential oils. All bio or nature friendly herbicides also could be of interest.

**2.3. Branch Grape and Wine Production**

Grape growing and wine production have a long history in Bulgaria. The country is among major European wine producers. There are some unique wine grape varieties like Gamza and Mavrud. The biggest part of Bulgarian grapes is for wine and spirits. The total wine and grape production for 2015 was 647 371 hectoliters. In 2015, the amount of wine grape, bought and processed from wineries, amounted to 195 860 tons. This is 89% more than 2014. The production of wine with local grapes almost doubled. The branch has three types of companies:

* wine producers without their own vineyards,
* wine producers with their own vineyard,
* grape producers who do not process the grape.

***Grape production - harvest 2017***

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Grape production** | **Grapes from vineyards** | | | **Grapes from vine arbours (tons)** | **Total produced**  **grapes**  **(tons)** |
| **Wine grapes**  **(tons)** | **Dessert grapes**  **(tons)** | **Total grapes**  **produced by vineyards**  **(tons)** |
| Total | 186 131 | 14 297 | 200 428 | 1 101 | 201 529 |

There are two big producers of concentrate alcohol and plenty of wine producers. Usually, the wine producers make very small quantities of concentrate alcohol. In general, all processors in the sector have modern technics for the grape processing. Most of the equipment, especially from inox materials, is made in Bulgaria. There is an import of refined chemicals for the wine production and conservation mostly from Italy or France. The branch is rapidly developing. Wine producers could benefit from different EU operational programs. Most of them buy the equipment with the support of EU funds. In 2017 and 2018 there was a consolidation of the ownership of different winemakers in certain investors. The state plans a specialized state structure to support the export and development of foreign markets.

**Opportunities:** This branch could be interesting for all traders and producers of small farmer equipment, irrigation and dosage systems, all kind of crop protection materials – hardware equipment, herbicides, insecticide and materials for farms video surveillance. There is a demand for specialized equipment for grape collect, bio certified fertilizers, high quality measuring instruments for wine conservation and quality equipment for bottling and packaging of wine.

# **2.4. Branch Technical Crops – cotton, tobacco and industrial hemp**

The areas sown with cotton in 2015 increased by more than nine times compared to 2014, to 2 920 ha. At the same time, the average yield decreased by 36.8%, amounting to 0.7 t/ha. And there were only 16 registered producers. The total production of cotton during the year reached 1 558 tons - nearly five times more on an annual basis. During communism period, Bulgaria was an important producer of cotton among the biggest 15 in the world. For 2016 the government gave subsidies of 1 550 BGN/hectare of planted cotton. The effect will be seen in the future.

Tobacco production in 2015 amounted to 23 480 tons. This is 21.7% less compared to 2014, resulting in a reduction of seedlings areas with 22.8% - from 17 572 ha in 2014 to 13 557 ha in 2015. The tobacco sector is highly dependent on political situations. For many years, government used to buy guaranteed minimal quantities of tobacco crops. As the tobacco processors are not any more state-owned companies, this is a big issue for the budget. For 7 years now, step by step, these quotas are diminishing. There is very low mechanization in the tobacco plantation in Bulgaria and the sector is employing many workers. In some geographical regions – especially in Southwest and Southeast regions of the country, nearby the border with Greece, the tobacco cultivation is the most important business, speaking in number of workers. Subsidies from EU funds are diminished by 5% for 2017. Even though the Bulgarian oriental sorts of tobacco are of wonderful quality, there is not enough demand for them, as the international and local market are dominated by American sorts of tobacco. American sorts need a lot of water and the regions of Bulgaria where there are tobacco plantations, are quite dry.

Bulgaria is the fifth largest tobacco producer in 2017 in EU. A total of 13,000 tonnes have been grown in the country. Italy and Poland are leaders with 48,000 and 32,000 tons.

