



EURONION

20 Years of co-ordinating bulb onion production across Europe

EURONION

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Euronion Germany

In Germany harvest of first winter sown onions started at the middle of June, quite a usual time. At the beginning of August first early spring sown varieties were ready for lifting. Since the beginning of the season prices of onions have been at a low level. At the middle of October prices of sorted yellow middle sized onions are around 10 EUR/100kg in bigbags ex sorting station.

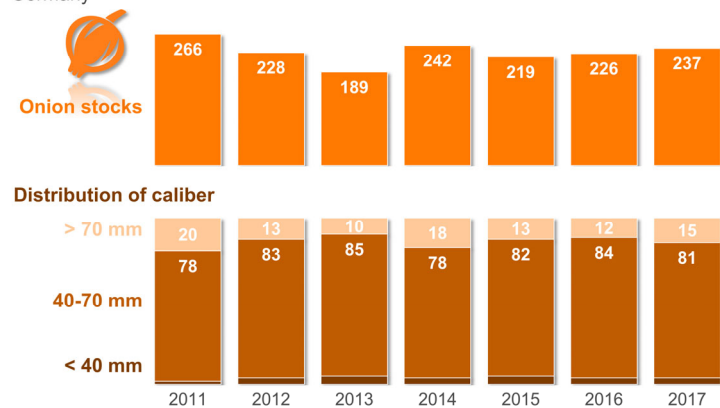
During the growing campaign two main influences were obvious. It was hot and very dry in early summer in the western and southwestern regions, which was leading either to an early formation of a bulb at the expense of leaves or to a delay of development. Both facts resulted in lower yields. In the North and in the North-east of Germany high rainfall for months have aggravated harvest and drying. This great problem is still holding on. In Lower Saxony, the most important region for storing, about 40 % of all onions destined for storing were still in the fields at

October 1st. Nationwide about 20 % of all onions were still in the fields. In general weather conditions in the Southern and Southeastern regions have been more balanced this year.

The AMI-survey on onion stocks at October 1st has shown that the available amounts of 237,000 T are slightly higher than last year. But it is not yet sure, if the high share of onions still in the fields will all get into stores and if quality will be suitable for long term storage. 2016 only 4 % of all onion stocks at 1st of October were still in the fields, this year the share is 20 %. Some producers in the northern parts have been very reserved to name a concrete amount, because they could not assess quantity and quality. In

Onion stocks at average level

Onion stocks at October 1st in 1,000 t and distribution of calibers in % in Germany



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Source: AMI

conclusion 20 % of all reported stocks are questionable in terms of quantity and quality for storing. It cannot be ruled out, that in the end, after all onions are in stores, onion stocks 2017 will be lower than last year.

It was assumed by the sector, that sizes of onions were smaller than in other years, but results of the survey show a normal distribution. About 4 % of all onions are smaller than 40mm, about 81 % are between 40 and 70mm and 15 % of all onions were bigger than 70mm.

The photographs show onion fields in the northern part of Germany taken at the middle of October.



From Dr. Hans-Christoph Behr, Sonja Illert und Andrea Schneider, 18th October 2017

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