

# Economics of oilseed rape production in the federal state Mecklenburg-Vorpommern

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## Introduction

- oilseed rape offers a lot of recycling possibilities: as food, in industry, in feeding and as a liquid energy carrier
- strong expansion of rape cultivation and short growing periods
- current problems: low yields, high nitrogen balance, increasing ban on pesticides

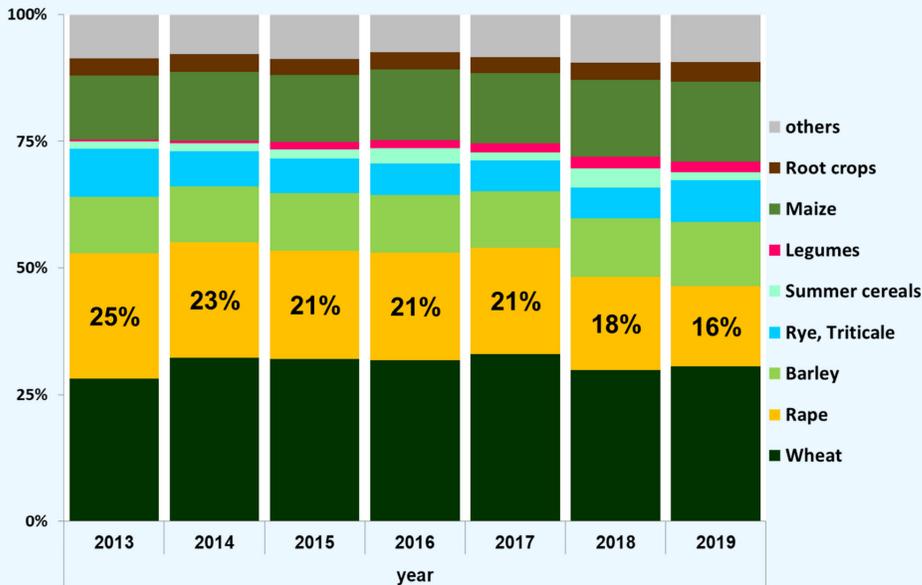


Fig.1 Cultivation on the arable land in M-V [1]

Rape was cultivated on every fifth hectare. Rape cultivation has been decreased since 2018.

## Yields and costs of rape by agricultural productivity value in selected farms

Data are based on 30 selected farms all over the federal state Mecklenburg-Vorpommern.

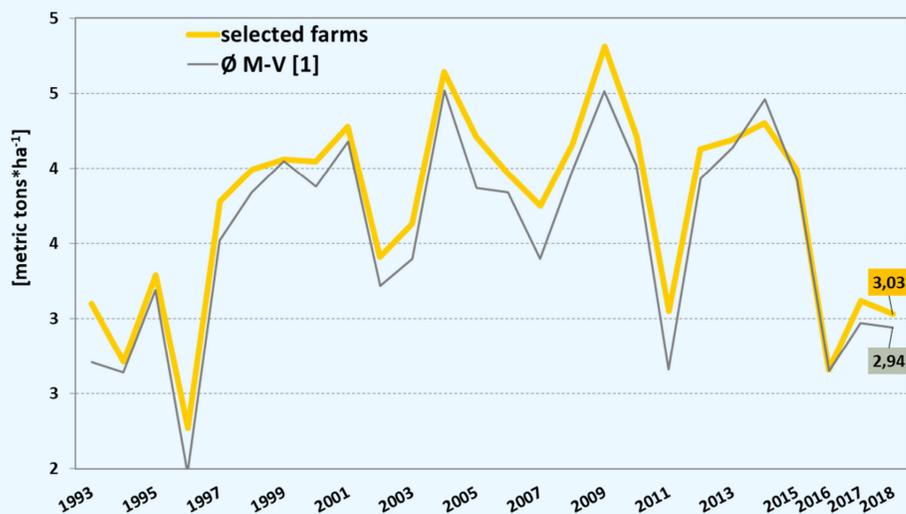


Fig. 3 Development of the rapeseed yield in M-V [1]

From 2016 to 2018 the rape yield reached only 3 tons per hectare.

## Pre-Crop effect of rape

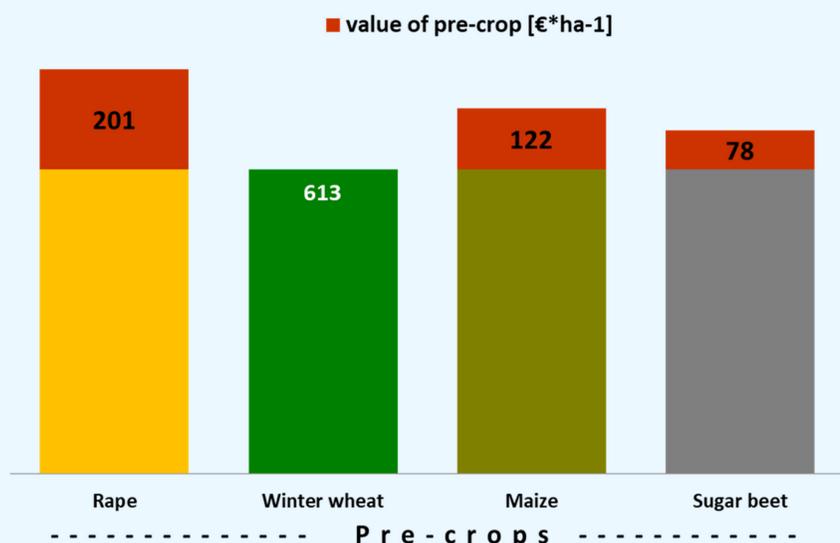


Fig. 5 Value of pre-crop – Contribution margin of quality wheat, depending on the pre-crop

After being harvested rape leaves a lot of nitrogen in the field. Rape allows earlier sowing of the subsequent crops, has a positive effect on soil fertility and leads to significant nitrogen savings in subsequent wheat.