**Opportunities:** An interesting possibility for Bulgaria could be the industrial hemp. In 2016 Bulgaria had less than 100 hectares planted with the plant. Currently, there are discussions to facilitate the plantation of industrial hemp. As in the past – 50 years ago – Bulgaria was a big producer of the plant, the new regulation could create a new branch in the agricultural sector. The branch seems to have a big potential in Bulgaria. In 2018, much of the tobacco processing plants were closed. No other major changes in 2017 and 2018 in the segment of technical crops.

# **2.5. Branch Fruits and Vegetables**

In 2015, the used areas for vegetable production in the farms amounted to 46 388 ha, taking into account an increase of 37% compared to 2014. The open areas planted with vegetables rose by 37.7%, to 45 420 ha and the greenhouses - by 8.3%, to 968 ha. The total harvested areas of vegetables amounted to 43 914 ha - 45.7% more than the previous year. Lands with young orchards, not yet having reached full production in 2015, occupy 15 292 ha. The largest share of not intervening fruit-bearing areas during the year is occupied by plantations of walnuts — 47.1%, followed by those with hazelnuts — 14.6%, cherries — 12.7% and plums and cherry plums - 8.8%. Of the newly plantations in the business year 2014/2015, 58% are shell species, 29% — drupaceous species, and 2% — pomiferous. In 2015, the total area seeded with permanent crops was 133 477 ha — 5.6% more compared to 2014; the largest contribution to this increase have come from mixed perennials and orchards. In 2015 areas with plant nurseries and vineyards (pure crop) also increased compared to the previous year, while only family gardens decreased. The sector was not so much dependent on EU funds until recently. 2017 and 2018 show growing commitment of the sector to farm subsidies. This is particularly evident in vegetable production, which is not related to long-term crops. 2017 is indicative by the several times growth of pumpkin plantations. Bulgaria was first in the EU in sown areas with pumpkins. A huge part of the crop remained uncollected, as the subsidies were targeted only at plantations. In 2018 the sown areas were once again at the usual levels of previous years.

***Harvest years 2017 for main crops***

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Crops** | **Harvested areas**  **(ha)** | **Production**  **(tons)** | | | **Average open yield**  **(kg/ha)** |
| **Total** | **Of open areas** | **Greenhouse**  **production** |
| Fruit-and vegetables | 50 602 | 1 461 591 | n.a | 94 488 | n.a |
| Potatoes | 12 806 | 227 815 | n.a | n.a | n.a |
| Tomatoes | 4 376 | 158 762 | 102 548 | 56 214 | 23 434 |
| Peppers – sweet and hot | 3 272 | 54 822 | 52 455 | 2 367 | 16 031 |
| Watermelons | 2 674 | 26 489 | 26 489 | x | 9 906 |
| Apples | 4 111 | 44 927 | 44 927 | x | 11 308 |
| Cherries | 8 989 | 49 423 | 49 423 | x | 6 383 |
| Cucumbers | 282 | 42 554 | 4 574 | 37 980 | 16 220 |
| Headed cabbage | 1 692 | 41 817 | n.a | n.a | n.a |
| Plums and cherry plums | 6 815 | 49 194 | 49 194 | x | 7 218 |
| Peaches and nectarines | 3 893 | 34 572 | 34 572 | x | 8 881 |

**Opportunities:** The Fruits and Vegetables branch is a market for all kind of farming implements. All kind of facilities for the gathering of the fruits and helping labor are interesting for farmers. The sector needs also all kind of materials for conservation and transport. Small and easy-to-use processing machines could be interesting for the sector as well. There is a need of bio certified insecticides, fertilizers, herbicides. All bio fertilizers in Bulgaria are imported. Know-how for bio horticulture could be interesting for Bulgarian farmers, too. Expertise in the planning and management of subsidies for the sector is proving necessary to avoid shocks of sharp increases or reductions in yields and crops.

