EU palm oil imports declined further

Berlin, 9 July 2026 – EU Member States imported less palm oil in the marketing year 2025/26 than in the previous year. Imports totalled approximately 2.85 million tonnes, representing a decline of just over 5 per cent compared with a year earlier.

The Union zur Förderung von Oel- und Proteinpflanzen e. V. (UFOP) attributes this to the EU-wide changes in legal requirements in Member States such as Germany and France, under which palm oil-based biofuels are excluded from counting towards national quota obligations or from receiving tax incentives as a result of the iLUC classification of palm oil. Moreover, according to the Evaluation Report of the Federal Office for Agriculture and Food (BLE), average greenhouse gas savings from palm oil-based biofuels amount to 77.5 per cent, 10.5 percentage points lower than those achieved by biofuels derived from waste oils and fats. This commodity group is displacing palm oil in Germany and the EU. The trend is also reflected in the import volumes of this feedstock category. According to investigations conducted by the Agrarmarkt Informations-Gesellschaft mbH (AMI), imports increased from 3.64 million tonnes in 2023 to 4.60 million tonnes in 2025. The double counting system, which has since been abolished in Germany, for the use of certain waste oils and fats had accelerated the displacement effect.

The Netherlands remains the leading importer within the European Union. At approximately 1.05 million tonnes, the country imported roughly 9 per cent more palm oil than in 2024/25. It should be noted, however, that Dutch ports such as Rotterdam and Amsterdam act as central gateways for overseas imports into the EU. In other words, some of these imports will have been redirected to other Member States. Furthermore, the Netherlands is one of the leading European biofuel production locations.

Italy ranks as the second largest importer of palm oil, receiving nearly 734,000 tonnes, which represents a 12 per cent decline from the previous year. In contrast, Spain raised its imports significantly, by 35 per cent, to approximately 392,000 tonnes. Germany increased its imports 20 per cent to roughly 273,000 tonnes. UFOP attributes this rise to growing demand from the food and chemical industries, with the feedstuff industry also representing a major market for palm oil. Greece and France also recorded increases. In contrast, demand in Denmark and Sweden fell sharply. While Denmark decreased its palm oil imports 38 per cent to roughly 52,000 tonnes, Swedish imports virtually halved, reaching just under 38,000 tonnes.

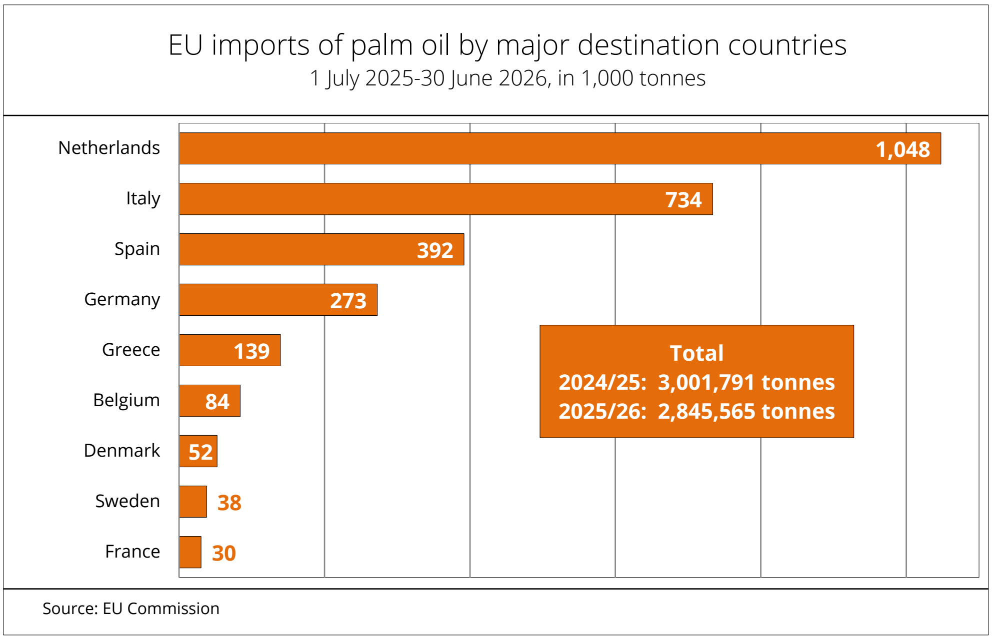
Union zur Förderung
von Oel- und Proteinpflanzen e. V.

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
Web www.ufop.de

INFORMATION

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



Editorial contact: Stephan Arens

Tel. +49 (0)30 235 97 99 – 10

E-Mail: s.arens@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.