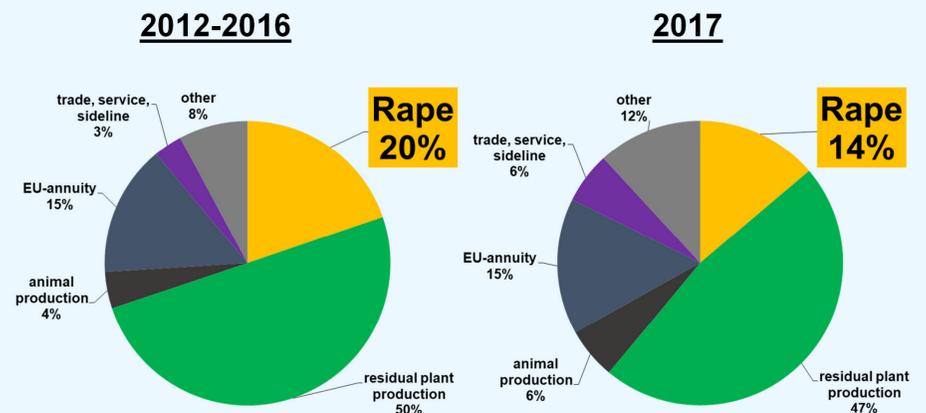


Fig. 2 Share of rapeseed in operating income in arable farms in M-V [2]

Rape has made a contribution of 20% to the operating income of arable farms in M-V for many years. The significant decline in rapeseed yields dropped this contribution to 14% in 2017.

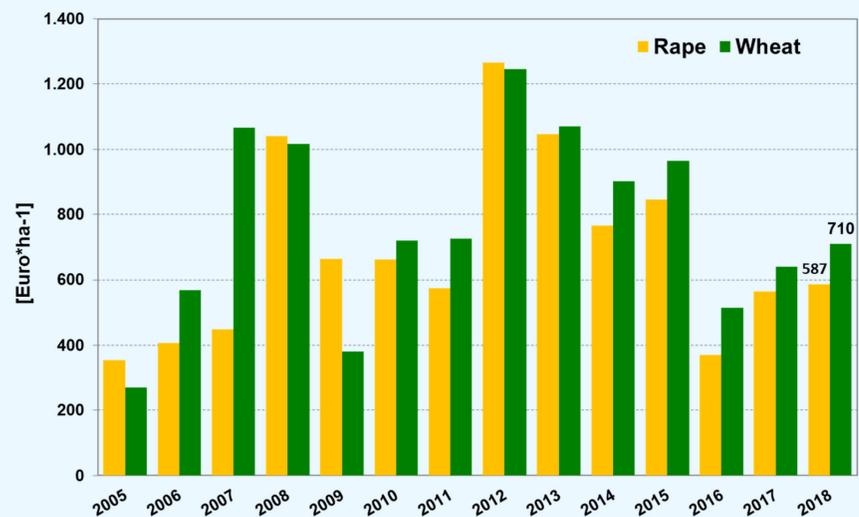


Fig. 4 Contribution margin of Winter Wheat and Rape

The contribution margin varies depending on income and prices. Wheat surpasses rape in most years. The value of pre-crop was not taken into account.

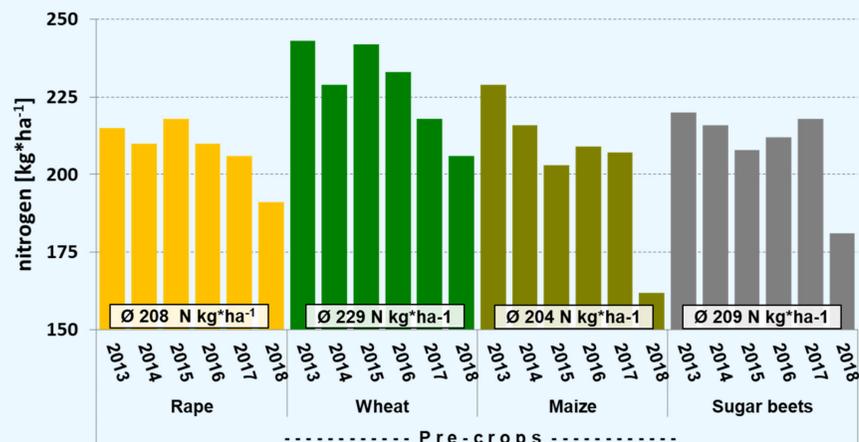


Fig. 6 Amount of nitrogen fertilizer to wheat after different pre-crops

## Conclusions

Comparing the contribution margins of different crops, oilseed rape is still in the second position. The amount of cultivation will decrease to a lower level. This allows oilseed rape to secure its position in cultivation.

[1] Statistisches Amt Mecklenburg-Vorpommern

[2] Annen, T.: Testbetriebsergebnisse des Landes M-V 2017/2018, LFA M-V, Gülzow, 2018