

Romania remains the EU's largest producer of sunflower seed

Berlin, 4 June 2025 – According to a forecast from the EU Commission, supply of sunflower seed in the EU-27 is expected to significantly exceed the previous year's volume in the 2025/26 marketing season. The estimate is based on higher yield expectations, despite a 4 per cent reduction in production area.

The EU Commission projects a sunflower seed harvest of 9.7 million tonnes for 2025. This would represent a 17 per cent increase on the previous year, when disappointing yields limited production.

With a projected 2.2 million tonnes and 50 per cent rise, Romania is once again expected to top the list of EU producers, followed by Bulgaria with 1.9 million tonnes (up just over 16 per cent year-on-year). France is also seen to harvest more than in 2024, with 1.8 tonnes currently projected, reflecting a rise of just over 22 per cent. Harvests in Hungary and Spain are expected to reach 1.8 million tonnes (down 1 per cent) and 862,000 tonnes (up just over 1 per cent), respectively. Italy's harvest is also projected to grow, reaching 288,000 tonnes (up around 1 per cent). For Greece, the EU Commission anticipates a significant harvest increase, projecting a 38 per cent rise year-on-year to 215,000 tonnes. Compared to the major producers of sunflower seed, Germany only plays a secondary role in the EU, with output estimated at 128,000 tonnes.

According to research by Agrarmarkt Informations-Gesellschaft (mbH), the general increase in supply of sunflower seed in the EU-27 is mainly based on expected higher yields, which are forecast to rise just over 21 per cent to, on average, approximately 21 decitonnes per hectare, as the EU sunflower area has been reduced 4 per cent to 4.6 million hectares.



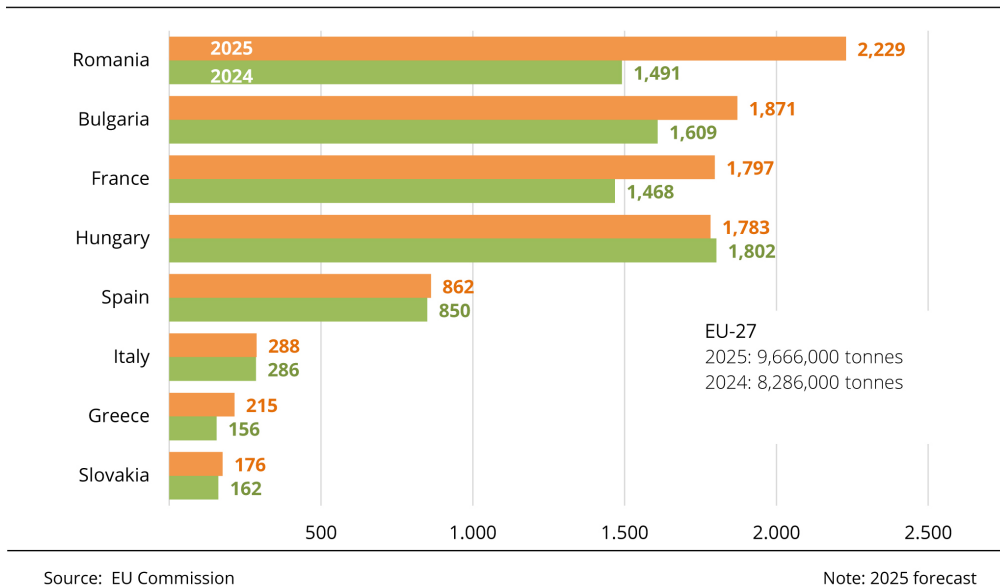
**Union zur Förderung
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EU production of sunflower seeds in 1,000 tonnes



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