
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF NATIONAL AGRICULTURE

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Abstract

Agriculture today is a strategic point of a country's economy, providing food based on population, development of internal and external trade and manufacturing industries by supplying raw materials. For Romania, this branch is a strong point both in terms climatic (temperate, balanced relief, soil quality) and at the same time is also a way of national development and convergence of rural areas to their full potential untapped. With strong reforms, well implemented, a specific legislative framework which aims to protecting private property, Romania could reduce the low efficiency and can have a sustainable agriculture. The paper aimed to present the advantages of consuming organic products, and, on the other hand, the advantages of a country in terms of organic farming. European agriculture is a competitive, market-oriented, but also protecting the environment model.

Key words: competitiveness, ecological consumption, sustainable development, Common Agricultural Policy

INTRODUCTION

Agricultural policy is a set of principles, means and methods of action by which the overall objectives of state for agriculture [7], is a component of the economic policy of the state and is a way by which the state intervenes in agriculture.

CAP is one of the first common policies of the European Union, also one of the most complex and expensive.

Need to establish a common agricultural policy is the fact that exports of agricultural products in the European Union are marginal compared to competitor countries, especially with the US, productivity was low and within countries there is an agricultural structure where there were many small farms and a large number of people who work in agriculture [12].

"Although there were large differences between Member States in terms of level of development and production systems have the advantage of complementarily agriculture, especially from France, which have surplus grain and Germany, poor food, Italy Mediterranean products have comparative advantages Belgium and the Netherlands had

livestock sectors benefiting from traffic and the port of Rotterdam, Luxembourg also have high demand for food" [15]

"The general terms of the CAP have been established by Article 39 of the Treaty of Rome in 1957, and CAP objectives were: improving agricultural productivity by promoting technical progress and by ensuring the development of agricultural production and the optimum utilization of factors of production in especially labor; ensuring a fair standard of living for the agricultural community, in particular by increasing the individual earnings in the agricultural sector; stabilize markets; ensuring a constant supply of food; ensuring supply to consumers at reasonable prices"[1] These objectives were designed to ensure food security, to reduce the output gap between countries, to reduce costs, increase farm productivity, respectively, to strengthen the role of agriculture [8].

MATERIALS AND METHODS

A critical approach of sustainable development of national agriculture was presented in this study based on the provisions of the new CAP reform for the period 2014-

2020 and opinions of other authors regarding the impact of the measures taken as the CAP objectives to be achieved.

Also, the expected impact of the new CAP reform implementation on the rural economy and space of the European Community was commented in a critical manner.

Competitiveness, deep market orientation and environment protection are the main objectives of the European agriculture.

Organic agriculture is approached as a niche for Romania's involvement and presence on the EU agro-food market.

In this context, the paper aimed to present the advantages of consuming organic products, and, on the other hand, the advantages of a country in terms of organic farming.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

The concept of Sustainable development and the new CAP reform

A new CAP reform will have ideas of innovation; enhance competitiveness in agriculture, while taking care of the environment, to combat climate change, to help farmers claiming employment. They say the two pillars, the direct payments and market measures and the second on rural development [6].

The Pillar 1 includes: ensuring food security for the 500 million Europeans while maintaining production capacity throughout the European Union; sustainable production that meets the highest standards of world food security, environmental protection and animal welfare; direct support to represent a complex pay for services they render to society farmers in rural areas (biodiversity preservation, rural landscape conservation, animal welfare). Direct payments under the first pillar, allowing farmers to supply, in addition to their agricultural activities and a range of public benefits, which the company, which currently are not paid by the market; greater market stability for farmers and consumers; maintaining or identifying new market intervention tools to act as a safety net in times of crisis and in order to maintain a competitive EU agriculture in relation to third

countries and in terms of price volatility; identifying a mechanism for Community financial risk management that can be used in deep crisis and be flexible enough to have rapid effects; employment and economic viability in rural areas: more than 30 million people work on farms and more than 40 million find a job within the food chain; simplify cross compliance standards.

Pillar 2 requires to encourage the development of rural non-agricultural economic activities, stimulate land consolidation; Member States are free to decide the distribution of resources between the two pillars of the CAP, support for training in rural areas; support for the development of agriculture and related activities for the development of entrepreneurship in rural areas; subsidiary increase in implementation and modification programs; Payment for scientific research and development of new technologies in agriculture and to mitigate climate change."

With this structure of direct payments and other measures, the CAP supports the farmers in the EU to enhance rural economy using qualitative and competitive agricultural production. This objective is supported because despite the fact that there are other methods for sustainability beyond agricultural rural area, yet in many parts of the farming community has key role.

Agriculture is considered by some economists "backbone of the nation" or "green oil of the nation", as it is an essential factor in both social stability and the maintenance of ecological balance."

To protect people from the negative effects of food "industrialized" and at the same time to protect the environment, you have to go to practice sustainable agriculture, but at the same time, this shift entails the farmers a higher level knowledge.

The concept of sustainable development has become an important point of discussion in terms of environment and development after the publication of the World Commission on Environment and Development (Brundtland Report) [10].

The concept of sustainable development has experienced over the years many definitions, in simple words, this sustainable development can be defined as the ability of a system to evolve, but without diminishing the attributes already accrued and future generations without compromising on meet the needs. It's actually a new approach to the relationship between man and nature to give a balance between them [5].

The environment has begun to bear many changes as man developed, began to civilize and needs diversified and began to improve technology [11]. Human interventions are most harmful to human agglomerations are as large as the human activities are more intense, occurred crisis of non-renewable resources due to deforestation, desertification, etc. "Pollution takes many forms: physical pollution (erosion, compaction, residue concentration); chemical pollution (excess fertilization and other chemical treatments); biological pollution (organic waste); noise; aesthetic pollution (damage to landscape)" [9] In order to have a healthy and natural food safety will be practicing organic agriculture, and this involves several operations: reducing chemical inputs can be excluded as the interventions on soil and recycling. Analysis of sustainable development is an approach to economic, social and ecological triad, the three systems are equally important.

