

Broad bean cultivation is gaining importance within the EU

Berlin, 13 August 2025 – Broad bean cultivation continues to gain importance in the European Union. A forecast from the EU Commission suggests that the 2025 harvest will reach a new record high. France remains the most important producer in the EU, followed by Germany.

In its July estimate, the European Commission projected the EU broad bean harvest to reach just over 1.43 million tonnes this year, an increase of 2.8 per cent compared with the previous year. This would exceed the five-year average of 1.24 million tonnes by 15.8 per cent, as well as surpassing the previous record of 1.38 million tonnes from 2017. The increase is primarily attributed to expansions in cultivation area in the largest broad bean-producing countries. Across the EU, approximately 525,000 hectares are dedicated to broad bean production in the current calendar year, roughly 23,000 hectares more than in the previous year.

France, in particular, is expected to harvest more broad beans due to a significant growth in production area. The Commission currently projects the French crop at around 295,000 tonnes, 78,000 tonnes more than the previous year. Germany ranks as the second largest producer in the EU, with a projected harvest of 270,000 tonnes, 26,000 tonnes more than in 2024. This means that Germany widens its lead over Lithuania, the third largest producer in the EU. In 2023, Lithuania was the second largest broad bean-producing country after France. For 2025, Lithuania's broad bean harvest is estimated at approximately 219,000 tonnes, down from 234,000 tonnes in 2024. The decline is attributed to assumed lower yields because of an increase in area planted compared with the previous year.

The Union zur Förderung von Oel- und Proteinpflanzen e.V. (UFOP) views this trend as confirmation of farmers' fundamental interest in maintaining or even expanding legume cultivation. However, the association has criticised that the benefits this type of crop has for biodiversity and diversity in agricultural crop rotation are not adequately reflected in market pricing. The UFOP therefore welcomes the European Commission's deliberations to develop a European protein strategy. Such a strategy, it has stressed, should have a clear focus on protein plants and domestic oilseed crops such as rapeseed and sunflowers. According to the UFOP, this is the only way to continue the fundamentally positive developments seen, for example, in broad bean cultivation.



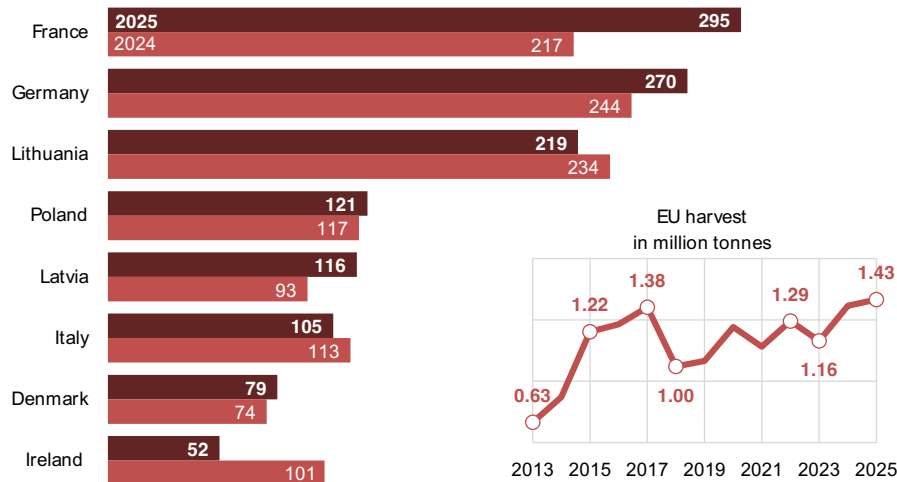
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INFORMATION
Union zur Förderung von Oel- und Proteinpflanzen e. V.

EU harvest of broad beans in 1,000 tonnes



Source: EU Commission, AMI

Note: 2025 forecast

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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.