



Cereal and oilseed rape harvest: final estimates – 2023

Summary

Total cereal production from the 2023 harvest is just under 3.1 million tonnes. This is a 2% decrease compared to 2022 and just above the ten-year average of 3.0 million tonnes.

Weather conditions in 2023 led to one of the more challenging harvests in recent years. Overall cereal production decreased despite a small increase in planted area.

Production decreased for barley, wheat and oats compared to 2022. This was mostly a result of decreased yield.

Oilseed rape production reached its highest value in at least 20 years at around 166 thousand tonnes. The 2023 area of oilseed rape is the largest recorded in at least 20 years, at around 41 thousand hectares. Combined with an above average yield this made for a very good year for oilseed rape production.

Production

	Production (Tonnes)	Change from 2022/ 2023	
Total cereals	3,070,384	down 2%	↓
Spring barley	1,578,874	down 2%	↓
Winter barley	348,097	down 4%	↓
Wheat	985,236	down 1%	↓
Oats	158,177	down 7%	↓
Oilseed rape	165,834	up 10%	↑

Area

	Area (Hectares)	Change from 2022/ 2023	
Total cereals	429,169	up 4%	↑
Spring barley	249,463	up 6%	↑
Winter barley	46,358	up 5%	↑
Wheat	107,166	no change	→
Oats	26,182	down 4%	↓
Oilseed rape	40,741	up 15%	↑

Yield

	Yield (Tonnes per hectare)	Change from 2022/ 2023	
Total cereals	7.2	down 6%	↓
Spring barley	6.3	down 7%	↓
Winter barley	7.5	down 8%	↓
Wheat	9.2	down 2%	↓
Oats	6.0	down 4%	↓
Oilseed rape	4.1	down 5%	↓



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Timeseries of cereals production, sown area and yield in Scotland, from 2014 to 2023.

