

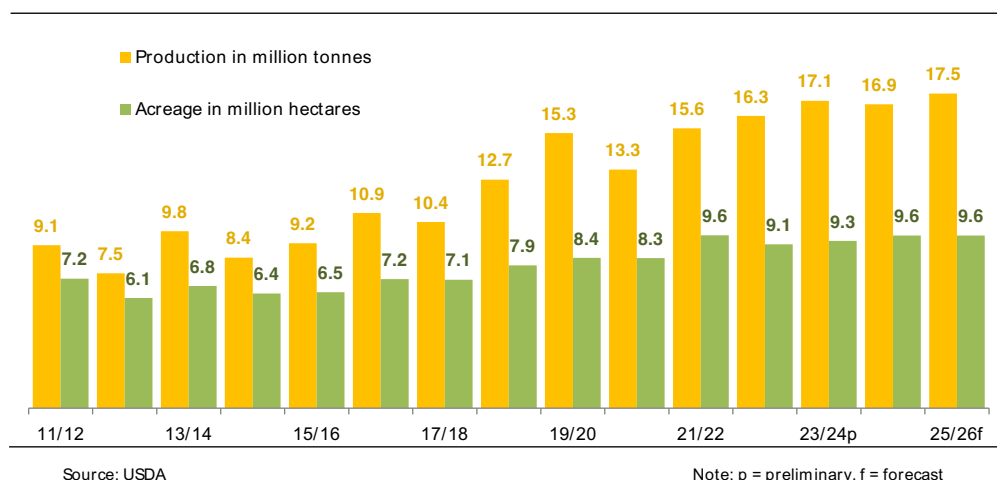
Russia's sunflower seed harvest set to hit record level

Berlin, 17 June 2025 – Russia is the world's largest producer of sunflower seed. The country's harvest is expected to reach a new record high in the coming season – although the sunflower area will presumably remain unchanged.

The US Department of Agriculture (USDA) recently published its June estimate for global oilseed production. According to the report, Russia's output of sunflower seed for the upcoming crop year is estimated at 17.5 million tonnes. This figure would not only represent a 4 per cent increase over the running season and an 11 per cent rise compared to the long-standing average, but also a new record harvest from an unchanged production area of 9.6 million hectares. The estimated increase is attributed to higher yields. Sowings are just about complete. As of 23 May 2025, approximately 8.4 million hectares had already been sown with sunflowers, compared to 7.0 million hectares the previous year. Weather conditions for the 2025/26 crop year are currently expected to be favourable. The USDA therefore expects an average yield of 18.2 decitonnes per hectare, which would be the third highest on record.

With that, Russia remains the world's leading producer of sunflower seed, ahead of Ukraine and the EU-27. According to the USDA estimate, Russia is seen to account for slightly more than 31 per cent of global output in the coming season, followed by Ukraine at just under 26 per cent and the EU-27 at 18 per cent. Most of Russia's sunflower seed harvest is processed domestically, with part of it later exported as meal or oil.

Sunflower seed in Russia



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