



MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE  
OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC



# Quality and **tradition**

of the Czech agriculture  
and food industry sector





## Cereal products

Production in the Czech Republic contains wide and variable range of cereal products such as crunchy muesli, muesli bars, cornflakes, oatmeal, cereal products for children and many other products. Some of them bear the distinction of high quality and origin 'Klasa' label. In addition, selected products comply with organic production standards and meet the criteria for gluten-free diet. There are currently eight manufacturing plants in the Czech Republic with annual production capacity of 50,000 tons.



## Wafers and bakery products

The Czech Republic is proud of its regional production of a wide range of bakery product. There are not only well known Czech wafers as "Tatranky" but also several Czech wafers which feature protected geographical indication of the EU such as Karlovarské oplatky/ Wafers from Karlovy Vary", "Karlovarské trojhránky/Triangles from Karlovy Vary", "Pardubický perník/Gingerbread from Pardubice", "Hořické trubičky/Rolled wafers" or "Štramberské uši/Ears from Štramberk" etc. Export of these products has recently rapidly increased in relation to the EU market as well as to other world countries.

## Poppy seed

Our country is the largest producer as well as exporter of legally produced food poppy in the world (90 % of production is being exported). The optimal combination of climatic conditions in the region and agricultural inputs fully guarantee the worldwide specific characteristics of the Czech blue poppy quality. Its outstanding flavourful and valuable oilseed is characterized by significant levels of dietary ingredients, vitamins and minerals, especially calcium. Due to implemented quality standards, any possible health risks are excluded.

## Hops

The Czech Republic is the world's largest producer of fine aroma hops in the world. Over 80 % of production is being exported. The specific Czech hop aroma is determined by optimum climatic and soil conditions and by more than a thousand years of cultivation and breeding tradition in the Czech Republic. Thanks to its exceptional quality the Czech hops has achieved, as the first in this category of products, the protection of geographical indication of the EU – "Žatecký chmel / Saaz". The Czech hop is subject to a certification system that guarantees a clearly declared place of origin and a high quality.



## Malt

The Czech Republic is a major exporter of malt to the EU as well as throughout the world. Czech malt comes almost 100 % from selected domestic varieties whose cultivation and production is managed by special research institute. The volumes of malt exports are made by using the most advanced manufacturing technology processes. In addition, production of special malts for use outside the brewing sector has been growing steadily. At present time, there are 20 enterprises in the Czech Republic currently producing malt with annual production capacity of about 550,000 tons.

## Beer from malt

A beer is a traditional Czech export product of the world's highest quality, which promotes prestige and good name of the Czech Republic across continents. The protected geographical indication 'Czech beer' and other protected denominations of regional beers guarantee that only specific technology processes and high-quality domestic raw materials are used for production. In recent years production of unusual beers has increased (e.g. beer from wheat, unfiltered, fruity beers). There are 48 companies with high beer brewing capacity and about 280 mini/micro-breweries in the Czech Republic.

## Forage, grass and vegetable seed

A broad range of grass, forage and vegetable seeds is produced in the country which can be adjusted to any market demands. Seeds come from recognized areas and their quality is guaranteed by relevant certifications. The Czech Republic is able to offer not only very detailed sophisticated breeding program, but it can also provide necessary consulting services. About 40 companies produce forage and grass seed in the Czech Republic and additional 5 companies are involved in the production of seeds for vegetables, as well as a large number of independent small farmers and gardeners.



## Pure-bred cattle

Czech Fleckvieh Cattle is a native breed to the territory of Central Europe and has excellent characteristics and widespread use around the world. The breeding goals are focused on high-quality and economical production of milk and meat. Export of breeding material is being carried out in form of live breeding animals (breeding bulls, heifers) as well as bovine semen or embryos. The Czech Republic strictly controls keeping high level of sanitary and hygienic standards rules that guarantee veterinary safety of subsequent production.

## Poultry and hatching eggs

Breeding poultry farms aimed at producing hatching eggs for chicken meat production have been in the country for more than 50 years. Achieving a high degree of quality in the management of the parent stock the optimal health conditions of the parents required for production of high-quality hatching eggs are provided. There are currently 70 companies in the Czech Republic producing about 400 millions of hatching eggs annually.

## Collagen casings

Using sophisticated processing procedure, the most modern technologies and high requirements for all process, the Czech Republic is a leading and traditional producer of number of quality collagen casings, i.e. for meat, poultry and dairy products. Products of universal nature are suitable for processing technologies in all types of filling machines. Together with the Czech beer, these products are exported to the largest number of world countries, incl. regions in the Caribbean, Pacific and Africa.



## Dairy products

The wide range of high quality dairy products is being manufactured in the Czech Republic of which about 40 % are being exported to 80 countries. The range of products has no export geographical limits and includes following ones: UHT milk and cream, powdered milk, condensed milk, a several kinds of cheeses, including processed cheeses of specific types like white Akawi, desserts and cottage cheese spreads, butter, fermented milk products, whey etc. The Czech Republic also holds several EU protected geographical indications – for instance 'Olomoucké tvarůžky' (mature cheese made of skimmed (non-fat) milk produced in Olomouc) or Jihočeská Niva (Blue cheese produced in Southern Bohemia).



## THE CZECH REPUBLIC

### Basic statistic data (2014)

The area of 78,867 km<sup>2</sup> = 7,887,000 ha

Population 10,538,275 (1. 1. 2015)

The share of agriculture in GDP – 3 %

The number of workers in agriculture, forestry and fisheries – 4 %

### Main indicators of the agrarian sector (2014)

Farmland (in '000 ha) – 4,264 – 54 % of the area

Arable land (in '000 ha) - 2,978 – 38 % of the area

Forests (in '000 ha) – 2,666 - 33.8 % of the area

Permanent grassland (in '000 ha) - 997

Hop gardens (in '000 ha) - 10

Vineyards (in '000 ha) - 20

Orchards (in '000 ha) - 20

The number of agricultural farms in the Czech Republic – 48,000 (2013)

The number of food processing companies in the Czech Republic – 9,188 (2013)

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