

## FIELD CROPS

KEY INFO IN

**10**  
POINTS

# 1

## 9.5 MILLION HECTARES GIVEN OVER TO CEREAL PRODUCTION

From 2013-2018, an average of 11.9 million hectares were used for field crops, representing 43% of the total agricultural area, while 9.5 million hectares are given over for the cultivation of cereals. Twenty-eight percent of French farms are given over to field crops. (Agreste, 2018)

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# 2

## FRANCE: EUROPE'S #1 CEREAL PRODUCER

In 2018, cereal output totaled 61.8 million tonnes (mt), making France the leading producer in the European Union (EU), ahead of Germany (38 mt) and Romania (31.7 mt) (Eurostat). France is also the largest producer of pulses and protein crops and oilseeds in the EU.

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# 3

## DIVERSIFIED OUTPUT

France produces a wide range of cereals: soft wheat (36.6 mt), maize (12.5 mt), barley (11 mt) and durum wheat (1.8 mt), as well as rye, oats, triticale, sorghum and rice (Eurostat). France also produces three protein crops: peas (71% of total production), fava beans (28%) and lupins (2%). (FranceAgriMer, 2019)

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# 4

## FRANCE: EUROPE'S #1 CEREAL EXPORTER

In 2018, France exported 30.6 million tonnes (mt) of grain, equivalent to 49% of its total production. It is Europe's leading cereal exporter, with the euro zone accounting for one-third of its cereal exports. France is fifth in the world and its main customers are Algeria, Belgium, the Netherlands, Spain, and Italy. (French Customs Authorities; UN Comtrade, 2018)

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# 5

## FROM WHEAT TO BAGUETTE!

In 2018, 4 million tonnes (mt) of soft wheat flour was produced in France. More than one-third of this production is used in general baking and artisanal pastry, 28% in biscuit factories and 22% in industrial bakeries (ANMF). With 723,000 tonnes in exports, France is the world's second largest exporter of bakery, pastry and biscuit products. (UN Comtrade)

# 6

## **FRANCE: EUROPE'S #5 OLIVE OIL EXPORTER**

In 2018, France produced 26.6 million tonnes (mt) of olives across more than 17,300 hectares (Agreste), with almost all of it used to produce olive oil. There are eight protected designations of origin (PDO) in France, which account for 27% of total production (Afidol). France is Europe's fifth largest exporter of olive oil, and 67% of exports are made from extra virgin olive oil. (Eurostat; French Customs Authorities)

# 7

## **FRANCE: THE WORLD'S #1 MALTING BARLEY EXPORTER**

In 2018, France was the second largest malt producer in the European Union, with 1.3 million tonnes (mt) produced. France exports the equivalent of 81% of its malt production and is ranked as the world's leading exporter. (Eurostat; UN Comtrade)

# 8

## **ANIMAL FEED**

With nearly 300 production facilities in France, the animal feed industry is one of the top users of grain cereals, of which it uses more than 9.9 million tonnes (mt), made up of soft wheat (51%), maize (30%), and barley (12%). (FranceAgriMer, 2019)

# 9

## **AN ATTRACTIVE SECTOR**

Syngenta, the global leader in seed and crop protection solutions, which has been owned by Chinese company ChemChina since 2017, has nine production sites in France and employs 1,400 people. In 2017, the company invested €10 million in a new R&D site in Chartres (Centre-Val de Loire region) dedicated to the use of hybrids in rapeseed and cereal production.

# 10

## **INNOVATION IN FIELD CROPS**

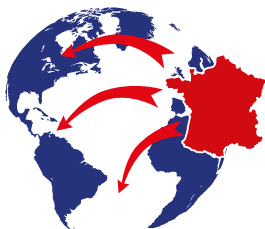
Vegepolys Valley is a competitiveness cluster dedicated to innovation in cereals and oilseed crops (sustainable agricultural production, human nutrition, animal feed and agro-materials). Major industrial members of this cluster include Limagrain, Bayer Cropscience France, BASF France and Greentech.



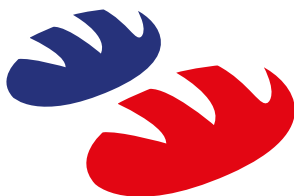
**FRANCE: EUROPE'S  
#1  
CEREAL PRODUCER**  
(EUROSTAT)



**FRANCE: EUROPE'S  
#1  
PRODUCER OF  
AGRICULTURAL  
PRODUCTS**  
(EUROSTAT)



**FRANCE: THE WORLD'S  
#5  
EXPORTER OF  
AGRI-FOOD PRODUCTS**  
(UN COMTRADE)



**FRANCE: THE WORLD'S  
#2  
EXPORTER OF BAKERY,  
PASTRY AND BISCUIT  
PRODUCTS**  
(UN COMTRADE)

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