

Dear Members,

Please be informed about the following.

### Trade statistics The Netherlands 1st half 2023 (source MVO)

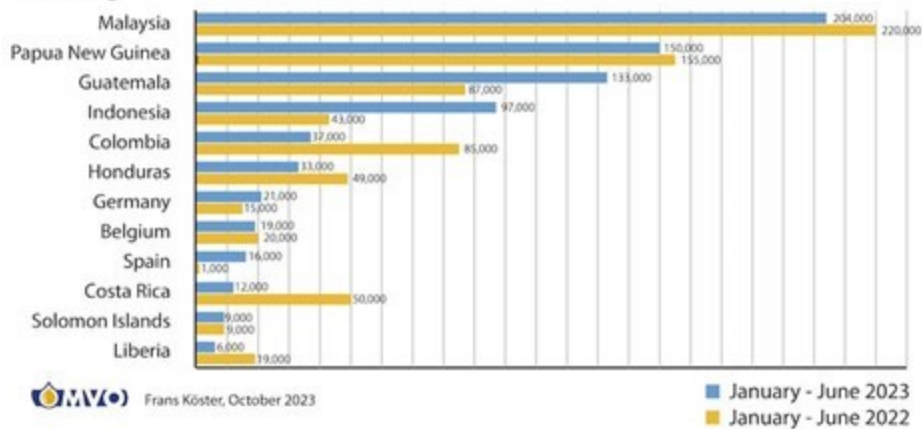
Official trade data from Eurostat is now available and is analysed and reported by MVO.

In the first half of 2023, Dutch imports of crude, refined and fractionated vegetable oils and fats fell slightly to 2.03 million tonnes (H1 2023), from 2.09 million tonnes (H1 2022). This year, over 800 thousand tonnes came from EU member states (mainly rapeseed and sunflower oil) and almost 1.2 million tonnes came from third countries (mainly palm oil, palm kernel oil and coconut oil). The value of these imports (€3.05 billion) was more than 20 percent lower than imports during the same period in 2022 (€2.39 billion).

Exports of these vegetable oils this year remained at the same level as the first half of 2022, 1.56 million tonnes. The main part thereof consisted of palm oil (438,000 tonnes), sunflower oil (377,000 tonnes), soybean oil (298,000 tonnes), rapeseed oil (264,000 tonnes) and coconut oil/palm kernel oil (128,000 tonnes) this year. 75 percent of these exports had an EU member state (mainly Germany and Belgium) as their destination. The remaining 25 percent was sold outside the EU (mainly UK). As with the import value, there was also a decline in the export value involved, from 2.32 billion to 2.17 billion euro. However, this 6.5 percent drop in value was considerably less than that of imports.

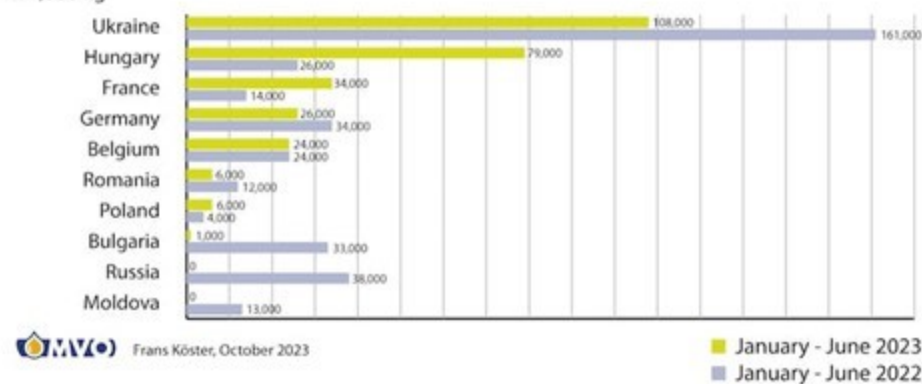
### NL imports palm oil H1 2023/2022: main suppliers

x 1,000 kg



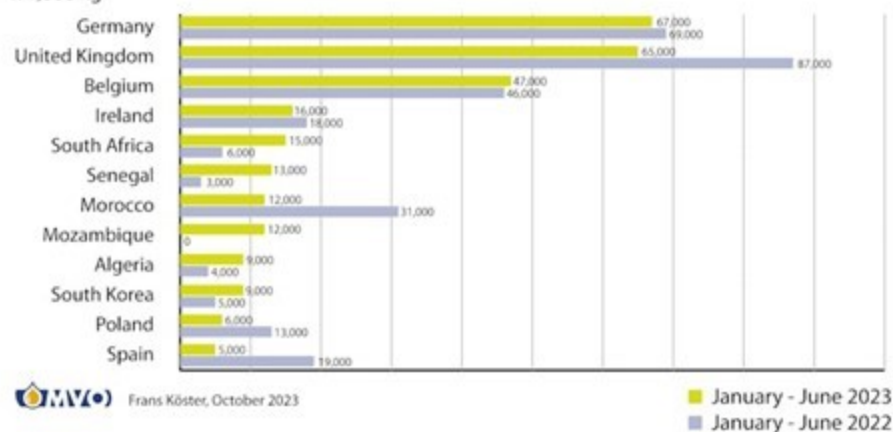
### NL imports sunflower oil H1 2023/2022: main suppliers

x 1,000 kg



### NL exports soybean oil H1 2023/2022: main destinations

x 1,000 kg



Last month, Eurostat released the data on the Dutch trade of **Used Cooking Oils (UCOs)** in the first half of 2023 (H1 2023).