1. **BREEDING SECTOR**

Most successful in the industry and most organized are beekeepers, poultry breeders, pig farmers and small ruminant farmers. Beekeeping has traditions in Bulgaria. Overall, there is a market for honey in Bulgaria. Beekeepers export more than half of their production. Swine breeders benefited from communist heritage of large-scale pig farms. They have different breeds of pigs - both local Bulgarian and European. The Belgian Pietrain race is well known among local swine breeders. The poultry branch also inherited already built industrial sites from the past and new entrepreneurs did not have to start from scratch. One other particularity is that most of the pig and poultry breeders have their own processing facilities. This helps them to sell directly to final clients. In sheep and goat breeding, the insufficient production of sheep's and goat's milk and meat throughout Europe is a good prerequisite for the business. The EU legislation is not so very restrictive for the flock breeding. For 5 years now, there has been a widening of farms and construction of farms for rearing dairy sheep in closed farms rather than free grazing.

# ***Number of animals in 2016 and 2017 and projections for 2018***

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Number of animals** | **01.11.2016** | **01.11.2017** | **Change 2017/2016** | **Projection 2018** |
| Cattle | 557 866 | 540 115 | -3.2% | 550 000 |
| Buffalos | 12 273 | 12 809 | 4.4% | 13 000 |
| Sheep | 1 360 087 | 1 316 784 | -3.2% | 1 340 000 |
| Goats | 237 543 | 256 967 | 8.2% | 260 000 |
| Pigs | 616 426 | 593 154 | -3.8% | 600 000 |
| Birds (thousands of) | 13 700 | 14 756 | 7.7% | 14 900 |
| Equidae | n.a | n.a | n.a | n.a |
| Bee families | 754 105 | 765 772 | 1.5% | 770 000 |
| Rabbits | 109 000 | 115 000 | 1.6% | n.a |

Thanks to European funding, during last 10 years there are newly built modern farms for dairy cattle. The largest one in Bulgaria has 5 000 livestock cow heads. Closed-end farms have about 600 animals on average. The most popular of all cattle farms are for about 50 heads of free-range animals. Most of the dairy farms for closed cultivation are associated with large grain producers. Grain producers have the feed-stock for animals. This give them a huge advantage to develop closed-end farms. There is a tendency that such grain producers, after opening a new farm, make a milk or meat processing company.

Breeding of horses, buffalos and rabbits has also long traditions in Bulgaria, but nowadays these breeds are less important for the agricultural sector. In 2018 Bulgaria was affected in some areas by an alleged plague on sheep and goats. Numerous public protests have prevented murdering some of the herds. The government does not comment on its further actions in the current situation. There were strong suspicions of deliberate action aimed at concealing fictitious number of animals for the purpose of obtaining subsidies.

**Opportunities:** In 2016, the government decided to increase the support for animals under selection control in milk breeding. This situation had to stimulate farmers to keep genetics and pure breeding lines of animals. The easiest and surest way to do so, is through artificial insemination. Many farmers and especially young farmers start to look for clean genetic lines and materials helping the selections. All kind of materials and solutions for the traceability and identification of animals is welcome as well as rapid tests for the health state of the animal, easy-to-use equipment for applying medicines and treatment to animals. The Belgian animal races and breeding traditions are well known and respected in Bulgaria. So genetic materials of Belgian breeds could be interesting for Bulgarian farmers, too. All small handling materials, adapted to transport, handling and conservation of hay, fodder, and small fodder milling machines are interesting for the market as well. Problems with animal numbers statistics continue. The one concerning horses is most serious. Any experience and facility for keeping statistics would be welcome in this respect.

One new equipment since 2016: movable frames (shown on picture) for cow treatments seems to be attractive for breeders: <https://dariknews.bg/regioni/razgrad/profesor-pokaza-na-fermeri-ot-severna-bylgariq-kak-raboti-nova-mashina-proizvedena-v-ludogorieto-1595803>

In 2018, a change in legislation and the authorization of mobile slaughterhouses fitted in trucks has been more and more discussed. Similar facilities, as the one shown in the picture above, adapted to smaller family farms, would have a prospective market in Bulgaria.

# **TRADE WITH BULGARIAN FARMERS**

# The main channels for sales to farmers and stockbreeders are specialized importers and distributors. Sometimes larger farms benefiting from EU funds can directly do business and buy from a producer abroad.

