

Harvesting maize starts in North Eastern part Friesland

Ternaard – Due to the beautiful and dry weather of the last period the maize is ready to be harvested. Especially the maturity and the drought of the pit determine the date of harvest. The first fields to be harvested are the fields where maize is grown under film. In general this maize is developed further than regularly sown maize for 2 to 3 weeks.

High yields

Agricultural contractor Hoekstra from Hantumhuizen started harvesting 7 hectares of maize for farmer Jan de Graaf from Ternaard on Monday afternoon. According to De Graaf the yields are high, around 50 tons per hectare. “We measured the yields of one field and we are satisfied about it”, with 340 tons of maize the silo is completely full.

Materials

Hoekstra is harvesting the maize with a chopper, two tractors and silage wagons. At the farm a dozer is locating the maize into the silo. The same dozer will seal the silo with potato fiber for conservation purposes. The silo is then covered with plastic and during the winter it will be ready to be fed to the calves.

Damage due to tracks

According to the father in law of Jan de Graaf, Van der Wal, it is nearly impossible to find the tracks of the tractor and the chopper. “You don’t see where they drive and up to now this has been a very beautiful summer and autumn, but don’t be mistaken: I’ve seen other situations.” He means the weather in the upcoming week where rain has been forecasted. In case of rain damage of the field is significantly bigger.

Slipperiness

In case of less favorable weather conditions also the transport from the land to the farm can be a problem. Especially slippery roads are a danger for other users. Most agricultural contractors put signs along the roads while they are working and clean the roads after, but even then it is not without risk and car drivers should consider driving slower. Through this way of working accidents can be prevented.