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Russia Earns Record Revenue from Oat Exports in 2025

Export revenue from Russian oat shipments reached a record level in 2025, although export volumes declined compared to the previous year.

According to the federal center Agroexport, Russia earned nearly $62 million from oat exports in 2025. At the same time, shipments in physical terms decreased by 10.3 percent year-on-year, totaling more than 280 thousand tons.

In 2024, export revenue amounted to $59.3 million, while export volumes reached a record 309 thousand tons.

Among importing countries, China has remained the largest buyer of Russian oats since 2021, despite ranking eighth in 2018. Mongolia currently holds second place, although it was the leading importer in 2018. Turkey has occupied third place since 2021, whereas Latvia held this position in 2018. [5]

Stavropol farmers advised to closely monitor winter rapeseed conditions

The sowing and condition of winter rapeseed in the Stavropol Territory require increased attention from farmers, according to specialists from the Rosselkhozcenter.

Winter rapeseed is cultivated on more than 94 thousand hectares in the region. During winter monitoring, about 16.9 thousand hectares were inspected for the presence of diseases.

Small outbreaks of alternaria have been identified in the Alexandrovsky, Ipatovsky, and Mineralovodsky districts. Although the current level of infection remains low, experts emphasize the need for regular monitoring. As temperatures and humidity rise and vegetation resumes, the disease may spread further.

Alternaria can affect leaves, stems, and later the pods of winter rapeseed plants. The disease typically appears as dark brown or gray spots on leaves, which can merge and lead to premature drying. On stems, elongated dark lesions develop, while infected pods may deform and crack, forming a characteristic trident-like structure.

In addition to plant diseases, specialists are also monitoring the presence of rodents. Surveys conducted across 37.9 thousand hectares revealed rodent activity on 29 thousand hectares, representing about 76.5 percent of the inspected area. However, the average pest population remains below the economic threshold. During the winter period, pest control measures were carried out on approximately 21.3 thousand hectares. [5]

Russia Reports Higher Agricultural Product Sales at the Start Of 2026

Russian agricultural organizations increased sales of several key products in January 2026 compared with the same period last year, according to data released by Rosstat on the country's socio-economic performance.

The strongest growth was recorded in sugar beets, sunflower seeds, eggs, and vegetables. Grain sales reached 3.8 million tons, marking a 3 percent increase year-on-year. Sunflower seed sales totaled 0.5 million tons, up 21.5 percent. Sugar beet sales rose sharply to 2 million tons, more than doubling compared with January 2025.

Potato sales amounted to 0.2 million tons, showing a marginal increase of 0.1 percent, while vegetable sales reached the same volume, rising by 5.5 percent.

In contrast, January 2025 showed weaker performance or declines across several crops compared with January 2024. Grain sales had fallen by 15.1 percent, sunflower seed sales declined by 24.7 percent, and sugar beet sales dropped by 62.1 percent. Potato sales also decreased by 19.7 percent during that period.

Vegetables were the only category to record growth in January 2025, with sales increasing by 7.1 percent year-on-year, according to Rosstat. [7]

Commodity Auctions: Results For 04.03.2026

Purchase OOO Zakazchik No. 1

Wheat, grade 4, 12.5%,

excluding VAT | 16,375 ₽/t | 600 t

OOO Trading House Sodruzhestvo

Sunflower,

incl. VAT | 41,500 ₽/t | 500 t

OOO Trading House Sodruzhestvo

Soybeans 40,

incl. VAT | 32,750 ₽/t | 1,300 t

OOO Trading House Sodruzhestvo

Soybeans 39,

incl. VAT | 31,250 ₽/t | 2,300 tons

Zakazchik No. 1 LLC

Wheat, grade 4, 12.5%,

excluding VAT | 16,100 ₽/t | 620 tons

OZK Trading LLC

Wheat, grade 4, 12.5%,

excluding VAT | 16,350 ₽/t | 600 tons

OZK Trading LLC

Wheat, grade 4, 12.5%,

excluding VAT | 15,983 ₽/t | 1,200 tons [6]

Sunflower oil prices hold steady in Ukraine as market resists increases

Attempts to raise sunflower oil prices in Ukrainian ports earlier this week failed to gain market support, with prices returning to last Friday's levels by the end of the day.

According to Serhiy Repetsky, managing partner of Sunstone Brokers, sellers initially tried to push prices higher on Monday morning, expecting geopolitical tensions linked to the conflict in Iran to support the market. However, buyers did not accept the increase.

Repetsky noted that the FOB price of sunflower oil in Ukrainian ports remained largely unchanged, with only a slight increase of about $5 per destination driven by higher freight costs.

