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NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Council
Subject:	Occurrence of drought and its impact on arable crops in Poland - Information from the Polish delegation

Delegations will find in Annex information from the Polish delegation on the above subject to be presented under "Any other business" at the Council ("Agriculture and Fisheries") on 18 July 2016.

Occurrence of drought and its impact on arable crops in Poland

In accordance with the definition of drought adopted in Poland – agricultural drought occurs when the calculated values of the Climatic Water Balance (CWB) for a given municipality are lower than the critical values of CWB presented in the Ordinance of the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development. Exceeding the critical CWB results in a 20% reduction of yield in the scale of the municipality in relation to yield obtained with multiannual average weather conditions.

The agricultural drought monitoring system allows to carry out a risk assessment for the main crops, based on current meteorological data and soil data generated on the basis of a soil and agricultural numerical map.

A recent report of the Institute of Soil Science and Plant Cultivation - State Research Institute in Puławy, which monitors agricultural drought, shows that in the period from 1 May to 30 June 2016, on the Polish territory there was a risk of drought in 428 municipalities (17.27% of Poland's municipalities), on the area of 4.04% of arable land concentrated in 10 voivodeships:

- kujawsko-pomorskie,
- wielkopolskie,
- świętokrzyskie,
- lubuskie,
- łódzkie,
- mazowieckie,
- dolnośląskie,
- podlaskie,
- warmińsko-mazurskie,
- lubelskie.

During the current 60-day period, agricultural drought in Poland is noted in relation to six crops: winter cereals, spring cereals, fruit shrubs, legumes, oilseed rape and turnip rape, as well as strawberries. The most significant drought occurs among spring cereals.

Table 1. Detailed data on the number of municipalities and the % of municipalities and arable land per province, in which drought occurs among spring cereals.

No.	Voivodeship	Total number of municipalities	Number of municipalities at risk	Share of municipalities at risk [%]	Share of area at risk [%]
1	kujawsko-pomorskie	144	62	43.06	5.80
2	mazowieckie	314	130	41.40	9.39
3	wielkopolskie	226	80	35.40	11.58
4	łódzkie	177	51	28.81	7,74
5	podlaskie	118	31	26.27	2.84
6	lubelskie	213	45	21.13	3.20
7	świętokrzyskie	102	15	14.71	2.20
8	warmińsko-mazurskie	116	10	8.62	1.20
9	lubuskie	82	3	3.66	0.87
10	dolnośląskie	169	1	0.59	0.00

Drought is also present among winter cereals, it was noted in seven voivodeships of Poland – in 154 municipalities, in 6.21% of Poland's municipalities, on 1.17% of arable land.

Table 2. Detailed data on the number of municipalities and the % of municipalities and arable land per province, in which drought occurs among winter cereals.

No.	Voivodeship	Total number of municipalities	Number of municipalities at risk	Share of municipalities at risk [%]	Share of area at risk [%]
1	wielkopolskie	226	54	23.89	6.27
2	kujawsko-pomorskie	144	27	18.75	1.24
3	mazowieckie	314	40	12.74	1.79
4	łódzkie	177	22	12.43	2.32
5	lubelskie	213	8	3.76	0.22
6	podlaskie	118	2	1.69	0.02
7	świętokrzyskie	102	1	0.98	0.00

Drought also occurs in fruit shrubs; it was noted in 3 voivodeships – in 24 municipalities of the country. Drought among these crops occurs in 0.97% of Polish municipalities, on 0.07% of arable land.

Table 3. Detailed data on drought in voivodeships, where risk was noted for fruit shrubs

No.	Voivodeship	Total number of municipalities	Number of municipalities at risk	Share of municipalities at risk [%]	Share of area at risk [%]
1	wielkopolskie	226	13	5.75	0.44
2	łódzkie	177	9	5.08	0.27
3	kujawsko-pomorskie	144	2	1.39	0.00

Drought in legumes was noted in five voivodeships, in 89 municipalities of the country. Drought among these crops occurs in 3.59% of Polish municipalities, covering an area of 0.55% of arable land. Detailed data on drought in legumes in voivodeships, where this risk was noted is presented in Table 4.

Table 4.

No.	Voivodeship	Total number of municipalities	Number of municipalities at risk	Share of municipalities at risk [%]	Share of area at risk [%]
1	wielkopolskie	226	43	19.03	3.83
2	kujawsko-pomorskie	144	14	9.72	0.31
3	łódzkie	177	16	9.04	1.49
4	mazowieckie	314	11	3.50	0.07
5	lubelskie	213	5	2.35	0.00

Drought is also present in oilseed rape and turnip rape crops, it was noted in three voivodeships – in 24 Polish municipalities, 0.97% of municipalities, on 0.05% of arable land. Detailed data on drought affecting these crops are shown in Table 5.

Table 5.

No.	Voivodeship	Total number of municipalities	Number of municipalities at risk	Share of municipalities at risk [%]	Share of area at risk [%]
1	wielkopolskie	226	13	5.75	0.21
2	łódzkie	177	8	4.52	0.42
3	kujawsko-pomorskie	144	3	2.08	0.00

Drought also affects strawberries, it was noted in one voivodeship – in 1 Polish municipality, in 0.04% of the country's municipalities.

Negative effects of drought will worsen the unfavourable situation of agricultural producers, in particular the producers of milk, pork, fruit and vegetables, i.e. agricultural products affected by significant declines in purchase prices, leading to a total loss of liquidity. It is reasonable to urgently introduce protective measures with regard to the capabilities of this year's EU budget.
