REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA
STATISTICAL OFFICE

METHODOLOGICAL EXPLANATION

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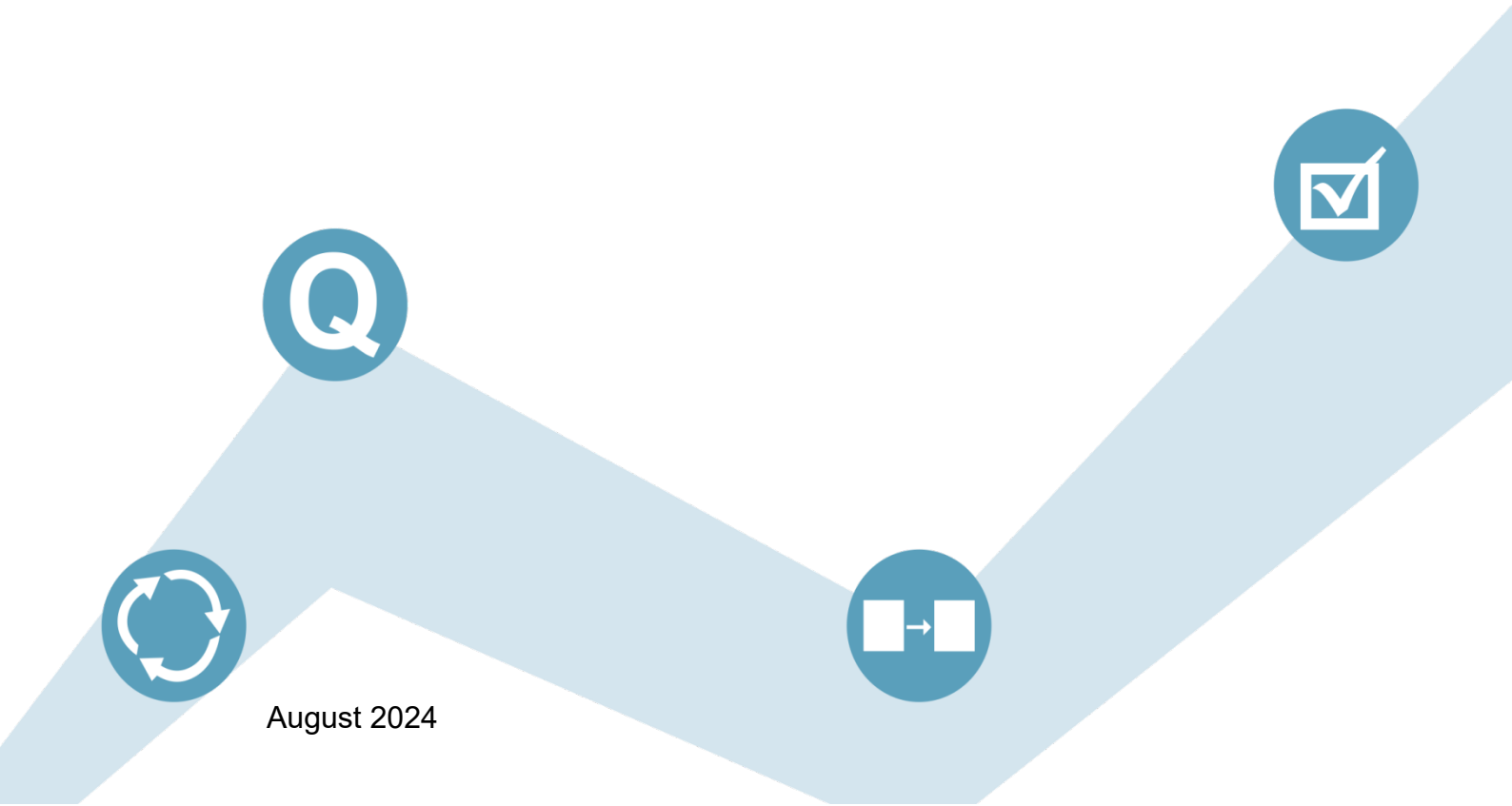
CONSUMPTION OF MINERAL FERTILISERS

This methodological explanation relates to the data releases:

Consumption of mineral fertilisers, Slovenia, annual (First Release)



August 2024

Content

1 PURPOSE

The purpose of the published data is to present the annual mineral fertiliser consumption or the available quantities of mineral fertilisers in agriculture in Slovenia. The published data show the total quantity (mass) of the mineral fertilisers used and the average use of mineral fertilisers per hectare of utilised agricultural area (UAA) or respectively the average use of macro plant nutrients – nitrogen (N), phosphorus (P_2O_5) and potassium (K_2O) – per hectare of UAA.

2 LEGAL FRAMEWORK

- Annual Programme of Statistical Surveys (LPSR) (only in Slovene)
- National Statistics Act (OJ RS, No. 45/95 and 9/01)
- Rules on quality of mineral fertilisers (OJ RS, No. 1055/2006).

3 UNIT DESCRIBED BY THE PUBLISHED DATA

The unit described by the published data is mineral fertiliser or main plant nutrient contained in mineral fertiliser and used in agricultural production. Main plant nutrients are nitrogen (N), phosphorus (P_2O_5) and potassium (K_2O).

4 SELECTION OF OBSERVATION UNIT

In the KME-UMG statistical survey the observation units are all enterprises thatwere – according to data of the External trade statistics department at theStatistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia – in the reference year engaged inimport or export of mineral fertilisers. The threshold covers imports over 300 kg.

