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# GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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## Lithuania

**Post:** Warsaw

### Lithuania Publishes New Crop Estimates

**Report Categories:**

Agricultural Situation

Grain and Feed

Policy and Program Announcements

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**Report Highlights:**

The Lithuanian Institute of Agriculture (LIOA) published new grain estimates for marketing year (MY) 2018/19. LIOA expects reduced grain crops in MY 2018/19 due to difficult planting conditions in fall 2017 and drought conditions during spring and summer 2018. According to LIOA, MY 2018/19 wheat production will be 2.8 million metric tons (MMT), 29-percent less than the previous year.

**Background:**

LIOA published its preliminary MY 2018/19 crop estimates for Lithuania. It estimates total wheat, rye, barley, oats, mixed grains, and triticale production to reach approximately 3.8 MMT, 23.6 percent below MY 2017/18. LIOA forecasts corn production at 87,000 metric tons (MT), a 53-percent increase over the previous year. Soft wheat production will reach its lowest level in 10 years, at 2.8 MMT, a 29-percent decrease from last year. Barley production will be upwards of 555,000 MT, a seven-percent increase over MY 2017/18. Triticale production is estimated at 178,000 MMT, a 28-percent decrease from the previous year.

MY 2018/19 Lithuanian grains, especially winter varieties, were challenged by adverse weather conditions. Heavy rains during fall 2017 delayed planting in many regions of Lithuania, which limited the area planted for winter wheat and other winter grains. Moreover, in May and June 2018, hot and dry weather negatively affected plant development. Southern Lithuania near the Polish border was the most drought-affected area of the country. The cereal harvest, mainly winter barley, started at the end of June, two weeks earlier than usual. Weather conditions during the ongoing harvest may continue to affect grain size and quality.

The Lithuanian Government declared a national state of emergency due to the drought. The state of emergency offers legal protections for farmers from EU loan-repayment penalties, as well as other penalties related to business contract fulfillment. The last time a similar, drought-related state of emergency was declared in Lithuania was in 2006.

**Production of Winter Grains by Variety 2016 – 2018 (000) MT**

|           | MY 2016/17 | MY 2017/18 | MY 2018/19 | Change<br>year to year<br>MY 2018/19_2017/18<br>(%) |
|-----------|------------|------------|------------|---|
| Wheat     | 2,982.6    | 3,245.3    | 1,949.2    | -39.9   |
| Rye       | 76.4       | 62.5       | 42.2       | -32.5   |
| Barley    | 19.5       | 29.7       | 30.7       | 3.4   |
| Triticale | 292.1      | 222.5      | 152.3      | -31.6   |
| Total     | 3,370.6    | 3,560.0    | 2,174.4    | -38.9   |

Source: Institute of Agriculture in Lithuania, FAS/Warsaw

**Production of Spring Grains by Variety 2016 – 2018 (000) MT**

|  | MY 2016/17 | MY 2017/18 | MY 2018/19 | Change |
|--|------------|------------|------------|--------|
|--|------------|------------|------------|--------|

|              |        |        |        | <b>year to year<br/>MY 2018/19_2017/18<br/>(%)</b> |
|--------------|--------|--------|--------|--|
| Wheat        | 861.9  | 672.1  | 841.9  | 25.3   |
| Mixed grains | 1.1    | 0.6    | 1      | 66.7   |
| Barley       | 525.7  | 490    | 524.2  | 7  |
| Triticale    | 39.3   | 25     | 25.3   | 1.2  |
| Oats         | 155.1  | 195.9  | 211    | 7.7  |
| Total        | 1583.1 | 1383.6 | 1603.4 | 15.9   |

Source: Institute of Agriculture in Lithuania, FAS/Warsaw

**Total Production of Grains by Variety 2016 – 2018 (000) MT**

|              | <b>MY 2016/17</b> | <b>MY 2017/18</b> | <b>MY 2018/19</b> | <b>Change<br/>year to year<br/>MY 2018/19_2017/18<br/>(%)</b> |
|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---|
| Wheat        | 3,844.5           | 3,917.4           | 2,791.1           | -28.8   |
| Rye          | 76.4              | 62.5              | 42.2              | -32.5   |
| Barley       | 545.2             | 519.7             | 554.9             | 6.8   |
| Triticale    | 331.4             | 247.5             | 177.6             | -28.2   |
| Mixed grains | 1.1               | 0.6               | 1                 | 66.7  |
| Oats         | 155.1             | 195.9             | 211               | 7.7   |
| Total        | 4,953.7           | 4,943.6           | 3,777.8           | -23.6   |

Source: Institute of Agriculture in Lithuania, FAS/Warsaw