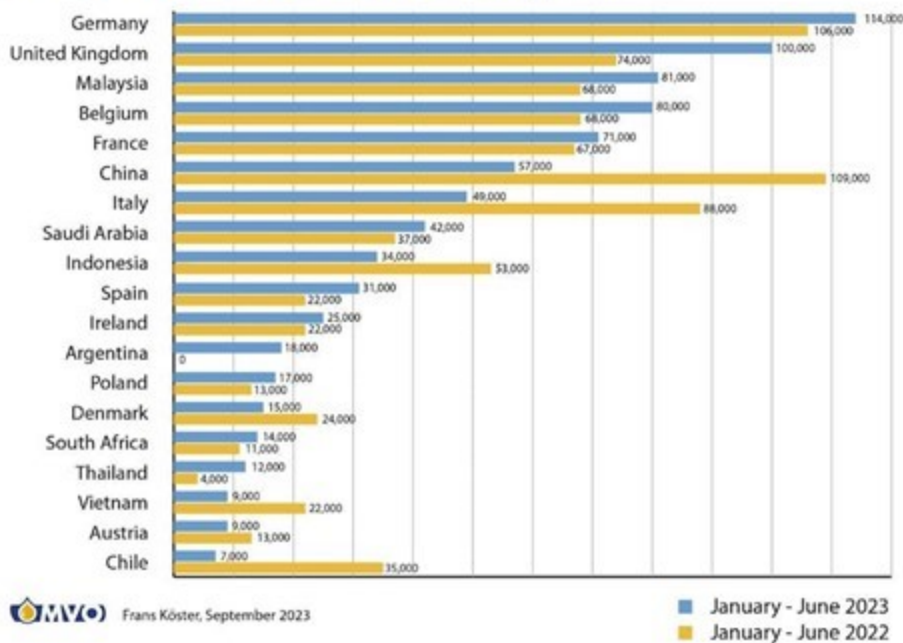
Dutch imports of UCOs<sup>1</sup> appear to be stabilising after a period of annual increases. With a total volume of 889,000 tonnes in the first half of 2023 (H1 2023), there is a three-percent decrease compared to the same period in 2022 (H1 2022) when the Netherlands imported 915,000 tonnes of UCOs. The trade value involved fell 12 percent in the first half of this year, from €1.1 billion to €958 million. The volume imported by the Netherlands from EU member states (448,000 tonnes) is almost equal to the amount imported by the Netherlands from third countries (441,000 tonnes).

Most notable is the halving of UCO imports from China, from 109,000 tonnes in the first half of 2022 to 57,000 tonnes in the same period this year. This made Germany the leading supplier of UCOs to the Dutch market with eight-percent growth compared to the first half of last year (114,000 tonnes versus 106,000 tonnes), followed by the United Kingdom (100,000 tonnes), Malaysia (81,000 tonnes), Belgium (80,000 tonnes) and France (71,000 tonnes).

In addition to the halved imports of UCOs from China, Dutch imports of UCOs from Italy (-39,000 tonnes), Chile (-28,000 tonnes), Indonesia (-19,000 tonnes) and Vietnam (-13,000 tonnes) also decreased (sharply) in the first half of this year compared to the same period in 2022.

The sharp decline in imports from these countries was mainly offset by increased imports from the United Kingdom (+26,000 tonnes), Argentina (+18,000 tonnes), Belgium (+12,000 tonnes), Spain (+9,000 tonnes) and Thailand (+8,000 tonnes).

### NL imports UCOs H1 2023/2022: main suppliers



Based on the free trade agreements between the EU and the UK, Vietnam, Chile and South Africa respectively, UCOs originating in these four partner countries are exempt from EU import duties. Imports from other third countries, such as Malaysia, China, Saudi Arabia, Thailand, Argentina and Indonesia, however, face an EU import duty. For UCOs that consists of inedible mixtures of animal, or of animal and vegetable fats/oils this duty is 2% (under CN code 1518.0095). For UCOs that consist of inedible mixtures of vegetable oils (no animal fats/oils) under CN 1518.0099, the regular EU import duty is 7.7%, but on 1 January 2023 the EU introduced an autonomous tariff suspension (2%, any origin, except for Russia and Belarus). This tariff suspension (which probably ends on 31 December 2023) is limited to the use in the production of biodiesel and subject to end-use customs supervision.

