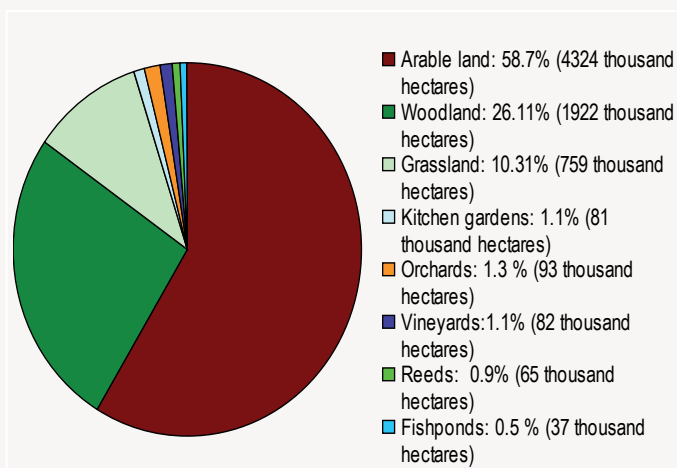


Sown area of main crops, 31 May 2012

According to data of the land and sown area survey made in 2012, **79% of the area of Hungary is productive land area and 21% is uncultivated land area. Nearly three-quarters of the productive land area is agricultural area** (5.3 million hectares), **26%** is covered by **woodland**, and the remaining **more than 1%** is used as **reeds or fishponds**.

Figure 1

Distribution of productive land area by land use categories, 31 May 2012



At the end of May 2012 **46%** of Hungary's area was used as **arable land** (4.3 million hectares), of which 136 thousand hectares were unsown or damaged area.

On two-thirds of the utilised arable land (on 2 million 830 thousand hectares) **cereals** were produced. Their total area was hardly (0.4%) less than the average of the last five years, but was nearly 5% more than the sown area in the previous year.

- The sown area of **wheat** (1 million 64 thousand hectares) was 76 thousand hectares more than in 2011, and 26 thousand hectares less than the average sown area in the years 2007–2011.
- Out of the sown area of wheat the sown area of **durum wheat** (12 thousand hectares) was nearly 2% less compared to the previous year.
- The sown area of **spring barley** (100 thousand hectares) decreased by 1% in comparison with last year and by 18% compared to the average of the last five years. **Winter barley** was sown on 179 thousand hectares, which was 11% more than in the previous year, but 5% less than the average of the years 2007–2011.
- The sown area of **triticale** (114 thousand hectares) grew by 12% in 2012 compared to 2011, but decreased by 8% compared to 2007–2011.
- The sown area of **grain maize** was 1 million 280 thousand hectares, 2% more than in the previous year and 5% larger compared to the average of the previous five years.

Potatoes were sown on a more than 3 thousand-hectare larger area (25 thousand hectares) than in the previous year, which means an increase of more than 8% compared to the average of the years 2007–2011.

Although the sown area of **sugar beet** (18 thousand hectares) grew by nearly 16% compared to last year, it was 8% lower than the average of the previous five years, on account of changes in EU regulation.

The 621 thousand-hectare sown area of **sunflower** was some 7% larger than last year, and compared to the average of 2007–2011 13% more was sown in 2012.

The sown area of **rape and turnip rape** (167 thousand hectares) was over 30% lower than last year, and declined by 33% compared to the average of 2007–2011. The decrease was caused by the damage to a part of the rape and turnip rape stock, which was the consequence of the unfavourable weather in the autumn–winter period last year.

The sown area of **maize for silage** showed a decrease of nearly 1% compared to last year, but was some 11% more than the average of the previous five years.

Vegetables were planted on 74 thousand hectares, nearly the same area as last year. By 2012 the sown area of **tomatoes** became more than 2% less than in the previous year and 16% less than the average of 2007–2011. The area of **green pepper** (more than 2 thousand hectares) showed a decrease of 7% compared to last year and of 13% compared to the average of the previous five years. The sown area of **sweet corn** (25 thousand hectares) was 5% larger than in the previous year. The sown area of **green peas** (16 thousand hectares) was some 8% smaller than the average of 2007–2011, but 11% more than last year.

