

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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Poland

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Strawberry production in Poland the lowest in 40 years.

Report Categories:

Strawberries

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Report Highlights:

Poland's 2012 strawberry crop can drop by up to 40 percent compare to the 2011 crop, according to industry estimates. In 2011, production of strawberries amounted to 166,000 MT with yield of 3.29 MT per hectare. Poland' export of strawberries (including inter-EU trade) is expected to fall this year due to lower production and competition.

General Information:

In 2012 strawberry production in Poland is projected to be the lowest in 40 years as winter kill resulting from lack of snow cover affected many plantations. The Society for the Development of Dwarf Orchards estimate this year's crop can drop up to by 40 percent as compared to the 2011 crop. In 2011 production of strawberries amounted to 166,000 MT with yield of 3.29 MT per hectare.

Poland is the second largest producer of strawberries in the EU after Spain and the largest player on the market of frozen strawberries. Over the last ten years the average share of Polish production in the EU has been about 20 percent. In 2012 the forecast is that Polish export of strawberries (including intra-EU trade) will decrease due to lower production and greater competition. In 2011 Poland exported 85,000 MT of frozen and 14,000 MT of fresh strawberries valued at US\$190 million dollars. The primary destinations were EU countries – over 90 percent in total exports, with the biggest share of Germany and Netherlands (over 50 percent of exports). For the last five years Poland has been losing its good export position on the EU market to mainly China, Egypt, and Morocco. This year's smaller strawberry crop and high procurement prices will create a difficult situation for Polish exporters to supply external demand.