



Published 27 August 2015

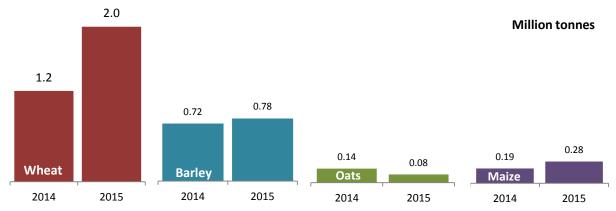
### **Cereal Stocks in June 2015**

These statistics estimate wheat, barley, oats and maize held in stock at the end of June 2015 at UK ports, co-operatives and merchants or on farms in England & Wales. On farm stocks in Scotland and Northern Ireland are not covered in these statistics. Datasets and methodology are available from the web page.

### **Key points**

- There was 71% more wheat in stock in the UK at the end of June 2015 than a
  year previously, excluding on farm stocks in Scotland and Northern Ireland.
- There was 9% more barley in stock in the UK at the end of June 2015 than a year previously, excluding on farm stocks in Scotland and Northern Ireland.
- There were 2.0 million tonnes of wheat, 0.78 million tonnes of barley, 0.08 million tonnes of oats and 0.28 million tonnes of maize in stock in the UK at the end of June 2015, excluding on farm stocks in Scotland and Northern Ireland.
- There was high UK production in 2014 for wheat, barley and oats. The 2014 wheat harvest for the UK was 16.6 million tonnes, an increase of 39% on 2013.

Figure 1: End June stocks of wheat, barley, oats and maize



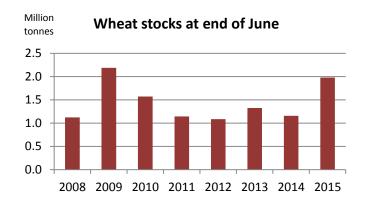
#### Revisions

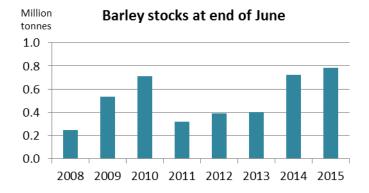
Previous estimates have not been revised.

**Enquiries to** Jim Holding, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. Tel: 01904 455069, email: <a href="mailto:crops-statistics@defra.gsi.gov.uk">crops-statistics@defra.gsi.gov.uk</a> or <a href="mailto:jim.holding@defra.gsi.gov.uk">jim.holding@defra.gsi.gov.uk</a>.

A National Statistics publication. National Statistics are produced to high professional standards. They undergo regular quality assurance reviews to ensure that they meet customer needs. They are produced free from any political interference. For general enquiries about National Statistics, contact the National Statistics Public Enquiry Service: tel. 0845 601 3034 email <a href="info@statistics.gov.uk">info@statistics.gov.uk</a>. You can also find National Statistics on the internet at <a href="www.statistics.gov.uk">www.statistics.gov.uk</a>.

Figure 2: Trends in June grain stocks in the UK





Oats stocks at end of June

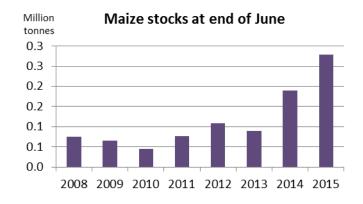
0.15

0.10

0.05

0.00

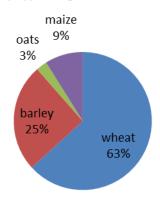
2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015



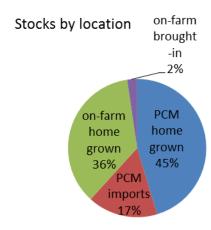
- June wheat stocks were 71% higher at 2.0 million tonnes in 2015 compared to 2014.
- In 2015 June wheat stocks were the highest since 2009 when there were 2.2 million tonnes.
- June barley stocks were 9% higher at 0.78 million tonnes in 2015 compared to 2014.
- June barley stocks in 2014 and 2015 were about twice the size of those in 2012 and 2013.
- June oats stocks returned to more normal levels with a 42% drop to 0.08 million tonnes in 2015.
- June maize stocks reached a new high at 0.28 million tonnes in 2015.
- June maize stocks in 2015 were 47% higher than in 2014 and over three times higher than in 2013.