# Despite the support of the German Association of Agricultural Machinery Manufacturers in 2015 for the introduction of the VISTA system in Bulgaria, the country does not have electronic statistics on the equipment sold yet. According to data of the Bulgarian Association of importers of agricultural machinery [www.bata-agro.com](http://www.bata-agro.com) , 2 169 tractors were imported to Bulgaria in 2015 - a record for the last 20 years. This is due to the purchase by cereal growers.

Despite this success, since 2015 traders turn to smaller equipment adapted for orchards, grape and vegetable farmers. Most of the traders had to find new suppliers for their trade goods and to make marketing searches to find new market niches.

Specialized traders for farm equipment and breeders are, for most of them, managed by veterinary doctors with professional knowledge about animals. Veterinary doctors have huge impact on sales as they come with medications directly to farmers.

The office of AWEX Sofia can provide, on request, lists of contacts of specialized importers/distributors of agricultural equipment and products.

The major agricultural fairs in Bulgaria are the following:

* AGRA PLOVDIV <http://www.fair.bg/en/>
* BATA AGRO STARA ZAGORA [www.bata-agro.com](http://www.bata-agro.com)
* DOBRITCH FAIR <http://www.dobrich-fair.com/>

# **OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WALLOON COMPANIES IN THE AGRO BUSINESS IN BULGARIA**

**Agriculture:**

* Spare parts for tractors and handling materials
* Adapted and easy-to-use and maintain small handling materials
* Adapted to needs of final user implements – orchards, wine yards
* Small processing machines for micro farms or artisans (particularly for BIO farmers)
* Bio and/or eco-friendly chemicals for the industry – fertilizer, plant protections and hygiene for silos
* Rapid tests for quality of products and storage ambiances
* Adapted video surveillance and other crops protectors
* Know-how for organic production

**Breeding sector:**

* All kind of solutions for traceability of animals
* Small processing machines for micro farms and artisanal milk and meat processing
* Rapid tests either for animals’ health status or for quality of milk
* All kind of materials for optimization of animal breeding programs
* Adapted for small farms manure management materials
* Easy-to-apply kits and adapted tools for veterinary cares – to be used by veterinary staff
* Medicaments and chemicals for animals’ health accepted by bio standards

# **CONCLUSION**

Despite difficulties, agriculture remains a major sector of the Bulgarian economy. Bulgaria has wonderful weather conditions for many species of plants and animals. Due to labor shortage, more and more young farmers, in particular, are looking to build small, family farms with easier resource management. At the same time, the demand for options for raw material processing by the producer itself is growing. With more flexible and small-scale subsidies following ready-to-consume products, Bulgarian agriculture has all premises for stable development in the future.

**Sources:**

National Statistical Institute [www.nsi.bg](http://www.nsi.bg)

Ministry of Agriculture and Food <http://www.mzh.government.bg/mzh/>

Institute of Agricultural Economics <http://www.iae-bg.com/en/>

Bulgarian Agency for Food Safety <http://www.babh.government.bg/>

Bulgarian Authority for EU funds [https://www.eufunds.bg/#](https://www.eufunds.bg/)

Bulgarian Association of Importers of Agricultural Machinery <http://exhibition.bata-agro.com/>

Bulgarian National Association Essential Oils <http://www.bnaeopc.com/en/index.html>

Economedia [www.economedia.bg](http://www.economedia.bg)

The source of information for all the tables mentioned in this study is the Ministry of Agriculture and Food of Bulgaria

