

CZECH HOP PRODUCTION: 6 797 T OF HOPS IN 2017

Production of Hops in the Czech Republic in 2017

Variety/ Region	Saaz(t)			Auscha(t)			Tirschitz(t)			Czech Rep. (t)		
	2017	2016	2015	2017	2016	2015	2017	2016	2015	2017	2016	2015
Saaz	4 287	4 954	2 894	650	663	495	576	749	514	5 513	6 367	3 903
Sládek	349	359	277	75	62	36	190	218	172	614	639	485
Premiant	193	236	137	70	82	55	78	106	76	341	424	268
Agnus	87	84	64	10	8	6	0	0	0	97	93	70
Saaz Late	77	64	35	0	0	0	4	5	4	81	69	39
Kazbek	46	26	20	11	4	5	13	12	10	70	42	35
others	77	76	42	0	0	0	3	2	1	81	78	43
Total	5 116,4	5 799,8	3 469,0	816,2	819,3	597,0	864,2	1 092,5	777,0	6 796,8	7 711,6	4 843,0

The Central Institute for Supervising and Testing in Agriculture (CISTA) announced the final 2017 crop results. The total hop harvest in the Czech Republic reached **6 797 t of hops**.

This official figure includes Saaz, Auscha and Tirschitz regions. Thus, the average national yield was **1,37 t/ha** (including all varieties grown in the Czech Republic).

This is a standard result after a record-breaking 2016 crop where we recorded excellent results in both yields and alpha value. The combination of **2016 and 2017** crops have enabled breweries to balance their needs from previous years.

In the Saaz hop growing region the total hop production was **5 116 t**, in the Auscha hop growing region the total production was **816 t** and in the Tirschitz hop growing region the final results reached **864 t**.

Saaz Variety

The fine aroma variety - Saaz accounts for the largest share (81,1%) of the Czech hop production with **5 513 t** (2016 – 6 367; 2015 – 3 469) There were **4 287 t harvested in the Saaz** hop growing region (2016 – 4954; 2015 – 2 894 t), **650 t harvested in the Auscha** hop growing region (2016 – 663 t) and **576 t of Saaz variety harvested in the Tirschitz** hop growing region (2016 – 749 t).

Sládek, Premiant, Kazbek, Saaz Late, Agnus

The yield of both aroma varieties Sladek and Premiant exceeded 2,0 tons per hectare. The **Sladek** variety accounted for **614 t** (2016 – 639 t). The production of aroma variety **Premiant** caused by progressive acreage decrease was **341 t** (2016 – 424 t;). The fine aroma Saaz Late variety reached 81 t (2016 - 69). The production of flavor variety **Kazbek reached 70 t** and the production of the bitter variety **Agnus was 97 t**.



Content of Alpha Bitter Acids

The quality of the crop can be regarded as good as to the plant health and slightly below long term average with regards to alpha acid content. Finally, the 2017 crop can be considered as a standard average crop.

Market

Even though the production numbers slightly surpassed the long-term average yield the spot volumes available on the market were sold very shortly after the harvest due to the shortage from the poor crop in 2015 and exhausted inventories at all distribution levels and increasing demand for Czech aroma hops.