In the KME-PMG statistical survey, the observation units on use of energysources and mineral fertilisers are all the agricultural enterprises that in thereference year involved in any kind of agricultural production. Data source isStatistical Register of Agricultural holdings (Statistični register kmetijskihgospodarstev – SRKG).

For the data on the consumption of mineral fertilisers the observation units are allagricultural enterprises that were in the reference year involved in any kind ofagricultural production. In this case the observation units present the full coverageselection. Here is about 390 agricultural enterprises.

5 SOURCES AND METHODS OF DATA COLLECTION

Data are collected annually

Data of the statistical survey “Consumption of Reproduction Material in Agriculture -KME-PMG” on the quantity of used mineral fertilisers and plant nutrients in enterprises,companies and co-operatives (legal entities) during the growing season and their stocks on 31 December of the current year are collected annually. With this survey we also obtain the data on the use of energy in agricultural production, by energy types.

Data on utilised agricultural areas (UAA) are obtained from the statistical surveys on crop production:

- Sample Survey on Area Sown (KME-JUN)
- Production of Early Crops and Early Fruits and Yield Forecast of Some Important Late Crops (KME-ZGK-K)
- Yield Forecast of Late Crops, Late Fruit and Grapes (KME-POZP-K)
- Production of Late Crops, Late Fruit and Grapes (KME-POZK-K)

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Data for the survey are not obtained from administrative sources.

6 DEFINITIONS

Mineral fertilisers are chemical compounds and substances, irrespective of their physical form, which contain plant nutrients and which are produced in the industrial process.

Plant nutrients are substances which plants feed on or need for their development. We present only data on three macronutrients: nitrogen (N), phosphorus (P_2O_5) and potassium (K_2O).

Simple mineral fertilisers are those that contain only one plant nutrient.

Compound mineral fertilisers are those that contain two or all three plant nutrients. We thus have NP, NK or PK fertilisers and NPK fertiliser.

We consider that 1 litre of liquid fertiliser is equal to 1 kilogram.

7 EXPLANATIONS

7.1 CLASSIFICATIONS

For calculating plant nutrients from mineral fertilisers we use the statistical list of mineral fertilisers, which is based on the KN classification - Combined Nomenclature of goods (http://www.stat.si/statweb/en/Methods/Classifications) that is used in customs procedures and external trade statistics and on the national rules of the quality of mineral fertilisers. The unit of measure is kg of mineral fertiliser or plant nutrient.

7.2 DATA PROCESSING

DATA EDITING

Data were edited by using appropriate individual corrections.

For more, see the general methodological explanations Statistical data editing.

WEIGHTING

Weighting was not performed.

SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT

Seasonal adjustment is not applicable.

DATA PROCESSING OTHER

Data at the level of mineral fertiliser are recalculated into macro plant nutrients nitrogen(N), phosphorus (P_2O_5) and potassium (K_2O) and separated agricultural intention of use from other intentions. The obtained data are aggregated at the national level. Additionally, the used or available quantities of main plant nutrients per hectare of utilised agricultural areas are calculated.

7.3 INDICES

Indices are not published.

7.4 PRECISION

The precision is not calculated.

7.5 OTHER EXPLANATIONS

8 PUBLISHING

- SiStat database: Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing– Production Methods in Agriculture – Agricultural consumption of mineral fertilisers, Slovenia, annually. Data are published as absolute values and indices.

First Release (Agriculture, Forestry and Fishery, Production Methods in Agriculture): »Consumption of mineral fertilisers, Slovenia«.

- Eurostat, Statistical office of EU
- FAO, Food and agriculture organisation

9 REVISION OF THE DATA

9.1 PUBLISHING OF PRELIMINARY AND FINAL DATA

Provisional data are not disseminated. Only final data are published.

9.2 FACTORS INFLUENCING COMPARABILITY OVER TIME

Data on consumption of mineral fertilisers per hectare of UAA from 1995 on are revised in line with the revised data on areas of UAA that were published in 2003. When revising the data, we established that in the 1995-2003 period smaller quantities of plant nutrients in individual mineral fertilisers from export and from the production were counted twice; the errors were corrected.

When calculating the quantities of plant nutrients used on average per hectare, until 2005 only the fertilised agricultural area (UAA without permanent grassland to be used once and without common pastures) was taken into account. From 2006 on the calculations take into account all UAA. The 1995-2005 revised data are available on the SiStat database.

Methodological explanation on revision of statistical data is available on http://www.stat.si/dokument/5299/RevisionOfStatisticalDataMEgeneral.pdf.

10 OTHER METHODOLOGICAL MATERIALS

Methodological materials on SURS's website are available at https://www.stat.si/statweb/en/Methods/QuestionnairesMethodologicalExplanationsQualityReports.

- Questionnaire:
    - Import of mineral fertilisers (KME-UMG)
    - Consumption of reproduction material in agriculture (KME-PMG)

Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing– Production Methods in Agriculture – Agricultural consumption of mineral fertilisers

- Quality report for the survey:
    - Import of mineral fertilisers (KME-UMG)
    - Consumption of reproduction material in agriculture (KME-PMG)

Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing– Production Methods in Agriculture – Agricultural consumption of mineral fertilisers

- Methodological explanations:
    - Crop production

Agriculture, forestry and fishery, Crop production