

Report from Sweden November 2004

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In Sweden, located in the northern part of Europe, the oilseed growing areas are located roughly between the southern part and the Stockholm area. Presently, the total Swedish oilseed acreage is around 85.000 ha yearly, with about 50% winter crop, and 50% spring crop. In the tables below, you will find data concerning the last four years according to statistics collected by the Swedish Oilseed Growers Association. Also the yield figures for 2004 are summarized in the second table.

Acreages of Oilseed crops in Sweden

Crop	2001	2002	2003	2004
Winter Oilseed Rape	20 102	31 570	24 463	38 193
Spring Oilseed Rape	13 198	22 119	26 511	36 336
Winter Rapa	952	1 935	941	1 322
Spring Rapa	10 050	12 311	7 494	8 374
TOTAL	44 302	67 935	59 409	84 225

Yield from 2004 in different areas of Sweden

Crop	TOTALT	South	West	East
Winter Oilseed Rape	3672 kg/ha	3502	3809	3839
Spring Oilseed Rape	2270 kg/ha	2181	2409	2264
Winter Rapa	2413 kg/ha	2921	2405	2760
Spring Rapa	1927 kg/ha	1858	2031	1683

The yields in 2004 are the best results ever reported due probably to a favorable climate, high percentage hybrid varieties in the winter crop and in areas west and east less fungus disease pressure.

The development of bio-diesel usage in Sweden is still very limited and today, no acreage is used for these purposes.

Forecast for 2005 is a winter crop of around 35.000 ha and a spring crop probably in the same size or a bit larger than 2004. Due to late ripening of the pre crop and wet conditions during planting of the winter crop, acreages are a bit smaller than the expected. As farmers are interested to grow oilseeds when price is high, we expect the spring crop to become bigger than last year.