Global vegetable oil markets have seen only limited spot price changes following the escalation of tensions in the Persian Gulf. The impact has been more visible in cheaper vegetable oils typically used for biodiesel production.

For example, rapeseed oil on an FOB basis in Dutch ports increased by about €15 during the first two working days of the week, supported by rising crude oil prices.

Sunflower oil remains the most expensive among the major vegetable oils, trading at higher levels than palm, soybean, and rapeseed oil.

Demand dynamics in India are also influencing the market. Sunflower oil imports into India declined from 330 thousand tons in November to 146 thousand tons in February. Over the same period, palm oil purchases increased significantly from 500 thousand tons to 844 thousand tons due to the large price gap between the two oils. [1]

Hormuz Strait Crisis Disrupts Russia's Trade Routes and Raises Import Costs

The escalating crisis in the Strait of Hormuz is beginning to affect Russia's foreign economic activity, as shipping routes are being adjusted and transportation costs surge. Following Iran's decision to block the strategic waterway, maritime traffic through the strait has reportedly fallen by around 70%, while insurance costs for vessels have increased two- to threefold. Major shipping companies, including Maersk and MSC, have suspended part of their operations in the area.

The disruption is expected to push up the cost of imports to Russia, particularly goods arriving from the United Arab Emirates, which accounts for roughly 40–60% of Russia's parallel imports, including products from brands such as Apple and Samsung, as well as spare parts and industrial equipment. Rerouting cargo through ports in Oman or around Africa could raise logistics costs by 20–35%, potentially leading to a 15–30% increase in both purchase and retail prices within the next two months.

For Russian importers and retail chains, however, the risk of immediate shortages remains limited. Current inventories of key product categories, including electronics and automotive parts, are estimated to cover between four and eight weeks of demand. Meanwhile, shipping companies and freight forwarders are adjusting routes and tariffs to reflect higher risks and longer supply chains, while insurers are tightening coverage conditions for military-related risks.

At the same time, the situation could create opportunities for Russian energy exporters. Supply disruptions in the Middle East may increase demand for Russian oil and gas shipments to major buyers such as China and India, potentially supporting Russia's export revenues and balance of payments amid expectations of rising global energy prices.

Overall, the scale of the impact on Russia's foreign trade will largely depend on how long restrictions in the Strait of Hormuz remain in place and how quickly alternative logistics routes can be established.[3]

Kazakhstan Expands Oilseed and Pulse Production Amid Export Growth

Agricultural exports from Kazakhstan reached $7 billion in 2025, marking a 37% increase compared with the previous year, according to Vice Minister of Agriculture Yerbol Taszhurekov.

Speaking at a press conference at the Strategic Communications Center under the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the official said exports of processed agricultural products totaled $3.6 billion, up 35% year on year.

Kazakhstan is focusing on increasing the share of processed agricultural goods rather than exporting mainly raw commodities. Taszhurekov said expanding domestic processing and deep processing of agricultural raw materials will help create higher-value products, develop new production chains, support employment in the regions and strengthen the country's export potential. The government aims to increase the share of processed agricultural products in exports to 70%.

Gross agricultural output in Kazakhstan rose by 5.9% in 2025 to 9.8 trillion tenge, with growth recorded in both crop and livestock production. The country harvested 25.9 million tons of grain in net weight, including 19.3 million tons of wheat.

Oilseed production also reached record levels at 4.8 million tons, while pulse output exceeded 1 million tons.

Changes in the structure of planted areas have supported this growth. Wheat planting was reduced by nearly 900,000 hectares, while areas under pulses increased by 275,000 hectares and oilseeds expanded by more than 1 million hectares. Authorities say this diversification is helping create a more sustainable agricultural system and strengthening the raw material base for processing industries.[2]

Kazakhstan Barley Trade Slows Amid VAT Uncertainty and Regional Tensions

Barley trading activity in Kazakhstan remained limited this week, according to monitoring data from APK-Inform. Market participants showed reduced interest in concluding new deals, mainly due to uncertainty surrounding the application of VAT and growing geopolitical tensions related to the military conflict around Iran.

Against this backdrop, shipments almost came to a standstill as many companies preferred to adopt a wait-and-see approach. Traders were hesitant to sign new contracts without prepayment conditions.

Despite the weak trading activity, price levels on both the domestic and export markets remained largely unchanged. Bid prices on the domestic market were reported at 87,000–90,000 tenge per ton EXW, while export prices were stable at $250–260 per ton FOB Aktau.[2]

EU Demand Slows Rapeseed Price Growth Despite Oil-Driven Support

Global rapeseed and canola markets are receiving support from the recent rally in oil prices, which have climbed about 21% over the past month amid geopolitical tensions involving Iran. However, weaker demand from the European Union and expanding supply from Australia are limiting further price gains, including in Ukraine.

