

# Statistics of Plant Production and Agricultural Land

Metadata

National Bureau of Statistics of the Republic of Moldova (NBS)

## 1. Contact Information

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## 2. Metadata Update

### 2.1. Last certification of metadata

14.02.2018

### 2.2. Last update of metadata

14.02.2018

## 3. Statistical Presentation

### 3.1. General description

This area covers statistical data on:

- sown areas and obtained production (average yield per hectare and gross harvest) by the main agricultural crops (cereals and leguminous; technical crops; potatoes, vegetables, melons and gourds, fodder crops) and perennial plantations (orchards, vineyards, nut trees, and fruit trees);
- information regarding the holders of agricultural land plots
- establishment of perennial plantations and production of planting material;
- procurement of agricultural plant production;
- use of plant protection products and embedment of chemical and natural fertilizers.

These statistical data offer numerous possibilities for correlation and structuring by ownership form, categories of households at the country level and by territorial profile (partially), representing an important source of information necessary for assessing the country's agricultural potential, developing agrarian policies, monitoring and evaluating the implementation of agrarian policies.

The annual statistical data regarding the sown areas and gross harvest of agricultural crops by categories of households and establishment of perennial plantations and production of planting material are obtained and presented by:

- enterprises producing agricultural production (or agricultural enterprises) and farms with an area of agricultural land of 10 ha and over – based on their exhaustive survey (by submission of statistical reports);
- farms with agricultural land plots of up to 10 ha and individual auxiliary households – based on the sample statistical survey of small agricultural producers.

Statistical data on:

- Crop harvesting, of agricultural cultures - in July and October (2 times),
- sowing of winter crops and tillage - December, 24,
- use of plant protection products and embedment of chemical and natural fertilizers.

Data are obtained and presented by agricultural enterprises and farms with agricultural land of 50 ha and over – based on their exhaustive survey (by submission of statistical reports);

Statistical data on procurement of agricultural plant products are obtained and presented based on the exhaustive survey of enterprises and organizations procuring agricultural products (by submission of statistical reports).

Administrative sources are used for developing statistical data:

- Land Cadastre, developed by the Land Relations and Cadastre Agency (<http://www.arfc.gov.md/>)
- Lists of holders of agricultural land plots, submitted by the mayoralties of villages (communes), towns, annually, and in June.

Peculiarities of data submission. Statistical data on:

- sown areas and obtained production by the main agricultural crops and perennial plantations are available for all the categories of households, on annual basis, for the whole country;
- sown area and obtained production by the main agricultural crops and perennial plantations by agricultural enterprises and farms with agricultural land area of 10 ha and over are available on annual basis, for the whole country and in territorial profile (by rayons and development regions),
- establishment of perennial plantations and production of planting material (on semi-annual basis) – are presented by agricultural enterprises and farms with agricultural land of 10 ha and over are available for the whole country, and in territorial profile (by rayons and development regions)
- use of plant protection products and embedment of chemical and natural fertilizers (on annual basis), are available for the whole country, and in territorial aspect (by rayons and development regions)
- crop harvesting of agricultural cultures – twice per year (July and October), cover only agricultural enterprises and farms with agricultural land area of 50 ha and over are available on for the whole country and in territorial profile (by rayons and development regions),
- Sowing of winter crops and tillage, in December cover only the agricultural enterprises and farms with agricultural land area of 50 ha and over are available for the whole country, and in territorial profile (by rayons and development regions).

## **3.2. Concepts and definitions**

### **3.2.1. Definitions**

From the statistical surveys' organization standpoint, there are 3 major categories of holdings (units or households) in the agricultural activity:

- Enterprises producing agricultural production or agricultural enterprises,
- Farms
- Households

**Enterprises producing agricultural production or agricultural enterprises** cover all the enterprises and organizations, which have legal entity status and produce agricultural products, holding or possessing agricultural land or developing agricultural activity, regardless of their organizational-legal form and ownership type. This category includes the enterprises with the main activity type in agricultural sector, as well as the enterprises which carry out agricultural activities as secondary activity (within their structural subdivisions), and institutions, organizations (monasteries, military units, etc.) which have agricultural land plots and/or agricultural animals.

According to their organizational-legal form, agricultural enterprises may be: agricultural production cooperatives (APC), joint stock companies (JSC), limited liability companies (LLC), state enterprises (SE), etc.

**Farms** represent the entrepreneurship activity form, without legal status, carried out using land plots and patrimony under the private property or use of the farmer who produces agricultural production. This category of households also includes the persons who were given land parcels in the counterpart of shares of equivalent land, but did not register the household in the established way.

**Households** are the form of agricultural production produced by their own work by citizens or members of their families, in particular on the plots of the house (located inside the localities) and in the gardens (out of the localities) in order to meet the needs in food and other needs. Households do not have legal status.

