

~~Top Secret~~
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EASTERN EUROPE: Crop Prospects for 1982

With normal weather, the winter grain harvest in Eastern Europe could approach the record for 1978 of nearly 52 million tons. The area sown with winter grains last fall was larger than in recent years, and good snow cover through late February probably prevented any major winter damage. Winter grains generally account for half of total grain production in Eastern Europe. [REDACTED]

Comment: It is still too early to make a reliable estimate of regional grain output for 1982, because spring grains are only now being planted and yields will depend on weather conditions. Food supply problems in Poland and Romania make this crop season unusually important. Either country would have difficulty buying enough from traditional Western suppliers to compensate for a poor harvest, and, after three consecutive bad harvests, Moscow would be hard pressed to assist them this year. [REDACTED]

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Approved for Release

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