

Description of the typical farm BG5500PLE , Bulgaria

General information

Region	Pleven
Type of farm	Mainly cash crop
Status as typical farm	pre-panel typical farm
Land use 2010/11	5,535 ha rapeseed, winter wheat and sunflower
Other enterprise	None
Legal status	Bulgarian limited company
Tillage system	Conservation tillage with reduced stubble breaking and mulch-seed
Decoupled payments (subsidies)	254 BGN/ha
Other subsidies (average of subsidies paid by central government and provinces)	Expected fuel subsidy for 2011/12 agricultural year - about 40 BGN/ha
Peculiarity regarding the national land market (land taxes etc.)	No tax on agricultural land
Any restrictions in place regarding N application?	No restrictions

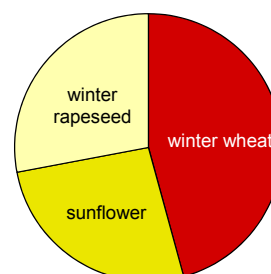
Natural conditions

Relief (hills, upland, plains)	Flat area
Elevation (m above sea level)	65 m
Soil type	Chernozem Series Alluvial Silts
Climate	Semi-continental
Main growing season	Winter crops: August/September - June/July Spring crops: March/April - August
Average precipitation per year (mm)	540
Rainfall distribution	Clearly defined max in spring period, uneven distribution
Average annual temperature	The average annual temperature is 11.4 °C

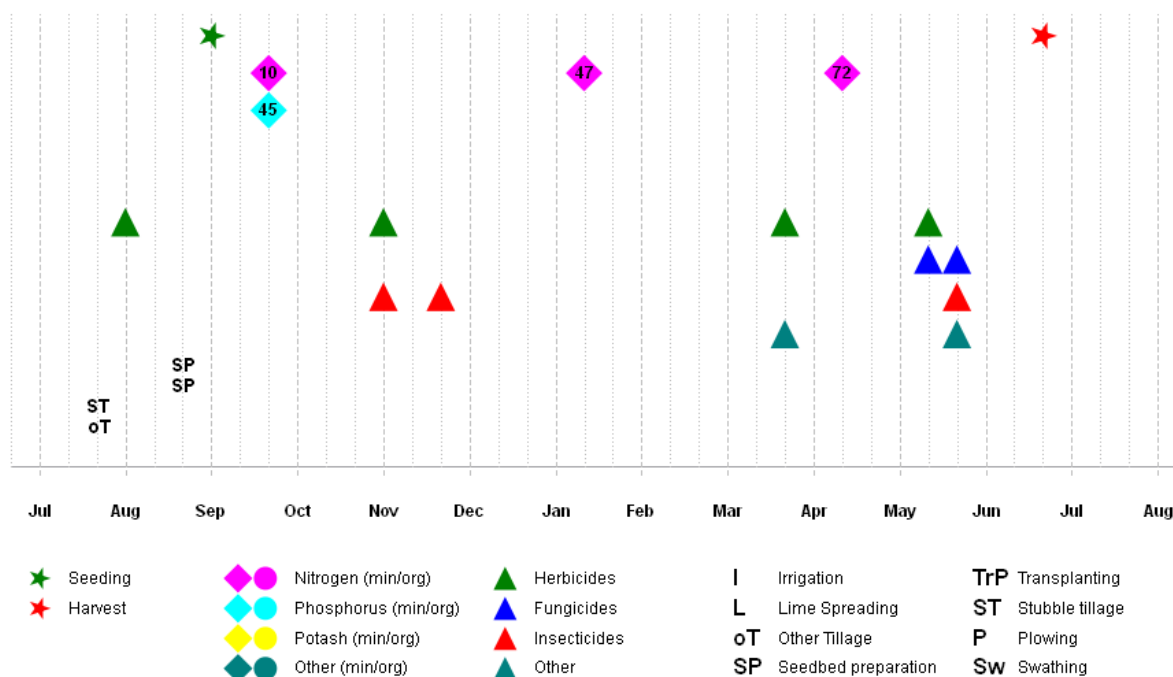
The typical crops grown in Pleven are wheat, barley, rapeseed, corn and sunflower. The typical farm has been specializing in only a few crops, namely wheat, rapeseed and sunflower. They are mainly sold to local and global commodity traders who export the purchased production. A small part of the wheat production is sold to local mills. Roughly half of the arable land is owned and the remainder rented from private land owners and other funds investing in agricultural land.

The entire personnel is hired. Four managers and supervisors coordinate the farm activities and are supported by about 23 further full-time workers of different skills driving tractors, trucks etc. Further five security men are employed to protect the new and modern machinery fleet. Given that some of the tractors and combines run around 2,000 hours per year, their depreciation period is only 3-5 years. During the peak harvest time contractor services are hired as support.

Crops grown by BG5500PLE - 2011



BG5500PLE - winter wheat



BG5500PLE - winter rapeseed