Agricultural activity performed by households cover the activities carried out in individual auxiliary households, horticultural associations, and privatized horticultural plots.

**Gross harvest** represents the volume of plant production obtained from all the areas of agricultural crops/perennial plantations (separately by crops and groups of crops) in natural expression, without harvesting losses, including the production resulting from the change of crops' destination.

**Average yield** of agricultural crops/perennial plantations represents the average level of production in natural expression obtained per one unit of cropped land area (this indicator is expressed in quintals per 1 hectare).

**Agricultural land** represents the land plots used systematically for obtaining agricultural production. The area of the agricultural land is set from: arable land, perennial plantations (vineyards, orchards, and nut plantations), pastures and hayfields.

**Arable land** represents the agricultural land plots systematically processed (ploughed) and used for sowing agricultural crops and perennial herbs.

**Perennial plantations** – agricultural land planted with orchards, vineyards, and nut plantations.

***Orchards*** – plantations of trees, regardless of the age and species (stone and seed) and fruit-bearing shrubbery.

***Vineyards*** – plantations of vineyards, regardless of the age, species, and destination.

***Nut plantations*** – plantations of nuts, hazel nuts, and other species (almond, etc.)

**Pastures** represent lands covered with herbal vegetation, grown in natural way, meant for animal pasturing.

**Hayfields** represent the lands covered with herbal vegetation, grown in natural way, meant for hay harvesting.

**Sown area** – arable land sown with agricultural crops.

**Sown area covers 4 big groups of agricultural crops:**

1. **Cereals and leguminous;**

*of which:*

- winter crops;

- *winter wheat;*
- *winter rye;*
- *winter barley;*
- *other winter cereals;*
- spring barley;
- oat;
- grain maize;
- spring wheat;
- millet;
- buckwheat;
- grain sorghum;
- other spring cereals;
- leguminous crops:
  - *peas;*
  - *beans;*
  - *forage grains;*
  - *spring pure and winter fodder vetch (mainly grain vetch);*
  - *other leguminous crops.*

## 2. **Technical crops;**

*of which:*

- industrial sugar beet;
- sunflower – total
- soy;
- rape;
- tobacco;
- medical plants;
- oil crops;
- other technical crops.

## 3. **Potatoes, vegetables, melons, and gourds;**

*of which:*

- potatoes
- field vegetables – total and specified according to the following:
  - *different cabbage*
  - *cucumbers;*
  - *tomatoes;*
  - *beet;*
  - *carrot;*
  - *onion;*
  - *garlic;*
  - *green peas;*
  - *pumpkin;*
  - *gourds;*
  - *pepper;*

- *egg-plants*;
- *bell pepper*;
- *green stuff*;
- *other vegetables*;

- Annual, biennial and mother plantations of seed vegetables.
- Chive;
- Melons and gourds for food;
- Melons and gourds for seeds.

#### 4. Forage crops.

- root plants for forage;
- nurseries and mother-plantations of root plants for forage;
- sugar beet for feeding animals;
- forage pumpkins;
- silo seeding (without maize);
- maize for silo, green mass, and hay;
- annual herbs for hay, seeds, green forage, for manufacturing briquettes, granules, and for grazing;
- perennial herbs, without protecting plants, sown during the current year, including the winter seeding from the last year, of which:
  - *pure alfalfa*,
  - *pure cockshead*,
- perennial herbs sown during the previous years, of which:
  - *pure alfalfa*,
  - *pure cockshead*.

#### 3.2.2. Unit of measure

Sown areas are expressed in hectares (ha) and thousand hectares (th ha).

Gross harvest is expressed in quintals and thousand tonnes (th t).

Average yield is expressed in quintals per 1 hectare (q/ha)

#### 3.2.3. Computation formula

##### Sown areas

- for **agricultural enterprises and farms** with agricultural land plots of **over 10 ha** =  $\sum$  sown areas separately by agricultural crops or by groups of crops;
- for **farms** with agricultural land plots of up to **10 ha** and **individual households** =  $\frac{\% \text{ sown areas separately by agricultural crops or by groups of crops} \times \text{total area of arable land (from Land Cadastre)}}{100}$ .

##### Gross harvest

- for **agricultural enterprises and farms** with agricultural land plots of **over 10 ha** =  $\sum$  gross

harvest per agricultural crops or groups of crops;

- for *farms* with agricultural land plots of up to **10 ha** and *individual households* = separately by agricultural crops: sown areas X average yield per 1 hectare.