Table 1

Sown area of main crops on arable land

Crops	Average of 2007–2011	2011	2012	2012 as per cent of	
				average of 2007–2011	2011
hectares					
Wheat ^{a)}	1 089 943	987 161	1 063 658	97.6	107.7
Of which: durum wheat	11 835	12 341	12 108	102.3	98.1
Rye	39 530	33 276	36 527	92.4	109.8
Winter barley	188 014	161 711	178 722	95.1	110.5
Spring barley	122 113	101 235	100 289	82.1	99.1
Oats	59 114	56 398	56 200	95.1	99.6
Triticale	123 515	102 364	114 263	92.5	111.6
Grain maize ^{b)}	1 217 312	1 256 563	1 279 873	105.1	101.9
Cereals, total^{c)}	2 839 541	2 698 708	2 829 532	99.6	104.8
Potatoes	23 303	21 853	25 264	108.4	115.6
Sugar beet	19 375	15 480	17 930	92.5	115.8
Sunflower	549 249	579 302	620 548	113.0	107.1
Rape and turnip rape	249 578	240 018	167 408	67.1	69.7
Maize for silage	79 820	89 178	88 545	110.9	99.3
Alfalfa	136 633	141 421	141 742	103.7	100.2
Green peas	17 297	14 307	15 934	92.1	111.4
Tomatoes	2 120	1 823	1 780	84.0	97.6
Green pepper	2 350	2 201	2 045	87.0	92.9
Sweet corn	25 284	23 678	24 862	98.3	105.0

a) Including spelt from 2004 and einkorn from 2010.

b) Including area sown for hybrid seed.

c) Excluding millet, buckwheat, canary seed, Indian rice, sorghum, meslin and rice.

In 2012 54% (2 million 519 thousand hectares) of the agricultural area identifiable with holdings was used by **private holdings** and 46% (2 million 119 thousand hectares) by **business units**.

Table 2

Use of agricultural area, 31 May

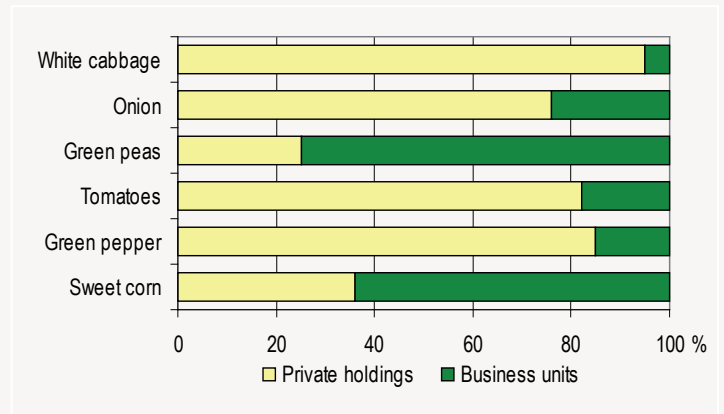
Denomination	(thousand hectares)	
	2011	2012
Area identifiable with holdings	4 607	4 638
Business units	2 143	2 119
Private holdings	2 464	2 519
Area unidentifiable with holdings	730	700
Of which: agriculturally not utilised area	91	91
Agricultural area, total	5 337	5 338

As for vegetables the sown area of green peas is three times as large for business units as in case of private holdings. Business units account for more than 60% of the area of sweet corn, while the vast majority of the sown area of tomatoes, white cabbage, green pepper and onion is clearly cultivated in private holdings.

Private holdings and business units are specialised in producing different types of crops on arable land. Vegetables and potatoes are typically the produce of private holdings. The sown area of cereals and industrial crops is nearly evenly distributed between the two groups of holdings, while fodder crops were predominantly sown by business units.

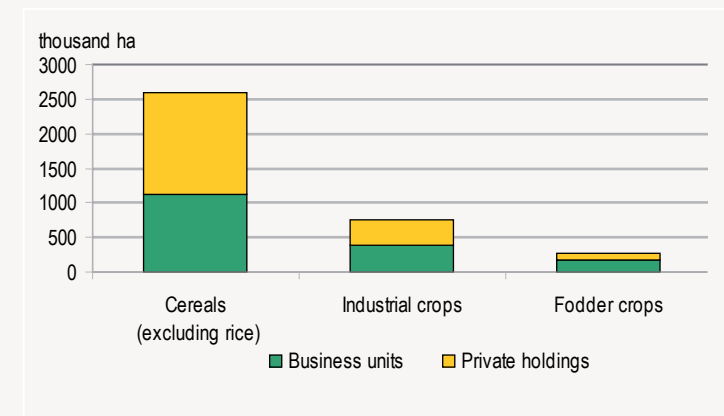
Distribution of sown area of main vegetables, 31 May 2012

Figure 2



Sown area of main groups of crops, 31 May 2012

Figure 3



Further information, data (links):

[Tables](#)

[Methodology](#)

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