Figure 3: Types and locations of UK grain stocks in June 2015

# Stocks by type of grain



 At end June 2015, 63% of stocks were wheat and 25% barley.



- At end June 2015, 38% of stocks were held on-farm and 62% at ports, coops and merchants.
- On farm stocks of wheat at 994 thousand tonnes were 2.6 times larger at the end of June 2015 than a year previously.

Figure 4: Tonnages of stocks by grain and location at the end of June since 2008

**Ports, Coops and Merchants** 

Oı	n f	ar	m
·		u	

		Home		Home	Home	Imported				On
Thousand		grown	Imported	grown	grown	barley		On farm	On farm	farm
tonnes	Month	wheat	wheat	barley	oats	and oats	Maize	Wheat	Barley	Oats
2008	Jun	469	192	168	20	10	75	464	80	15
2009	Jun	885	167	375	39	14	66	1136	158	40
2010	Jun	719	146	463	41	5	44	709	246	36
2011	Jun	598	119	250	25	10	76	427	69	18
2012	Jun	561	117	310	17	16	108	410	80	14
2013	Jun	562	258	298	26	13	89	506	102	20
2014	Jun	547	234	417	86	12	189	378	304	53
2015	Jun	757	229	612	49	6	279	994	172	32
%chg		38%	-2%	47%	-43%	-48%	47%	163%	-43%	-40%

Figure 5: Regional on-farm stocks of grain at the end June 2015 and associated livestock numbers at June 2014 (England and Wales)

	Wheat stocks	Wheat production	Barley stocks	Barley production	Cattle	Cattle*	Pigs	Sheep
		thousands of tonnes			thousands of head			
North East	21	548	15	287	0	257	101	1913
North West	8	194	17	203	0	940	149	2979
Yorkshire and Humber	164	2113	28	826	0	545	1424	2177
East Midlands	182	3067	24	568	0	500	364	1229
West Midlands	149	1408	10	366	0	731	210	2279
East of England	222	4583	10	1044	0	201	1085	327
South East and London	148	2083	6	538	0	427	206	1286
South West and Wales	69	1558	25	866	0	2858	443	12938
<b>England and Wales</b>	962	15553	134	4699	0	6458	3982	25128

Source: Farm Stocks Survey

Livestock numbers are sourced from the June Survey of Agriculture 2012.

- Much on-farm wheat and barley is used for animal feed.
- About 44% of cattle and 51% of sheep are in the South West and Wales but only 7% of on-farm wheat stocks and 18% of on-farm barley stocks are in these regions.
- 23% of wheat stocks are in East of England.
- 21% of barley stocks are in Yorkshire and Humber.

## **Exclusions and Inclusions**

Excludes cereals held on farms in Scotland and Northern Ireland, intervention grain and wheat tendered on LIFFE (London International Financial Futures and Options Exchange) futures and warrants where there were 127,000 tonnes of feed wheat on 3 July 2015.

Includes stocks carried over from the previous harvest and grain sold on forward contract but not yet delivered. Includes grain stocks cleared by customs for import and grain intended for export but not yet exported.

#### Use of these statistics

Grain supply is fundamental to global food security. It is a globally traded commodity where supply, demand and prices are influenced by international markets. Official estimates of stocks provide accessible information to all and help markets to function smoothly which can reduce the risk of price volatility and thereby enhance food security. These stocks estimates are used when forecasting supply and demand up to the end of the crop year.

<sup>\*</sup>Cattle figures here relate to commercial holdings only for England. Therefore these figures do not match those published in the June Survey statistical release, which relate to all holdings.

## Accuracy and reliability of the results

The accuracy of the survey results is high because a census is carried out of all major storage facilities in February each year. Approximately 145 storage facilities were contacted in February and 90 in June 2013. The typical response rate to this survey is 95%-100% and in February 2014 was 100%.

#### **Related Statistics**

The Agricultural and Horticultural Development Board publish <u>cereals balance sheets</u> and a supply and demand analysis. Production estimates of cereals in the UK are published within the <u>June Survey UK results</u>. Statistics from all <u>Defra farming surveys</u> are available.

### **Next Publication**

The next Cereal Stocks publication is due in May 2016.