**Statistics for previous years:**

***Harvest years 2014 and 2015 by crops***

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Vegetable crops** | **Harvested areas (ha)** | **Production**  **(tons)** | | | **Average yield (kg/ha)** |
| **Total** | **Of open areas** | **Greenhouse**  **production** |
| **I. Fruit-bearing vegetables** | **18 067** | **353 733** | **258 898** | **94 835** | **///** |
| Tomatoes | 2 686 | 121 646 | 71 541 | 50 105 | 26 635 |
| Peppers - sweet | 3 681 | 65 105 | 62 342 | 2 763 | 16 936 |
| Hot pepper | 351 | 2 714 | 2 697 | 17 | 7 684 |
| Cucumbers | 309 | 45 814 | 4 230 | 41 584 | 13 689 |
| Gherkins | 283 | 4 521 | 4 263 | 258 | 15 064 |
| Eggplant | 486 | 9 933 | 9 902 | 31 | 20 374 |
| Zucchini | 156 | 4 418 | 4 418 |  | 28 321 |
| Pumpkins | 2 442 | 25 199 | 25 199 | - | 10 319 |
| Pumpkins for seeds | 2 938 | 2 844 | 2 844 | - | 968 |
| Watermelons | 3 212 | 59 960 | 59 960 | - | 18 667 |
| Melons | 654 | 7 338 | 7 270 | 68 | 11 116 |
| Sweet corn | 484 | 2 801 | 2 801 |  | 5 787 |
| Okra | 385 | 1 431 | 1 431 | - | 3 717 |
| Zucchini and sweet corn -  greenhouse production | - | 9 | - | 9 | - |
| **II. Legumes** | **9 221** | **15 439** | **15 436** | **3** | **///** |
| Kidney beans – grain | 3 314 | 3 262 | 3 262 | - | 984 |
| Lentils | 1 449 | 1 860 | 1 860 | - | 1 284 |
| Green peas | 1 064 | 3 400 | 3 400 | - | 3 195 |
| Kidney beans — green | 361 | 2 323 | 2 320 | 3 | 6 427 |
| Chick peas | 2 466 | 3 100 | 3 100 | - | 1 257 |
| Broad beans | 567 | 1 494 | 1 494 | - | - |
| **III. Leafy vegetables** | **2 984** | **51 781** | **49 816** | **1 965** | **///** |
| Headed cabbage | 1 871 | 42 447 | 42 411 | 36 | 22 668 |
| Artichoke | 442 | 668 | 668 | - | 1 511 |
| Cauliflower | 162 | 2 035 | 2 035 | - | 12 562 |
| Leek | 83 | 651 | 651 | - | 7 843 |
| Broccoli | 74 | 551 | 551 | - | 7 446 |
| Salads and lettuce | 73 | 2 533 | 875 | 1 658 | 11 986 |
| Onions - green | 67 | 1 136 | 987 | 149 | 14 731 |
| Spinach | 45 | 464 | 391 | 73 | 8 689 |
| Cauliflower and leeks -  greenhouse production | - | 6 | - | 6 | - |
| **Other leafy vegetables**  (dill, parsley, celery - stems, garlic - green, savory, kohlrabi, kale, etc.) | **167** | **1 290** | **1 247** | **43** | **-** |
| **IV. Root and bulb**  **vegetables** | **12 886** | **187 426** | **187 052** | **374** | **///** |
| Potatoes | 11 017 | 164 866 | 164 866 | - | 14 965 |
| Onions | 1 074 | 8 926 | 8 926 | - | 8 311 |
| Carrots | 326 | 7 905 | 7 905 | - | 24 248 |
| Garlic | 187 | 717 | 717 | - | 3 834 |
| Beetroot | 145 | 2 776 | 2 776 | - | 19 145 |
| Seed onions | 100 | 1 273 | 1 273 | - | 12 730 |
| **Other root vegetables**  (turnip, radish, celery - heads, etc.) | **37** | **953** | **589** | **364** | **-** |
| Potatoes and garlic -  greenhouse production |  | 10 |  | 10 | - |
| **V. Strawberries** | **756** | **4 999** | **4 962** | **37** | **6 563** |
| **TOTAL:** | **43 914** | **613 378** | **516 164** | **97 214** |  |