#### **Average yield per 1 hectare**

- for agricultural crops:
  - for *agricultural enterprises and farms* with agricultural land plots of **over 10 ha** = separately by agricultural crops: *gross harvest* / cropped area;
  - for *farms* with agricultural land plots of up to **10 ha** and *individual households* see SSAP.
- for perennial plantations (*fruits, berries, nuts, and grapes*):
  - for *agricultural enterprises and farms* with agricultural land plots of **over 10 ha** =: *gross harvest* from the fruitage area / *fruitage area*;
  - for *farms* with agricultural land plots of up to **10 ha** and *individual households* see SSAP

#### **Structure of areas sown with agricultural crops (%)**

- Share of the crop (separately by crops or group of crops) in the total area sown with agricultural crops = the sown area of the crop / total area sown with agricultural crops X 100;
- Share of the crop (separately by crops) in the group (*cereals and leguminous, technical crops, potatoes, vegetables, melons and gourds, forage crops*) = sown area of the crop / sown area of the group of crops X 100;

**Quantity of embedded chemical fertilizers recalculated to 100% of nutritive substances** – is determined through product (X) of the fertilizer quantity in physical weight and percentage of nutritive substances content divided to (:) 100.

**Embedded chemical or natural fertilizers per 1 hectare of seeding for the harvest of the year \_\_ per total of agricultural crops or separately by crops** = quantity of embedded chemical or natural fertilizers recalculated to 100% of nutritive substances / sown area.

### **3.3. Used classifications**

**Classifier of Activities in Moldova Economy** (CAEM - *Clasificatorul Activităților Economice a Moldovei in Romanian*), harmonized with NACE ver.2, approved via Moldova-Standard Decision no. 694-ST dated 09.02.2000, including the modification no. 1 approved via Decision no. 1444-ST dated 04.01. 2004; in force since 01.02.2004; edition 2005;

**Classifier of Ownership Forms in the Republic of Moldova** (CFP - *Clasificatorul formelor de proprietate din Republica Moldova, in Romanian*): approved via the Decision of the Standards, Metrology, and Technical Supervision Department No. 276-st dated 04.02.1997;

**Classifier of Organizational-Legal Forms** (CFOJ – *Clasificatorul formelor organizatorico-juridice din Republica Moldova in Romanian*), approved via the Moldova-Standard Decision No. 1607-ST dated 09.11.2004, in force since 01.01.2005

**Classifier of Administrative-Territorial Units of the Republic of Moldova** (CUATM - *Clasificatorul unităților administrativ-teritoriale al Republicii Moldova in Romanian*), approved via the Moldova-Standard Decision No. 1398-ST dated 03.09.2003; in force since 03.09.2003.

### **3.4. Scope**

#### **3.4.1. Sector coverage**

All the enterprises, organizations, and other legal entities and natural persons, which produce agricultural products, posses and hold in use agricultural land, and carry out agricultural activity, regardless of the organizational-legal form and ownership type.

### 3.4.2. Statistical population

The scope of the exhaustive surveys covers:

- agricultural enterprises and farms with agricultural land area of 10 ha or 50 ha and over (covered in exhaustive surveys, depending on the survey - see p.3.1);
- enterprises and organizations which procure agricultural products (exhaustive survey on procurement of plant agricultural products);
- farms with agricultural land area up to 10 ha and individual households (covered in sample surveys).

### 3.4.3. Geographical coverage

Data are collected for the entire country, except for the localities from the left side of the River Nistru and Bender municipality.

### 3.4.4. Time coverage

Time series on plant production are available starting with 1913, other data - from 1980, in territorial profile – from 2007.

## 3.5. Disaggregation level

Final data for the plant sector are available:

### 1) *by whole country and in territorial profile*:

- a) for the whole country regarding:
  - the sown areas and obtained production by the main agricultural crops, and perennial plantations – for all categories of households;
- b) as a total for the country, by rayons, and development regions – data on:
  - sown areas and obtained production by the main agricultural crops and perennial plantations – for the agricultural enterprises and farms with agricultural land area of 10 ha;
  - establishment of perennial plantations and production of planting material for agricultural enterprises and farms with agricultural land area of 10 ha and over and natural persons that benefit of agricultural grants;
  - use of plant protection products and embedment of chemical and natural fertilizers (on semi-annual basis) for agricultural enterprises and farms with agricultural land area of 50 ha and over;
  - Crop harvesting of agricultural cultures – for agricultural enterprises and farms with agricultural land area of 50 ha and over;
  - Sowing of winter crops and tillage – for agricultural enterprises and farms with agricultural land area of 50 ha and over,

### 2) *by categories of households and ownership forms* – as a generalized report for whole country

### 3) *by organizational forms and ownership types* – as a generalized report for whole country

Restrictions: If disaggregated data cover confidential information, they are not disseminated; they are aggregated at the minimum available level to ensure data confidentiality.

## 3.6. Dissemination frequency

Monthly, quarterly, semi-annually, annually (see details in p.3.7., 4.2.1.)

