

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

# GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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## Slovakia

**Post:** Prague

### Oilseeds Update Slovakia

**Report Categories:**

Oilseeds and Products

Agriculture in the News

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**Report Highlights:**

In 2011 Slovakia's production increased for all major oilseed crops with rapeseed up 10 percent, sunflower seeds up 46 percent, and soybeans up 75 percent.

## General Information:

Slovakia's sunflower crop developed very well recording per hectare average yield of 2.45 MT almost double that of the previous crop year, on near identical size of sown area. Growers in western Slovakia expect to sell their crop to the Czech processing facility located in the town near border, Olomouc, which has expanded its crush capacity in recent years.

Even though crop year 2011 rapeseed area was lower than in previous year, production increased due to improved yield. Demand for rapeseed is increasing in response to growing demand for biofuels. Imports are expected to increase to augment local supplies.

Soybean area and production, though marginal, is on the rise due to producer interest.

Crop	Area (Thousand Hectares)	Production (Thousand MT)
Rapeseed	145	353
Soybeans	19	42
Sunflower	89	219

Source: Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic, [www.statistics.sk](http://www.statistics.sk)

MY 2010/11 sunflower exports totaled 142 thousand MT, significantly exceeding the 2009/10 export volume of 115 thousand MT. MY 2011/12 is expected to reflect further growth in sunflower export trade.

In MY 2010/11, rapeseed imports jumped to 76 thousand MT, up from MY 2009/10 volume of 26 thousand MT.

Slovak feeding sector depends on imported soybean meal to service demand which runs approximately 106 thousand MT per annum in recent years.