

# Soybean production 2026 – Germany's output set to hit record level

Berlin, 24 June 2026 – According to an estimate by the EU Commission, soy supply in the EU-27 in the 2026/27 marketing season is set to fall below the previous year's level. The main reason for the lower output is a significant reduction in Italian production. On the other hand, Germany's harvest is set to reach a record level. However, according to the Union zur Förderung von Oel- und Proteinpflanzen e. V. (UFOP), there is still considerable potential for growth.

The association holds that EU soybean farming is generally on the upswing, pointing out that EU Commission information indicates that EU soybean production has tripled over the past decade, although output is set to decline in 2026 for the second year running. UFOP places reliance on the funding opportunities provided by the announced national and European protein plans. Given the desolate situation in the grain and sugar markets, demand-driven diversification of crop rotation is the order of the day, UFOP has stated.

According to UFOP, the EU Commission's Directorate-General for Energy's plan to classify soybeans globally as a high-iLUC feedstock will have counterproductive effects on the desired expansion of European soybean production. The association has called upon both the Council and the Parliament to stop the draft delegated regulation. Encouragingly, this week a majority of the members of the European Parliament's ITRE Committee (Committee on Industry, Research, and Energy) voted in favour of a motion put forward by the EPP, ECR, and Renew political groups, recommending that the European Parliament block the European Commission's planned classification of soy. According to UFOP, it is now up to the Parliament's plenary assembly to follow this recommendation.

For the current crop year, soybean production is expected to reach just under 2.8 million tonnes, representing a decline of around 1 per cent compared with 2025. According to investigations conducted by Agrarmarkt Informations-Gesellschaft mbH, the main reason for the slight reduction in soybean supply in the EU-27 is lower yield expectations.

Italy is expected to remain the largest producer in the EU, with output projected at 899,000 tonnes, representing a decrease of about 15 per cent year-on-year. In other words, the Italian soybean harvest would reach the lowest level in five years. In contrast, the Commission expects France, the second largest EU supplier of soybeans, to record a 4 per cent increase to 408,000 tonnes. Other Member States are also expected to see increases in soybean production compared with the previous year.



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

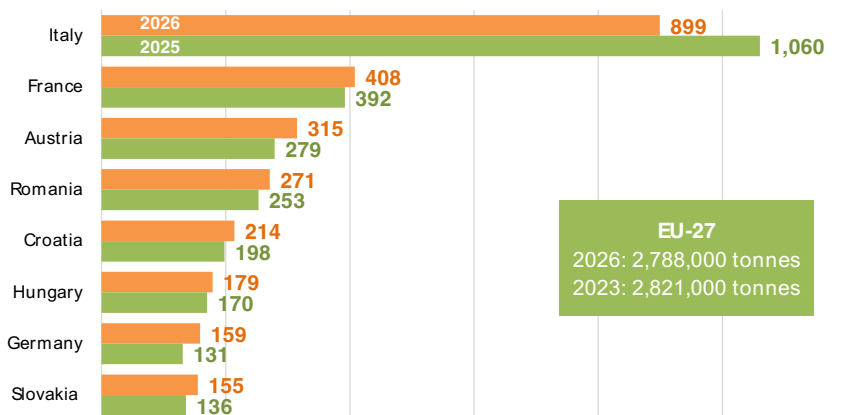
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**INFORMATION**  
Union zur Förderung von Oel- und Proteinpflanzen e. V.

Soybean production in Germany is expected to be especially dynamic. The EU Commission expects an increase of just over 21 per cent compared with 2025, reaching 159,000 tonnes. This means that the harvest will probably reach the highest level ever. In other words, despite the limited absolute volume compared with other EU Member States, Germany is gaining importance. The expansion of soybean cultivation areas and output underlines Germany's role as a growing market, supported by rising demand for domestic protein sources.

EU soybean production  
in million tonnes



Source: EU Commission

Note: 2026 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.