## 3.7. Timeliness

Twice per year: data on crop harvesting, in July and October by agricultural enterprises and farms with agricultural land area of 50 ha and over – the 7<sup>th</sup> working day of the month (July, October);

Semi-annually: data on establishment of perennial plantations and production of planting material – January 16 and June 12;

**Annually** – data on:

- sown areas with agricultural crops for the harvest of the year \_\_\_\_ :
  - preliminary data – July 12,
  - final data – July 27.
- winter crops sowing and winter tillage – December 29
- determined sown areas, harvested areas, average yield per hectare and gross harvest for the main agricultural crops; total areas, areas under harvest, average yield and gross harvest of perennial plantations:
  - preliminary data – January 17,
  - final data – April 3.
- use of plant protection products and embedment of chemical and natural fertilizers – January 13
- procurement of plant agricultural products:
  - final data – March 20

**3.8. Revision**

Data are operative and final.

**3.9. Period of reference**

The period of reference is the *calendar year (from January 01 until December 31)* and the cumulative period from the beginning of the year.

**4. Data Collection and Processing**

**4.1. Data source**

**4.1.1. Statistical surveys**

***Exhaustive surveys:***

- Information regarding agricultural land owners, as of May 1, 201\_
- Total seeding for the harvest of the year 201\_;
- Establishing and clearing perennial plantations, production of planting material;
- Crop harvesting;
- Winter crops sowing and winter tillage;
- Use of plant protection products and embedment of chemical and natural fertilizers for the harvest of the year 201\_;
- Obtained production of crops harvested on the entire sown area;
- Purchasing of plant production for year 201\_.

***Sample surveys:***

Survey of Small Agricultural Producers' Agricultural Activity.

**4.1.2. Administrative sources**

The administrative data sources are used to develop statistical data:

- Land Cadastre of the Republic of Moldova, developed by the Land Relations and Cadastre Agency;
- Lists of agricultural land holders, as of May 1, 201\_ submitted by the mayoralties of villages (communes), towns, annually, in June.

**4.1.3. Estimations**

Estimations area applied for developing preliminary quarterly data on plant production in the small agricultural producers sector (individual households and farms with agricultural land area of 10 ha).



<b>4.2. Characteristics of the statistical survey/administrative sources</b>
<b>4.2.1. Objective and background</b>
<b>Survey “Crop harvesting from total sown area” (form. no. 7-agr, twice per year)</b>
<p><u>Survey objective:</u> <i>to obtain statistical data regarding the rhythm of agricultural crops’ harvesting.</i></p> <p><u>Main indicators:</u> <i>gross harvest and average yield per hectare of agricultural crops, reaped areas, harvested areas, mown areas, harvesting rhythm, quantity of obtained and threshed production.</i></p> <p><u>Survey frequency</u> – <i>twice per year (July, October).</i></p> <p><u>Data collection modality:</u> <i>through submission of statistical reports by the respondents.</i></p> <p><u>Survey type:</u> <i>exhaustive.</i></p> <p><u>Presentation criteria:</u> <i>enterprises and organization producing agricultural products regardless of the organizational-legal forms and ownership type, as well as farms with agricultural land area of 50 ha and over.</i></p> <p><u>Number of units covered in the survey in 2016</u> – <i>3154 agricultural enterprises and farms.</i></p> <p><u>Level of disaggregation of disseminated data:</u> <i>for the country and in territorial profile: by rayons, and development regions; by categories of households covered in the survey.</i></p>
<b>Survey “Sowing of winter crops and winter tillage as of December 24, 201_” (form. no. 8-agr)</b>
<p><u>Survey objective:</u> <i>to obtain statistical data regarding the rhythm of agricultural crops’ harvesting.</i></p> <p><u>Main indicators:</u> <i>areas sown with winter crops for grain and green forage, tillage, autumn plowed soil, including black field for sowing of winter crops.</i></p> <p><u>Survey frequency</u> – <i>annually (on December 29).</i></p> <p><u>Data collection modality:</u> <i>through submission of statistical reports by the respondents.</i></p> <p><u>Survey type:</u> <i>exhaustive.</i></p> <p><u>Presentation criteria:</u> <i>enterprises and organization producing agricultural products regardless of the organizational-legal forms and ownership type, as well as farms with agricultural land area of 50 ha and over.</i></p> <p><u>Number of units covered in the survey in 2017</u> - <i>3154 agricultural enterprises and farms.</i></p> <p><u>Level of disaggregation of disseminated data:</u> <i>for the country and in territorial profile: by rayons, and development regions; by categories of households covered in the survey.</i></p>
<b>Survey “Establishing and clearing perennial plantations, production of planting material” (form. no. 2-liv-vii)</b>
<p><u>Survey objective:</u> <i>to obtain statistical data on planting and clearing perennial plantations and production of planting material.</i></p> <p><u>Main indicators:</u> <i>planting, clearing, and repairing the gaps from orchards, vineyards, and nut plantations, production of planting material.</i></p> <p><u>Survey frequency</u> – <i>semi-annually (in June and December).</i></p> <p><u>Data collection modality:</u> <i>through submission of statistical reports by respondents.</i></p>

