



## ~ Methodology ~

### AREAS AND PLANTATIONS AT THE END OF SPRING SOWING

#### LEGAL BASIS

Data on areas and plantations at the end of spring sowing on farms in Republika Srpska are provided through the “Annual survey on sown areas at the end of spring sowing and estimates of yields of early-season crops”, a survey implemented in accordance with the current:

- Work Plan of the Republika Srpska Institute of Statistics for 2024,
- Statistical Programme of Republika Srpska for the period 2022-2025 (“Official Gazette of Republika Srpska”, No 102/21),
- Law on Statistics of Republika Srpska (“Official Gazette of Republika Srpska”, No 85/03),
- Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2015/1557 amending Regulation (EC) No 543/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning crop statistics.

#### METHODOLOGICAL BASIS

##### *AIM AND CONTENT*

Data on areas and plantations at the end of spring sowing on farms are obtained through the “Annual survey on sown areas at the end of spring sowing and estimates of yields of early-season crops”.

The survey was conducted in accordance with Eurostat’s recommendations and standards and it has fully replaced the previous methodology of collecting data on agricultural production of family farms, which was based on estimates made by officials of local self-government units and data on sowing provided by legal entities.

##### *OBSERVATION UNITS*

Observation units are farms (family farms and farms owned by legal entities and entrepreneurs).

## ***COVERAGE***

The survey was carried out based on a random representative sample of family farms located in the territory of Republika Srpska and all farms owned by legal entities and entrepreneurs, which are engaged in crop production. The “Register of Farms”, established on the basis of the results of the Census of Population 2013, was used as the sample frame. In the “Annual survey on sown areas at the end of spring sowing and estimates of yields of early-season crops”, the data for 2024 were collected through telephone interviews with family farms. The survey is annual and it was implemented between 23 May and 15 June, as on 25 May. The data on sown areas at the end of spring sowing refer to the reference period between 1 October 2023 and 30 September 2024.

## ***METHOD AND PERIOD OF DATA COLLECTION***

In the “Annual survey on sown areas at the end of spring sowing and estimates of yields of early-season crops”, the data for 2024 were collected through telephone interviews with family farms. The survey is annual and it was implemented between 23 May and 15 June, as on 25 May. The data on sown areas at the end of spring sowing refer to the reference period between 1 October 2023 and 30 September 2024.

## ***PROTECTION OF CONFIDENTIAL DATA***

Data on sowing areas by categories and by individual crops at the level of Republika Srpska are published based on the survey results. Confidential data are protected pursuant to Articles 25 and 27 of the Law on Statistics of Republika Srpska (“Official Gazette of Republika Srpska”, No 85/03) and in accordance with the Rules of protection of confidential data.

## ***DEFINITIONS OF MAIN FEATURES – INDICATORS***

**Agricultural land** – land used for agricultural production during the observation period (between 1 October 2023 and 30 September 2024) on farms in Republika Srpska.

**Sown areas** - areas that have been cultivated and sown with a crop.

## ***LEVEL OF DATA REPRESENTATIVES***

Data on areas and plantations obtained through the survey are representative for the level of Republika Srpska..

## ***COMPLIANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS AND STANDARDS***

“Annual survey on sown areas at the end of spring sowing and estimates of yields of early-season crops” fully complies with Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2015/1557 amending Regulation (EC) No 543/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning crop statistics. Thus, the data obtained through the survey are fully internationally comparable.

## **IMPLEMENTATION ORGANISATION**

### ***AUTHORITIES IMPLEMENTING THE STATISTICAL ACTIVITY***

Responsible producer of data on crop production on farms is the Republika Srpska Institute of Statistics.

The survey is conducted by selected interviewers, trained and authorised by the Institute. The interviewers attend a specially prepared training, during which they are provided with the material necessary for their work. The material includes questionnaires (forms), address books, methodological instructions for survey implementation and work authorisation. The interviewers have to attend the training and, in the fieldwork, they must act in accordance with the methodological instructions for survey implementation and the instructions given during the training.

Selected family farms are interviewed for 21 days. During the interviewing, the interviewers simultaneously enter data into the application. Control and correction of the data obtained from family farms and entered into the application, in accordance with the pre-defined criteria of logical and computation controls, is carried out in the Production Statistics Division of the Institute. Once the interviewing is completed, the interviewers check the completeness of the material together with the persons responsible (cotrollers).

### ***OBLIGATION TO PROVIDE DATA***

Reporting units (farms) must submit data to the Republika Srpska Institute of Statistics pursuant to the Law on Statistics.

## **METHODOLOGICAL DOCUMENTS**

### ***QUESTIONNAIRE***

Questionnaires for family farms (PS/PPG) and questionnaires for farms owned by legal entities and entrepreneurs (PS/PL) are used for the implementation of the “Annual survey on sown areas at the end of spring sowing and estimates of yields of early-season crops”.

### ***METHODOLOGICAL INSTRUCTIONS***

Methodological instructions for the “Annual survey on sown areas at the end of spring sowing and estimates of yields of early-season crops” for 2024 are available at the Institute’s official website, at:

[https://www.rzs.rs.ba/static/uploads/metodologije/poljoprivreda/engleski/Areas\\_and\\_plantations\\_at\\_the\\_end\\_of\\_spring\\_sowing\\_2024.pdf](https://www.rzs.rs.ba/static/uploads/metodologije/poljoprivreda/engleski/Areas_and_plantations_at_the_end_of_spring_sowing_2024.pdf)

## **PUBLISHING**

Data on areas and plantations at the end of spring sowing are published on 15 July of the current year, in the regular statistical release “Areas and plantations at the end of spring sowing”.

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