***Production of fruits - Harvest years 2014 and 2015***

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Fruit crops** | **Harvested areas**  **(ha)** | | **Average yield**  **(kg/ha)** | | **Production**  **(tons)** | | |
| **2014** | **2015** | **2014** | **2015** | **2014** | **2015** | **Change**  **2015/2014** |
| Apples | 3 951 | 4 765 | 13 794 | 12 260 | 54 502 | 58 419 | 7.2% |
| Pears | 336 | 528 | 6 405 | 5 593 | 2 152 | 2 953 | 37.2% |
| Quinces | 73 | 83 | 6 123 | 6 000 | 447 | 498 | 11.4% |
| Peaches and nectarines | 3 139 | 3 711 | 9 586 | 9 521 | 30 483 | 35 334 | 15.9% |
| Apricots and sour  apricots | 1 735 | 2 481 | 6 552 | 5 715 | 11 367 | 14 179 | 24.7% |
| Plums and cherry plums | 4 876 | 6 827 | 5 053 | 5 299 | 24 640 | 36 176 | 46.8% |
| Cherries | 6 256 | 8 055 | 5 322 | 6 136 | 33 294 | 49 423 | 48.4% |
| Sour cherries | 958 | 1 207 | 3 942 | 2 838 | 3 776 | 3 425 | -9.3% |
| Walnuts | 2 777 | 5 055 | 601 | 718 | 1 670 | 3 627 | 117.2% |
| Almonds | 627 | 574 | 699 | 739 | 438 | 424 | -3.2% |
| Hazelnuts | 419 | 496 | 394 | 728 | 165 | 361 | 118.8% |
| Raspberries | 1 191 | 1 522 | 3 836 | 4 497 | 4 569 | 6 845 | 49.8% |
| Others | 329 | 350 | - | - | 1 458 | 1 358 | -6.9% |
| **Total:** | **26 667** | **35 654** |  |  | **168 961** | **213 022** | **26.1%** |

***Production of vegetables – harvest years 2014 and 2015 by areas***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Main areas** | **Harvest `2014** | **Harvest `2015** | **Change 2015/2014** |
| Open areas | 32 976 | 45 420 | 37.7% |
| Total greenhouse area | 894 | 968 | 8.3% |
| **Total area** | **33 870** | **46 388** | **37.0%** |

# ***Number of animals in details for 2014 and 2015 and projections for 2016***

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Number of animals** | **01.11.2014** | **01.11.2015** | **Change 2015/2014** | **Projection 2016** |
| Cattle – total, incl.: | 552 807 | 550 201 | -0.5% | 546 000 |
| cows – total | 344 496 | 352 571 | 2.3% | 350 000 |
| - cows bred for meat | 49 122 | 76 411 | 55.6% | 80 000 |
| Buffalo – total, including: | 9 555 | 10 834 | 13.4% | 11 000 |
| female buffalo | 6 339 | 6 796 | 7.2% | 7 000 |
| Sheep – total, including: | 1 335 283 | 1 331 894 | -0.3% | 1 340 000 |
| breeding ewes – total | 1 109 047 | 1 116 997 | 0.7% | 1 120 000 |
| - bred for meat sheep | 79 966 | 92 447 | 15.6% | 93 000 |
| Goats - total, including: | 292 644 | 276 919 | -5.4% | 277 000 |
| breeding goats | 227 618 | 219 869 | -3.4% | 220 000 |
| Pigs - total, including: | 553 114 | 600 068 | 8.5% | 620 000 |
| Total souls exceeding 50 kg | 55 167 | 58 149 | 5.4% | 60 000 |
| Birds total\*, thousand birds, incl.: | 14 609 | 15 600 | 6.8% | 16 000 |
| hens and pullets | 6 815 | 6 980 | 2.4% | 7 000 |
| chickens for meat | 6 155 | 7 278 | 18.2% | 7 500 |
| waterfowl poultry | 1 538 | 1 245 | -19.1% | 1 400 |
| other poultry | 101 | 97 | -4.0% | 100 |
| Equidae (horses, asses, mules or hinnies) | 112 742 | 114 000 | 1.1% | 116 000 |
| Bee families | 588 379 | 747 434 | 27.0% | 748 000 |
| Rabbits | 51 953 | 52 000 | 0.1% | 52 000 |