Survey type: *exhaustive.*

Presentation criteria: *enterprises and organizations producing agricultural products, regardless of the organizational-legal form and ownership type, as well as farms with agricultural land area of 10 ha and over.*

Number of units covered in the survey in 2017 - *3200 primary reports.*

Disaggregation level of disseminated data: *for the country and in territorial profile: by rayons and development regions; by categories of households covered in the survey.*

#### **Survey “Total seeding for the harvest of the year 200\_” (form. no. 4-agr)**

Survey objective: *to obtain statistical data on areas sown with agricultural crops.*

Main indicators: *areas sown with agricultural crops; structure of areas sown with agricultural crops.*

Survey frequency – *annually (in June)*

Data collection modality: *through submission of statistical reports by respondents.*

Survey type: *exhaustive.*

Presentation criteria: *enterprises and organizations producing agricultural products regardless of the organizational-legal form and ownership type, as well as farms with agricultural land area of 10 ha and over, and individual households – generalizing reports concluded based on the sample survey of small agricultural producers.*

Number of units covered in the survey in 2017 - *4648 primary reports.*

Disaggregation level of disseminated data: ***preliminary data*** – *for the country and in territorial profile: by rayons and development regions; by categories of households covered in the survey.*

***Final data*** – *at the country level* – *by categories of households and ownership forms; in territorial profile (agricultural enterprises and farms with agricultural land area of 10 ha and over – total and separately for every category); generalized by categories of households and ownership forms covered in the survey.*

#### **Survey “Use of plant protection products and embedment of chemical and natural fertilizers for the harvest of the year 201\_” (form. no. 9-agr)**

Survey objective: *obtaining statistical data regarding the use of plant protection products and quantity of chemical and natural fertilizers embedded for the harvest of the year 201\_.*

Main indicators: *quantity of plant protection products and quantity of chemical and natural fertilizers embedded for the harvest of the year 201\_, fertilized areas, chemical and natural fertilizers embedded per 1 hectare.*

Survey frequency – *annually (in December)*

Data collection modality: *through submission of statistical reports by respondents.*

Survey type: *exhaustive.*

Presentation criteria: *enterprises and organizations producing agricultural products, regardless of the organizational-legal forms and ownership type, as well as the farms with agricultural land area of 50 ha and over.*

Number of units covered in the survey in 2017 - *2609 primary reports.*

Disaggregation level of disseminated data: *for the country and in territorial profile: by rayons and development regions; by categories of households covered in the survey.*

**Survey “Obtained production of crops harvested on the whole sown area” (form. nr. 29-agr)**

Survey objective: *to obtain statistical data on production obtained for the crops harvested on the entire sown area.*

Main indicators: *determined sown areas, harvested areas, real harvest in physical harvesting mass, real harvest in finishing mass, production obtained on consecutive seeding and between rows in physical harvesting conditions, average yield of agricultural crops, total area of perennial plantations, area under harvest of the perennial plantations, really obtained production from the whole area of perennial plantations, really obtained production from the area under harvest of the perennial plantations, average yield per hectare of fruits, grapes, and berries, protected land plots, sale of flowers.*

Survey frequency – *annually (in December)*

Data collection modality: *through submission of statistical reports by respondents.*

Survey type: *exhaustive.*

Presentation criteria: *enterprises and organizations producing agricultural products, regardless of the organizational-legal forms and ownership type, as well as the farms with agricultural land area of 50 ha and over.*

Number of units covered in the survey in 2017 - *4808 primary reports.*

Disaggregation level of disseminated data: ***preliminary data*** – *for the whole country and in territorial profile: by rayons and development regions; by categories of households covered in the survey.*

***Final data*** – *at the country level – by categories of household and ownership forms; in territorial profile (agricultural enterprises and farms) with agricultural land area of 10 ha and over – total and separately for every category; generalizing by categories and forms of ownership covered in the survey.*

**Survey “Procurement of plant production for year 201\_ (form. no. 1 – achiz)**

Survey objective: *to obtain statistical data regarding the procurement of plant production.*

Main indicators: *total of procured plant production – quantity and value, of which from agricultural enterprises (quantity and value) and from natural persons, including farms (quantity and value), (quantity of production received as raw material, which belongs to the client (quantity), cost price for 1 quintal of procured production.*

Survey frequency – *annually (in December)*

Data collecting modality: *through submission of statistical reports by respondents.*

Survey type: *exhaustive.*

Presentation criteria: *enterprises (organizations) which procure and process plant production (raw material).*

