

# EU Commission expects reduced cultivation of legumes

## UFOP: domestic protein crops should be promoted in a sustainable manner

**Berlin, 7 May 2025. – According to estimates by the EU Commission, EU production of legumes for the 2025 harvest will fall 6 per cent short of the previous year's outcome. The harvest will nevertheless be higher than average. Dry peas are seen to record the strongest decline.**

In its estimate published at the end of April, the EU Commission expects the legume harvest in the EU to reach just over 6.3 million tonnes in 2025. This would translate to a 6 per cent decline year-on-year. The harvest would also fall just short of the 6.9 million tonne bumper harvest recorded in 2017 (EU-28). According to Agrarmarkt Informations-Gesellschaft (mbH), the drop is mainly due to an almost 19 per cent reduction in area planted. Yields have so far been projected at 22.7 decitonnes per hectare, up from 20.7 decitonnes per hectare the previous year.

Above all, the harvest of feed peas will presumably drop 11 per cent compared to the previous year, reaching 1.8 million tonnes. At just less than 2.9 million tonnes and accounting for 45 per cent of the total legume crop, soybean remains the most important legume in the EU. The harvest is seen to be 3 per cent smaller than the previous year due to the reduction in soybean area. The area of field beans also decreased. The EU Commission estimates EU output at 1.3 million tonnes, representing an around 9 per cent decline compared to the previous year. Sweet lupins are the only crop expected to exceed the previous year's harvest of 318,000 tonnes, with output rising to 341,000 tonnes.

The Union zur Förderung von Oel- und Proteinpflanzen e.V. (UFOP) has appealed to the new German government to continue promoting domestic protein crops sustainably in the future. In the interests of a sustainable economy, the market should pull the production area. The projects funded by the German Ministry of Agriculture, such as the joint project "LeguNet", are leading the way to a network of market players from crop breeding, production and consultancy through to product development and marketing innovative ideas. The result should be added value that benefits all members in the supply chain and is the basis for business continuity. However, the association has criticised that the benefits this type of crop provides for biodiversity and climate change mitigation are not properly and appropriately priced in. According to the UFOP, government funding should close this gap by providing financing that accompanies the development process.



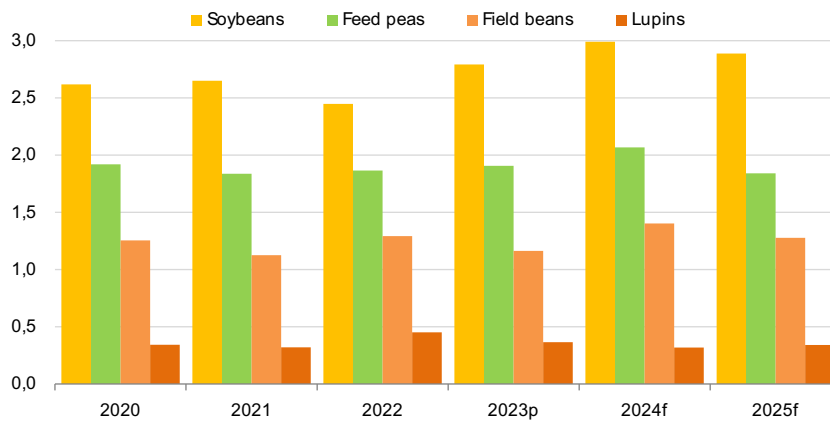
Union zur Förderung  
von Oel- und Proteinpflanzen e. V.

Herausgeber:

UFOP e. V.  
Claire-Waldoff-Straße 7  
10117 Berlin  
Telefon 030/235 97 99 - 0  
Telefax 030/235 97 99 - 99  
E-Mail [info@ufop.de](mailto:info@ufop.de)  
Web [www.ufop.de](http://www.ufop.de)

INFORMATION  
Union zur Förderung von Oel- und Proteinpflanzen e. V.

## Harvest of the most important legumes in the EU-27 in million tonnes



Source: EU Commission

Note: p = preliminary, f = forecast

Editorial contact:

Stephan Arens

Tel. +49 (0)30 235 97 99 – 10

E-Mail: [s.aren@ufop.de](mailto:s.aren@ufop.de)

Quick information on UFOP e. V.:

The Union for the Promotion of Oil and Protein Crops e. V. (UFOP) represents the political interests of companies, associations and institutions involved in the production, processing and marketing of domestic oil and protein crops in national and international bodies. UFOP supports research to optimise agricultural production and for the development of new utilisation possibilities in the food, non-food and feed sectors. UFOP public relations aim to promote the marketing of domestic oil and protein crop end products.