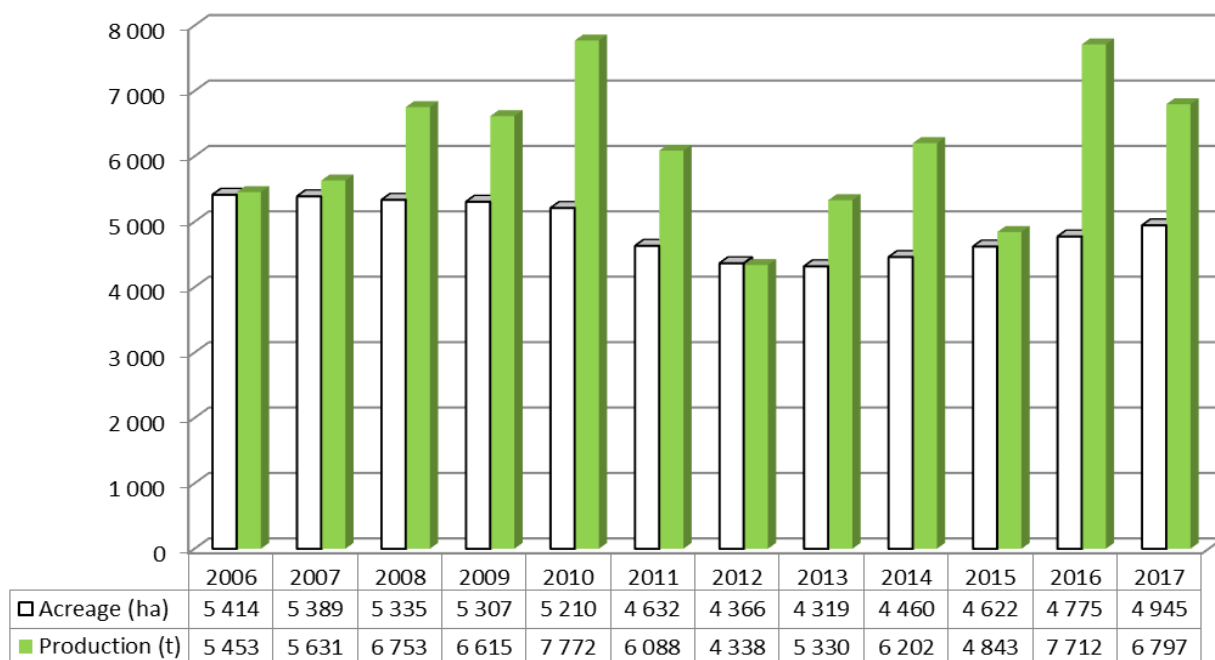
Increasing demand for fine aroma hops has led to the continuous trend of planting which went on also in the autumn 2016. Hops from current acreage are sold out until 2020. Follow-up crops have been already contracted to a high level.

The Czech growers are using the good outcomes of the harvest for investments into new picking and cultivation technologies in order to maintain the excellent quality of the Czech hops also in the coming years.

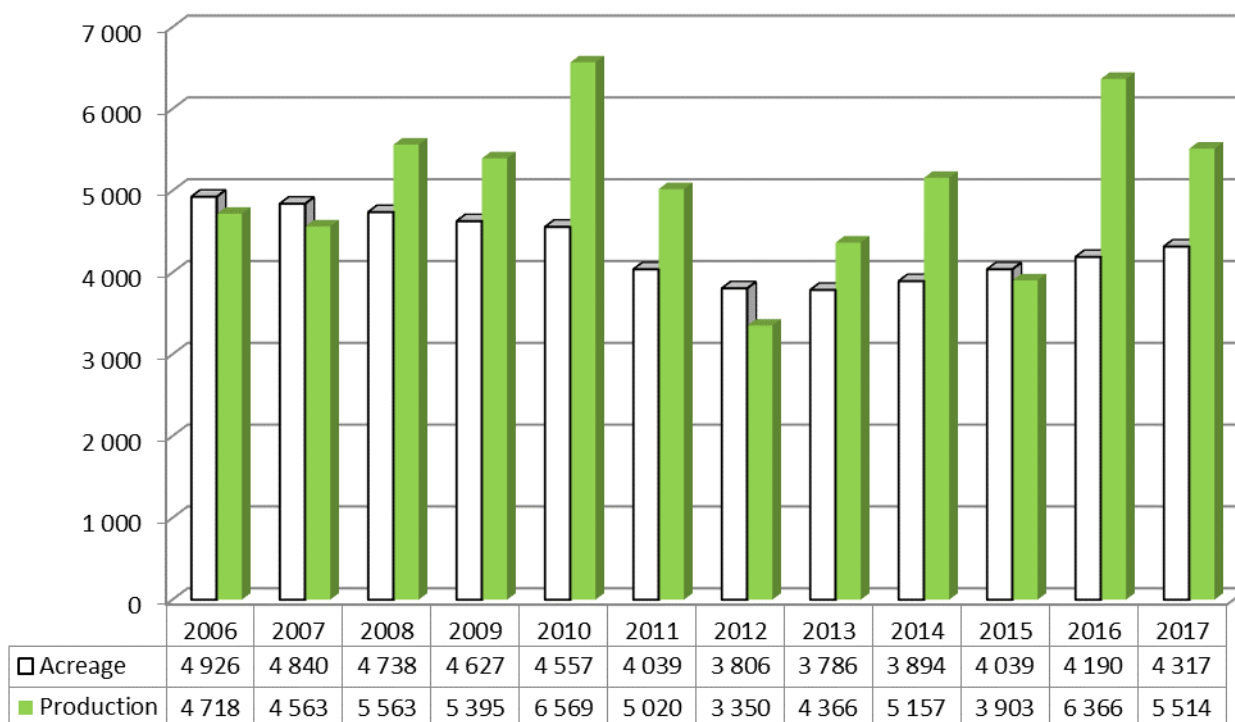


Graphs:

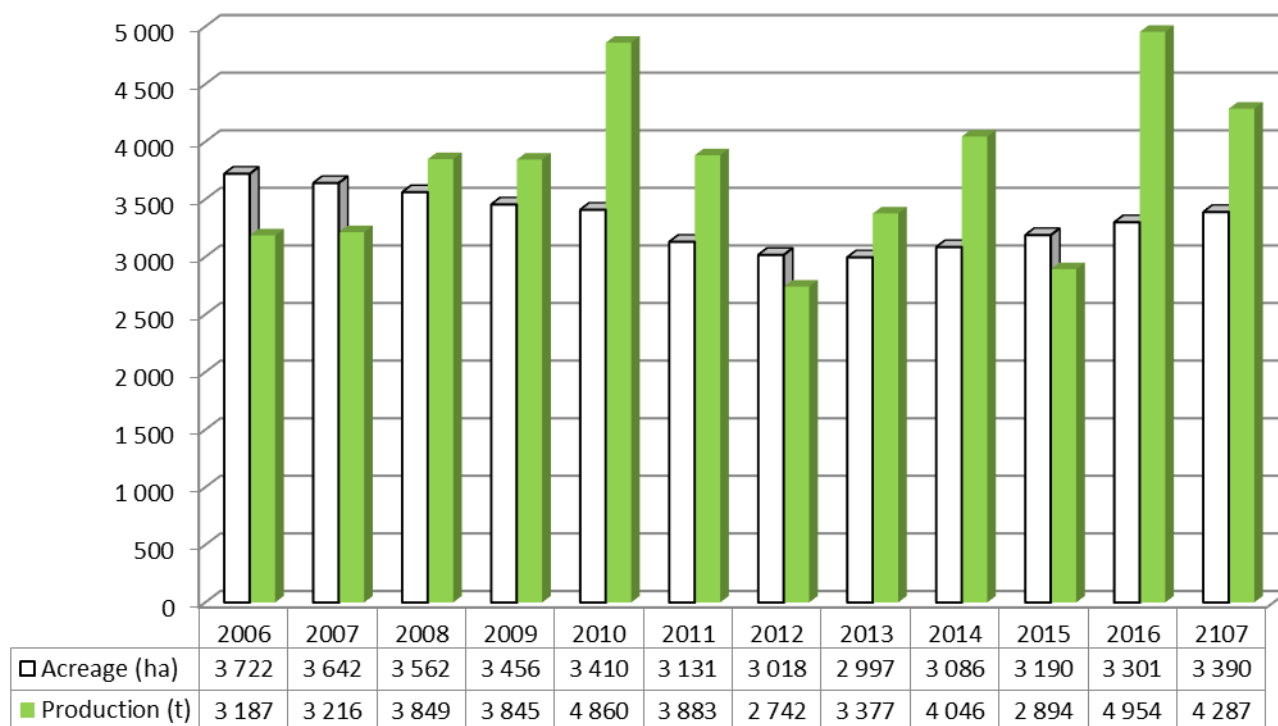
Total Hop Acreage - Including All Varieties