Number of units covered in the survey in 2017 - *400 primary reports.*

Disaggregation level of disseminated data: *for the country and in territorial profile: by rayons and development regions; by categories of households covered in the survey.*

**Survey “Information regarding agricultural land owners, as of 1<sup>st</sup> of May 201\_ (form. No. 3-agr)**

Survey objective: *to obtain statistical data regarding agricultural land owners*

Main indicators: *Information about land owners by categories of owners, and legal forms*

Survey frequency: *annual (in May)*

Data collecting modality: *through submission of statistical reports by local administration*

Survey type: *exhaustive*

<p><u>Presentation criteria: <i>Agricultural land use.</i></u></p> <p><u>Number of units covered in the survey in 2017 - 920 primary reports.</u></p> <p><u>Disaggregation level of disseminated data: <i>for the country and in territorial profile: by rayons and development regions; by categories of households covered in the survey.</i></u></p>
<b>4.2.2. Statistical unit</b>
<p><u>Observation unit</u> is the legal entity or natural persons who own or hold in use agricultural land and carry out agricultural activity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- agricultural enterprises and farms with agricultural land area of 10 ha or 50 ha and over (covered in exhaustive surveys, depending on the survey - see p.4.2.1.),</li> <li>- farms with agricultural land area of up to 10 ha and individual households (covered in sample surveys - see p.4.2.1.),</li> <li>- enterprises and organizations procuring agricultural products (covered in the exhaustive survey on procurement of plant agricultural products);</li> </ul>
<b>4.2.3. Circle of units covered in the survey</b>
The circle of units covered in profile by surveys is presented in p. 4.2.1.
<b>4.2.4. Survey frequency</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In July and October – the statistical survey according to report no.7-agr,</li> <li>• Quarterly – the survey of small agricultural producers' agricultural activities (SSAP),</li> <li>• Semi-annual – the statistical surveys according to the report no. 2-liv-vii,</li> <li>• Annual – the statistical surveys according to the reports no. 3-agr, 4-agr, 9-agr, 29-agr, 1-achiz.</li> </ul>
<b>4.2.5. Data collection</b>
<p>Data are collected through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- self-registration – for the agricultural enterprises and farms with agricultural land area of 10 ha and over, as well as the enterprises procuring agricultural products;</li> <li>- interview – within the sampling statistical survey of farms with agricultural land area of up to 10 ha and individual households.</li> </ul>
<b>4.3. Processing and compilation of data</b>
<b>4.3.1. Data validation</b>
<p>Data are verified and analyzed from quality point of view, especially the internal coherence and coherence with other data.</p> <p>Information application is used to ensure the verification of data regarding the observance of the entire set of control conditions (logical conditions):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- of the logical ways from the reports;</li> <li>- of the data from the reports.</li> </ul> <p>The logical control conditions at the report level aim to follow and verify the logical flows/ways from reports; to observe the correlations between tables, to codify correctly the reports.</p> <p>The aim of the conditions for verifying the integrity is to follow the correlation and to check the data from the reports.</p>
<b>4.3.2. Compilation/extrapolation of data</b>
Data are compiled based on the centralization of information obtained within the statistical surveys.
<b>4.3.3. Adjustments</b>
No adjustments are made.
<b>4.3.4. Quality assurance</b>
The quality of statistical data is assured by observing the fundamental principles of official statistics

approved by the UN Economic Commission for Europe in 1992 (and Statistical Commission/UN in 1994), as well as those set forth in the Republic of Moldova Law on Official Statistics.

In its activity of producing statistical information, NBS pays huge importance to ensuring high quality of data. In this respect, a number of measures for quality assurance are carried out at every stage of the statistical process: organization of statistical surveys, collection, processing, and development of statistical information.

Important efforts are undertaken to ensure the plenitude and quality of data presentation by the respondents included in the statistical surveys.

Errors, inconsistencies, and suspicious data are brought to light so as to be verified and corrected.

The primary data are verified and analyzed from internal coherence point of view (within the questionnaire), temporal coherence (with data from previous periods), with data of other similar units, as well as with data available from other statistical surveys and administrative data sources.

To ensure the quality of the primary data, controls are organized by the territorial employees within the enterprises, and by the NBS employees – in the territorial statistical bodies.

#### **4.4. Data accuracy**

##### **4.4.1. Non-response rate**

SSAP – up to 1%.

##### **4.4.2. Sampling errors**

SSAP – up to 1%.

## **5. Comparability and Coherence**

### **5.1. International comparability**

Information on statistics of plant production and agricultural land is developed in line with the international standards in the area, except for:

- classification of agricultural crops; at the same time there is the possibility to group the agricultural crops through passing keys, in line with FAO, UN, and EU recommendations.