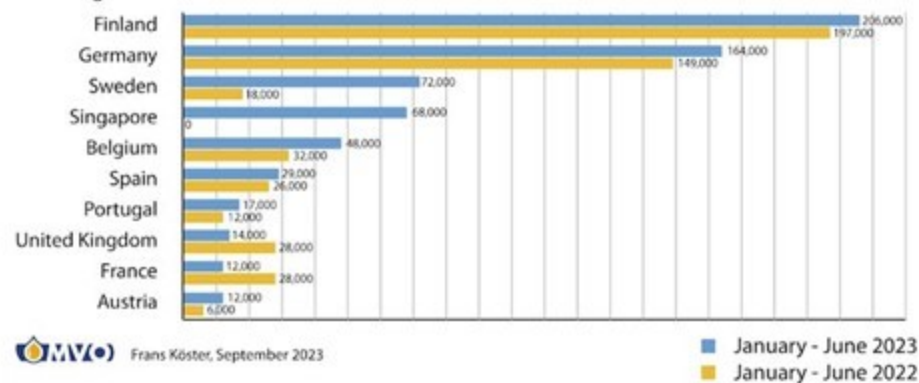
Total Dutch exports of UCOs increased by more than 25 percent in the first half of 2023 (H1 2023), from 532,000 tonnes to 668,000 tonnes. The trade value involved (€717 million in the first half of 2022 and €788 million in the same period in 2023) showed a more moderate increase of ten percent.

As in the past two years, Finland and Germany are by far the most important export destinations. Exports to Finland and Germany rose to 206,000 tonnes and 164,000 tonnes respectively in the first half of 2023, while 197,000 tonnes were exported to Finland and 149,000 tonnes to Germany in the same period of 2022. Other major export markets in the first half of 2023 were also mainly EU countries, in particular Sweden (72,000 tonnes), Belgium (48,000 tonnes) and Spain (29,000 tonnes). Exports to France, still accounting for 28,000 tonnes in the first half of 2022, fell to 12,000 tonnes in the first six months of this year.

Exceptional is the significant export to Singapore, which, with 68,000 tonnes in the first half of this year, was the fourth Dutch export destination for UCOs and largely explains the increase in total UCO exports. Exports to the United Kingdom, the only non-EU country besides Singapore to purchase significant volumes of UCOs from the Netherlands, halved in the first half of 2023, from 28,000 tonnes to 14,000 tonnes.

#### NL exports UCOs H1 2023/2022: main destinations

x 1,000 kg



## Seminar on Trading Rules

The training on NOFOTA Trading Rules was on Tuesday 26 September at the VNAB Building in the centre of Rotterdam.

Lectures were given by Arnold Hoek (Amica), Matthijs Lautenslager (Agrioil) and Dorine ten Brink (Ploum). The seminar was attended by about 70 members and non-members who worked in groups on case studies.

The next seminar on Trading Rules will be held in 2024.



## SAVE THE DATE: NOFOTA AGM and Dinner 18 April 2024

The Annual Dinner will take place on Thursday 18 April 2024 in the Laurenskerk in Rotterdam. Prior to the dinner the AGM as well as the AGM for arbitrators will be held in the afternoon in the Citizen M Hotel. Invitations will be sent to the members in January 2024.

## SAVE THE DATE: Workshop for arbitrators 6 February 2024

The workshop for arbitrators and candidate arbitrators will be held on 6 February 2024 in the VNAB Building in Rotterdam. More detailed information to follow.



## Non-business days 2024

The non-business days for 2024 are as follows:

1 January	New Years Day (Monday)
29 March	Good Friday (Friday)
1 April	Easter Monday
9 May	Ascension Day
20 May	Whit-Monday
24 December	Christmas Eve* (Tuesday)
25 December	Christmas Day (Wednesday)
26 December	Boxing Day (Thursday)
31 December	New Year's Eve* (Tuesday)

Dates with an \* indicate a half non-business day starting 12.00 hrs. noon.

The dates are also available on the website under [About us/non-business days](#).



## Events in 2023

9 November	FOSFA AGM & Annual Dinner	Hilton Hotel & Conference Centre, Geneva
23 November	GROFOR Annual Dinner	Grand Elysee, Hamburg
30 November	Royal Dutch Grain and Feed Trade Association (Het Comité) Annual Dinner	WTC Building, Rotterdam
6 December	FOSFA Oils & Fats Dinner	Tallow Chandlers Hall, London

If you would like us to send this Circular Letter to your colleagues, please inform us with their name and e-mail address. They will then receive our future correspondence. Please note that NOFOTA's communication goes through a mailing service. It is possible that mails end up in your SPAM mailbox. We therefore advise you to check this mailbox regularly.

Best regards,

Ron van Noord	Jan Aalberts
Secretary General	President



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