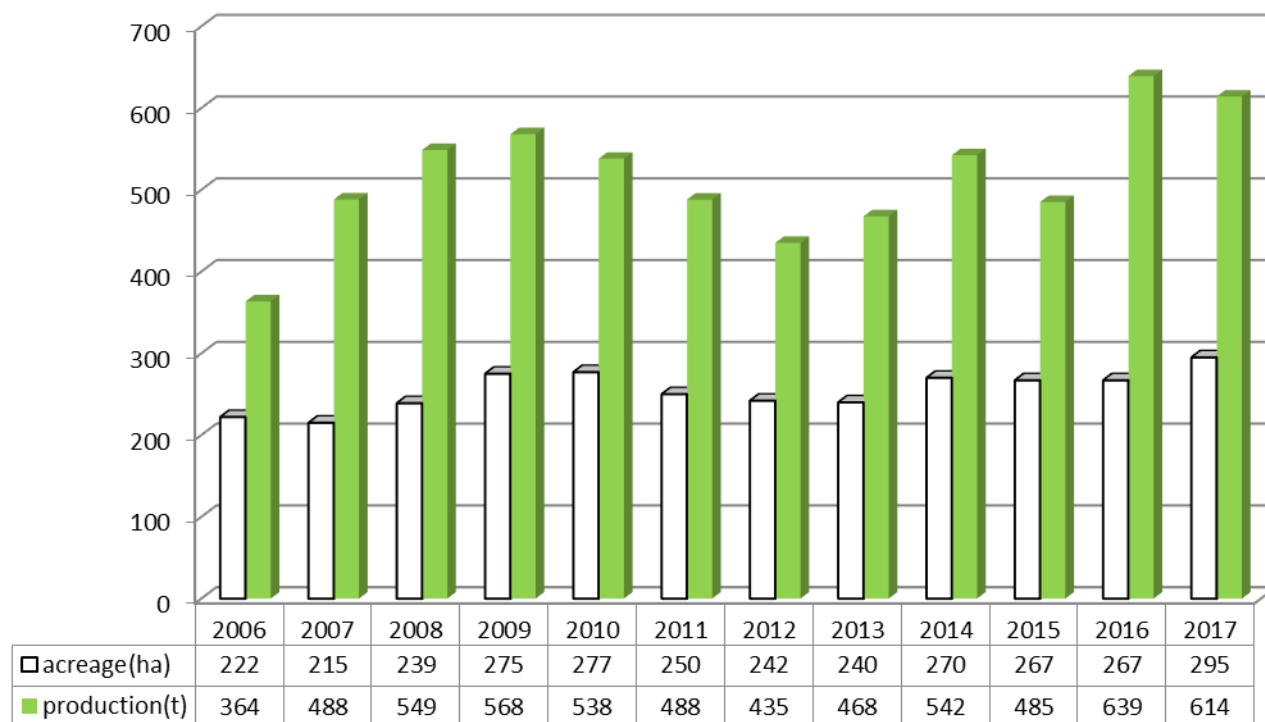
SAAZ variety (Czech Republic) - Acreage and production



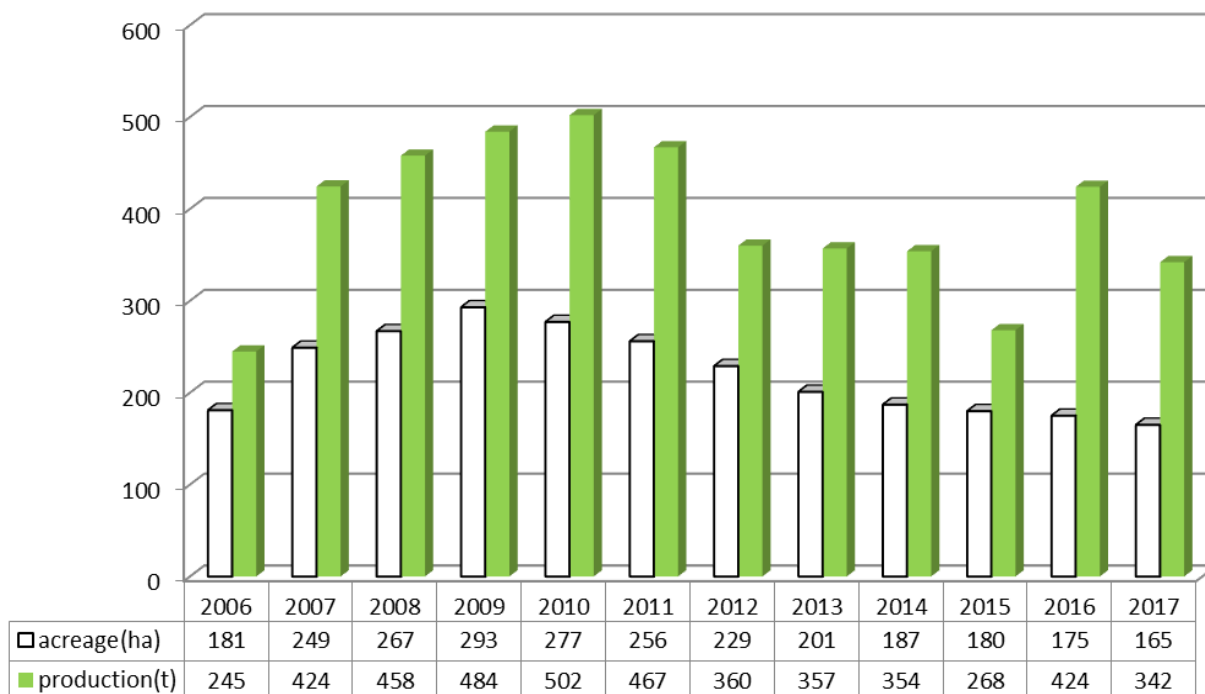
Variety SAAZ- Saaz Hop Growing Region



SLADEK - Acreage and Production



PREMIANT - Acreage and Production



KAZBEK variety - Acreage and production