### **5.2. Comparability over the time**

Data are comparable over the time.

### **5.3. Coherence with other statistics**

There are differences between the data on areas of vineyards and orchards with the data from the Land Cadastre, because different methods are used to estimate the area of perennial plantations in individual households.

## **6. Institutional Mandate (normative-legal basis)**

The NBS activity is based on respecting the Republic of Moldova Constitution, the Law on Official Statistics No. 93 dated 26.05.2017, other legislative and normative acts, NBS management decisions and orders.

The Law on Official Statistics regulates the organization and operation of the unique system of official statistics, establishing the general principles for collecting, processing, centralizing, diminishing, and stocking statistical information (art.1).

Art. 5 of the Law provides that the production of statistical information is based on respecting the following principles: impartiality, objectiveness, relevance, transparency, confidentiality, cost-efficiency etc.

Being the central statistical body, the National Bureau of Statistics is an administrative authority created under the Government for leading and coordinating the activity in the statistics area.

In line with the Government Decision No. 1034 dated 29.12.11 on approval of the NBS Regulation and the Nominal Composition of the NBS Collegium, the National Bureau of Statistics:

- develops alone or jointly with other central administrative authorities and approves the

methodologies for statistical surveys, as well as the methodologies for calculating statistical indicators, in line with the international standards, especially the EU standards, and with the advanced practice of other countries, and taking into account the peculiarities of the social-economic conditions of the Republic of Moldova;

- organizes, in line with the Program of Statistical Work, approved annually by the Government, statistics surveys regarding the economic, social, and demographic situation and development of the country, carrying out collection, processing, centralization, stocking, and dissemination of statistical data;

The legislative and normative acts ruling the activity of the NBS are available on its official page [www.statistica.md](http://www.statistica.md) , under About NBS (<http://www.statistica.md/pageview.php?l=en&idc=323&> )

## 7. Confidentiality

### 7.1. Principles

According to art. 19 of the Law on Official Statistics No. 93 dated 26.05.2017, producers of official statistics shall take all regulatory, administrative, technical and organizational measures to protect confidential data and prevent their disclosure.

Chapter VII of the above-mentioned law stipulates that the data collected, processed and stored for the production of statistical information are confidential if they allow the direct or indirect identification of the respondents. ) The following shall not be considered confidential:

- a) data that can be obtained from publicly accessible sources according to the legislation;
- b) individual data on address, telephone, name, type of activity, number of employees of legal entities and individual entrepreneurs;
- c) data referring to public enterprises, institutions and organizations funded from the budget, submitted at the request of the public administration authorities.

According to the Law on Official Statistics, art. 20, access to confidential information is granted to the persons who, according to their official functions, participate in the production of statistical information shall have access to individual data in so far as individual data are necessary for producing this information.

The same article stipulates that the access to individual data, which do not allow the direct identification of respondents, may be given for scientific survey projects, whose expected results do not refer to identifiable individual units, under the regulation approved by the central statistical authority.

Art. 23 (5) of the Law stipulates that the the statistical information cannot be disseminated to users if it refers to 1-3 statistical units.

### 7.2. Practical assurance of the confidentiality rules

To ensure the protection of confidential statistical data in compliance with the Law on Official Statistics No. 93 dated 26.05.2017, the National Bureau of Statistics undertakes all the regulatory, administrative, technical, and organizational measures to protect the confidential statistical information and prevent its disclosure.

In compliance with the above-mentioned law, the employees of producers of official statistics, including temporary employees who, according to their official functions, have direct access to individual data shall be obliged to observe the confidentiality of these data during and after termination of employment.

Before being disseminated, the statistical data are verified if they meet the protection requirements set for confidential data. If the statistical data contain confidential information (see p. 7.1), they are not disseminated, but aggregated at the minimum available level which ensures the protection of data confidentiality.

## 8. Access to Information and Dissemination Format

### 8.1. Access to information

#### 8.1.1. Calendar of statistical publications

Annually the Advance release calendar is developed by NBS.