Australia's rapeseed crop outlook has been revised upward again, with production now expected to reach 7.7 million tons, compared with 7.2 million tons previously and well above the 6.7 million-ton estimate issued earlier by the United States Department of Agriculture. The forecast would represent a 26% increase from last season's 6.1 million tons, meaning the global market will need to absorb roughly 1.6 million tons of additional supply.

Crude oil futures for May have surged to around $81.5 per barrel, marking a 15% rise since the start of the week and reaching the highest level in about 20 months. Higher fuel prices across the EU and Ukraine would typically stimulate biofuel demand. However, market participants expect the recent oil rally to be largely speculative and potentially short-lived, which has reduced the urgency to purchase biofuel feedstocks at elevated prices.

On the Paris exchange, May rapeseed futures initially gained 2.5% earlier in the week before slipping 0.7% on Wednesday to €495.5 per ton amid profit-taking. Despite the monthly gain of about 2.6%, the dollar-denominated price has increased more modestly due to the weaker euro. Meanwhile, August futures for the new crop are trading €18 per ton lower at €477.5, indicating that recent gains may be driven largely by speculative activity.

Imports of rapeseed into the EU between July 1, 2025 and March 3, 2026 totaled 2.87 million tons, down 37% from the same period a year earlier. With only four months remaining in the marketing year, total imports are unlikely to reach the projected 5.5 million tons and are expected to fall well short of the record 7.5 million tons seen in the 2024/25 season.

In Canada, May canola futures on the Winnipeg exchange rose 3% over the past three sessions to 709 CAD per ton, posting a monthly increase of about 5.2%. However, the strengthening Canadian dollar has pushed the price to around $520 per ton, narrowing the gap with European rapeseed prices to roughly $55 per ton and making shipments to the EU less competitive.

China's decision to reduce tariffs on Canadian canola starting March 1 has provided additional support to prices, although increased trade flows have yet to materialize. At the same time, Australia is resuming canola shipments to China after a ban introduced in 2020, with the first trial shipments successfully clearing Chinese customs earlier this year.

Australian non-GMO rapeseed is currently priced between 730 and 760 AUD per ton, or roughly $514–535 per ton FOB. Combined with relatively low freight costs, these levels make Australian supplies more attractive than Canadian canola for many buyers.

In Ukraine, export demand remains steady, with traders raising prices by about $5 per ton to $555–565 per ton delivered to Black Sea ports. Domestic processors are offering slightly lower levels, around UAH 24,000–24,500 per ton delivered to plants, as rapeseed oil prices remain stable near €1,050–1,070 per ton in the EU market.

Ukraine exported around 76,000 tons of rapeseed in February, down from 130,000 tons in January, bringing total shipments for the season to nearly 1 million tons. Rapeseed oil exports reached 50,000 tons in January and 44,000 tons in February, keeping the industry on track to process an estimated 1.5–1.7 million tons of rapeseed this season.

At the same time, increased sales from EU farmers—many of whom were waiting for prices near €500 per ton—may further limit demand for higher-priced imports from Australia and Ukraine. Favorable conditions for winter rapeseed crops in Europe and expanding planting areas also suggest stronger domestic supply in the coming season. [1]

Iran Imposes Total Ban on Food and Agricultural Exports to Protect Domestic Supply

Iran has announced a complete suspension of exports for all food and agricultural products until further notice, Tasnim news agency reports. The government says the move aims to prioritize domestic supply and ensure food security for its population.

According to the US Department of Agriculture, Iran produces around 18% of the world's pistachios, 6% of cherries, and 2% of barley. Analysts warn that the export ban could significantly disrupt global markets for these commodities.

The decision comes amid escalating regional conflicts, which have also prompted neighboring Kuwait to temporarily halt food exports. Kuwait's Minister of Commerce and Industry, Osama Boodai, explained that the restrictions are intended to stabilize domestic markets and protect local consumers.[1]

Saudi Wheat Tender Boosts Global Prices

The global wheat market continued its upward trend between February 25 and March 4, 2026, according to analysis by Russagrotrans. Prices for Russian wheat containing 12.5% protein for March–April delivery increased by $2 week-on-week to reach $236 per ton FOB.

Wheat prices from other major exporters also climbed, reducing their competitiveness. French wheat rose by $3 to $243 per ton, while U.S. wheat recorded the largest increase, jumping $7 to $254 per ton. Ukrainian wheat with 11.5% protein edged up slightly to $230 per ton, while Romanian wheat remained stable at $238.5 per ton.

Additional support for the market came from a recent wheat tender held by the General Food Security Authority in Saudi Arabia, where 794,000 tons of wheat were purchased for May–July delivery. Market estimates suggest that roughly 450,000 tons of the purchased volume may originate from Russia.

