

# **STRUCTURAL CHANGE OF THE MAJOR FIELD CROPS IN THE AGRICULTURE OF THE SOUTHERN GREAT PLAIN**

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The most important natural resource of Hungary is the soil. Soil types, physical conditions, quality of the fields and topographic conditions are prosperous for agricultural production. About 80% of the territory of Hungary is arable land, which includes forests, reeds, fishponds and agricultural areas. Different production structures have developed in different parts of the country, depending on natural geography and cultural factors, which vary over time from region to region. During the research, I investigated how the production area and average yields of the four most important and highest production values crops in the Southern Great Plain have changed between 2000 and 2019. I used one-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) to determine whether the share of the cultivated areas of the studied field plants differs significantly in the main regions of the country. I also examined the trends in the share of wheat, rapeseed, sunflower, and corn acreage in the nationwide cultivated production areas. The databases of the Hungarian Central Statistical Office were used for the analysis. In the Southern Great Plain, the share of the four main field crops in the nationwide cultivated production areas do not show a significant change over time, so each field crop maintains its share in the examined 20-year period (2000-2019) and it is expected in the future as well. Applying the ANOVA and Tukey test, I found that only the sown area of wheat and sunflower by region did not show a significant difference. The distribution of land by cultivation branches has not changed markedly in the Southern Great Plain since 2000. The most significant change occurred in rapeseed harvested areas: it increased by 2.8 times in 2019 compared to 2000.