<b>8.1.2. Access to the calendar of statistical publications</b>
The press release calendar is posted on the NBS official page <a href="http://www.statistica.md">www.statistica.md</a> .
<b>8.1.3. Access to statistical data</b>
<p>According to the Law on Official Statistics No. 93 dated 26.05.2017, art. 23:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Producers of official statistics shall be obliged to disseminate the statistical information within the deadlines specified in the programme of statistical works and in the press-release calendar.</li> <li>b) The dissemination of statistical information laid down in the programme of statistical works to all categories of users shall be made free of charge and under equal access conditions in terms of volume, quality and time of dissemination</li> </ul> <p>The program of statistical work may be accessed on the web page <a href="http://www.statistica.md">www.statistica.md</a>, under About NBS / legislative and normative acts (<a href="http://www.statistica.md/pageview.php?l=en&amp;idc=323&amp;">http://www.statistica.md/pageview.php?l=en&amp;idc=323&amp;</a> )</p> <p>The NBS web page <a href="http://www.statistica.md">www.statistica.md</a> represents the most important information source for ensuring users' access to different statistical information and transparency about the NBS activity.</p> <p>All the operative information, informative notes, time series, as well as the statistical publications developed by NBS are placed on its official web page.</p>
<b>8.2. Dissemination format</b>
<b>8.2.1. Operative information / Analytical notes</b>
The operative information and analytical notes are published on the official page of NBS: <a href="http://www.statistica.md">http://www.statistica.md</a> under Press Releases, according to the Press Release Calendar.
<b>8.2.2. Publications</b>
<p>Publications developed by NBS containing statistical data on agriculture:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Statistical Yearbook of the Republic of Moldova;</li> <li>- Territorial Statistics;</li> <li>- Statistical pocket-book "Moldova in Figures";</li> <li>- Periodical publication "Social-Economic Situation of the Republic of Moldova";</li> <li>- Periodical publication " Main social-economic indicators by regions, rayons, and municipalities";</li> <li>- Periodical publication "Quarterly Statistical Bulletin";</li> <li>- Compilation "Agricultural activity of the small agricultural producers in the Republic of Moldova"</li> <li>- Compilation "General Agricultural Census 2011 in the Republic of Moldova, main results"</li> <li>- 1<sup>st</sup> volume of General Agricultural Census 2011 – final data at national level.</li> <li>- 2<sup>nd</sup> volume of General Agricultural Census 2011 – general results in territorial aspect.</li> <li>- Thematic studies regarding viticulture in republic of Moldova</li> <li>- Thematic studies regarding agricultural exploitations with agricultural buildings, technical means and equipment</li> </ul> <p>Access to publications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- in electronic format, on NBS official page <a href="http://www.statistica.md">www.statistica.md</a>, under Products and services / Publications <a href="http://www.statistica.md/pageview.php?l=en&amp;idc=350&amp;nod=1&amp;">http://www.statistica.md/pageview.php?l=en&amp;idc=350&amp;nod=1&amp;</a> )</li> <li>- in hardcopy format – in NBS library (more details at the address <a href="http://www.statistica.md/libview.php?l=en&amp;idc=340&amp;id=2400">http://www.statistica.md/libview.php?l=en&amp;idc=340&amp;id=2400</a> )</li> <li>- or may be procured at the NBS office (more details at the address <a href="http://www.statistica.md">www.statistica.md</a>, under Publications <a href="http://www.statistica.md/pageview.php?l=en&amp;idc=350&amp;id=2219">http://www.statistica.md/pageview.php?l=en&amp;idc=350&amp;id=2219</a>)</li> </ul>
<b>8.2.3. Databases/time series</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- NBS official page: <a href="http://www.statistica.md">http://www.statistica.md</a> under: Press Release, Statistics by themes / Agriculture / Plant production: Publications;</li> <li>- Statistical databank <a href="http://statbank.statistica.md">http://statbank.statistica.md</a> , under Economic statistics / Agriculture / Plant production</li> </ul>
<b>8.2.4. Questionnaires/data sent upon request from international organizations</b>
International questionnaires UN FAO, International Grains Council, Eurostat, CIS, etc.



#### 8.2.5. Requests for additional data

NBS makes available for users additional statistical information beyond the data presented in the statistical publications, informative notes, operative information, as well as the data placed on the official web page in the limits of available information, in line with the Law on Official Statistics.

### 9. Useful References (links)

#### 9.1. Accessibility of documentation on methodology

The methodology is available on the official page [www.statistica.md](http://www.statistica.md), under Metadata (<http://www.statistica.md/pageview.php?l=en&idc=351&nod=1&> ).

#### 9.2. Accessibility of documentation on Evaluation Reports

The NBS assessment reports are available on the official page [www.statistica.md](http://www.statistica.md), under About NBS / Assessments and Opinions on NBS / Assessment Reports (<http://www.statistica.md/pageview.php?l=en&idc=399&id=2739> ).

#### 9.3. Accessibility of information on user surveys

User surveys are available on the official page [www.statistica.md](http://www.statistica.md), under About NBS / Assessments and Opinions on NBS / User Surveys (<http://www.statistica.md/pageview.php?l=en&idc=399&id=2740> ).

#### 9.4. Other useful references

EUROSTAT database	<a href="http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/data/database">http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/data/database</a>
UNData database	<a href="http://data.un.org/Browse.aspx">http://data.un.org/Browse.aspx</a>
UN Economic Commission for Europe database	<a href="http://w3.unece.org/pxweb/Dialog/">http://w3.unece.org/pxweb/Dialog/</a>