Domestically, prices for fourth-class wheat with 12.5% protein delivered by road to deep-water ports increased by 300 rubles to 16,000 rubles per ton excluding VAT. Rail deliveries were quoted slightly higher at 16,000–16,200 rubles per ton.

Weather forecasts indicate that temperatures in the Central Federal District and the western part of the Volga Federal District will rise to between +1°C and +5°C in the coming week, contributing to snow compaction and partial melting. Vegetation is expected to continue in southern regions such as Krasnodar Krai, southern and central Rostov Oblast, and Stavropol Krai, while precipitation is likely to further improve soil moisture levels.

Meanwhile, Russian wheat exports in February 2026 are preliminarily estimated at around 2.75 million tons, compared with 2.07 million tons in the same period last year. With improved weather conditions and faster shipments expected, exports could rise to approximately 3.6 million tons in March.[8]

Palm Oil Imports to India Surge as Sunflower Oil Purchases Decline

India significantly reshaped its vegetable oil import structure in February 2026, with palm oil regaining market share as sunflower oil purchases declined sharply, according to a report by Reuters.

Sunflower oil imports fell by 45.3% month-on-month to 146,000 tonnes, while palm oil imports climbed to a six-month high of 844,000 tonnes, up 10.1% from January. The increase was driven by a substantial price discount compared to competing oils as well as seasonal warming, which typically supports demand for tropical oils.

Imports of soybean oil also rose, increasing by 8.7% to 303,000 tonnes and reversing the decline recorded in the previous month. Market participants expect palm oil purchases to grow further in March due to its continued price competitiveness.

Higher demand from the world’s largest vegetable oil importer could reduce inventories in key producing countries such as Indonesia and Malaysia, potentially supporting palm and soybean oil futures on global markets.

Total vegetable oil imports into India in February reached 1.29 million tonnes, down slightly by 1.4% compared with the previous month, mainly due to the decline in sunflower oil shipments. The main suppliers of sunflower oil to India remain Russia and Ukraine.

The shift in demand follows a period when Russian sunflower oil gained popularity in the Indian market after becoming more price competitive than palm oil. However, palm oil continues to dominate India’s vegetable oil import structure.

In the 2024/25 marketing year, which ended in October, palm oil imports into India fell to their lowest level in five years. Its share in the country's total vegetable oil imports dropped to a record low of 47%, compared with 56% a year earlier. Meanwhile, soybean and sunflower oils increased their combined share from 44% to 53%.

The decline in Indian palm oil purchases previously contributed to growing stockpiles in Indonesia and Malaysia, putting pressure on prices and making the product more attractive to buyers in India.

Against the backdrop of changing market conditions, palm oil imports into India are projected to rise by nearly 20% in the 2025/26 season, helping the product regain market share. At the same time, the Solvent Extractors' Association of India estimates that sunflower oil imports in the 2025/26 season could fall by 400,000 to 900,000 tonnes. This may require Russian suppliers to offer more competitive prices in order to maintain their position in the Indian market, although the current ruble exchange rate may limit such flexibility. [4]

US, Brazil Lead Soybean Meal Production Growth While Argentina Sees Slight Decline

Analysts at Oil World forecast that combined soybean meal production in the United States, Brazil, and Argentina—the world's top three producers—will rise by 1.8 million tonnes between April and September 2026, reaching 68.9 million tonnes. Strong domestic consumption in the United States is expected to be the primary driver of this growth.

In the United States, processing is expanding faster than livestock production, suggesting that other feed crops are being displaced. April–September production is projected at 27.2 million tonnes, up 1.12 million tonnes year-on-year. Brazil's production is expected to grow to 24.02 million tonnes from 23.28 million tonnes, while Argentina will see a marginal decline to 17.66 million tonnes from 17.71 million tonnes.

During the first half of the 2025/26 season (October–March), meal production in these countries increased by 1.6 million tonnes to 64.5 million tonnes. The United States held the record at 28.91 million tonnes, while Argentina's output fell to 14.13 million tonnes.

Exports from the three countries are forecast to rise to 37.37 million tonnes in the second half of the season, up 1.17 million tonnes. The United States is expected to ship 8.75 million tonnes (up from 8.08 million), Brazil 12.96 million tonnes (up from 12.27 million), and Argentina 15.66 million tonnes (down from 15.85 million).

Since October–March, total G-3 soybean meal exports reached 33.8 million tonnes. The decline in shipments from Argentina, down by 1 million tonnes, was fully offset by record exports from the United States, which increased by 1 million tonnes. Analysts predict that rising exports from both North and South America will intensify competition and may put downward pressure on global soybean meal prices.[1]

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