Through its business activities, human resources influenced both by acquisition and through which returned the following processes. A greater concern to meet the needs inexhaustibility relying on resources, people has dropped at some point need to support nature to recover [13]. Experts consider that the system would be the most ecologically complex: ecological system may planetary effects, unlike taking place in certain economic boundaries; this system pre-existed the appearance of man on earth, even including human existence and the destruction of the ecological system destroys its own habitat; all other economic processes taking place within the ecological system because any activity is based on the natural resources of the system (in a proportion greater or lesser

direct or indirect); this system will depend on the evolution of man, if there are products contaminated or irrational exploitation. [3]

Clean Production is an approach about the environment, which is present in all stages of the production cycle and product life and the goal is to prevent risks to humans and the environment, this production is good for the environment and the prevention following companies pollution have several benefits: is realized some cost savings from eliminating wastage of raw materials and energy; improves the efficiency of the company; higher quality of goods produced; certain materials are recovered; to employees may change attitudes (people will need incentives to address the environmental protection in the absence of a commitment made by the management companies, other staff will contribute not expected).

There are certain measures or economic policy through which the state can reduce pollution, these include: pollution charges, the government may establish certain fees or fines for polluting firms, then it will amend its discharges of pollutants. Fines are a way of coercion and not necessarily stimulate the economy. Tradable permits, the state establishes a certain level of pollution for each license issued; subsidies, they take many forms, including grants, loans with a below-market interest rate.

Another policy adopted by the State to encourage a clean environment can be stimulating and privatizations [14]. In case of private property implementation of cleaner production strategies can be easier. Often, government subsidies for the industry boosts electricity or water, waste and so prices may encourage false prices that do not reflect the full cost of these resources [4].

Another aspect of the state could use to reduce pollution is to ask the industrial companies to disclose information on emissions, so in order to keep the image, firms may adopt certain measures.

Impact on Romania's agriculture development. Organic farming a niche for Romania.

In Romania there is not a high demand for organic products, but there is a tendency to ascend to the development of this branch of agriculture, so much of the production of organic products is exported. One of the factors that influence this may be the fact that in our country wages are lower than the EU average (organic products are usually more expensive). It is necessary for each of us to realize the benefits of this type of agriculture, primarily from a health perspective, but also protecting the environment, thus supporting the introduction of certain programs in schools information on this lifestyle, to inform children, but and adults about the need for clean production, thus supporting on the one hand, social welfare, but also spur the economy towards sustainable development.

The factor that in Romania recorded a low level of market demand organic products is that these products have a higher price, about 30% higher than processed products manufactured in the industry. This higher cost is because this production requires certain inspections and certificates approved by specialized bodies, on the other hand requires a long time to capitalize production. A decisive factor that depends on investment in Romania is the degree of taxation, people react to market stimuli, this was seen in 2005 when they dropped charges (to work more, invest more, and people consume more and - They investment risks assumed). This expansionary fiscal policy measure that is aimed at reducing taxes and duties may stimulate agricultural activity.

With the increase in taxes, purchasing power will decrease, so will be influenced primarily investors and citizens as consumers pay taxes when buying goods or services, and if these taxes are high, they will not buy as much (high price discourages consumption). At the same time an increase in taxes tends to increase government spending and the state proved a bad governor repeatedly.

The taxes have linked high unemployment rate, and if we look from the perspective of farmers, where incomes are low, a tax reduction could lead to greater beneficial occupancy. Thus one of the measures to be

taken to boost agricultural production is to reduce taxes.

Another variable that directly affect agricultural production is the minimum wage. In Romania this salary increased from 1 July to 900 RON. At first glance, we can say that this growth leads to poverty reduction and provide a decent living for those who receive minimum wage, but at a closer look we find that this is not just beneficial for those who are supposed to be helped (those working in agriculture, students and pupils).

If the salary is not the result of employee skills or following negotiations between employers and employees, other methods can be called coercive, thus raising the minimum wage labor supply and demand changes, investors will be less attracted to invest and employers will be forced to lay off or not to employ.

A salary required and can lead to higher inflation as an increase imposed and not one that resulted in increased productivity can lead to an increase in inflation. Another disadvantage of agriculture following the increase in the minimum wage would be that some less developed areas in terms of infrastructure or proximity to suppliers, the advantage of low wages, but it increased, reaching to become equal with other areas making them a disadvantage. Thus farmers who are willing to work for low wages, no longer be legally employed, such entrepreneurs will be put in a position to employ 'black' or not employ.

From 1 January 2014, the bill was initiated under the Treaty of Accession to the European Union to liberalize foreign land so that people can buy them, so contributing to economic growth because foreign investment would create new jobs work, the possibility of transfers of technology, and thus will stimulate trade and increase competitiveness will lead to a final consumer satisfaction higher.

With this opportunity can be a process of modernization of production factors in Romania regarding agriculture. Romania is attractive in terms of low wages and natural resources. Liberalization combined with lower

taxes and land taxes would be much better effects. Given that the demand for land purchase will be higher, the price may increase, and landlords will benefit so they can invest in other areas.

Subsidies for organic farming are a support coming from the Agricultural Guarantee Fund (EAGF) for animal and vegetable farms practicing a conversion to eco farming.

The question is now whether subsidies are good or bad in terms of agriculture. It can be argued that these sums of money allocated to agriculture assist them to support their production, to innovate, etc., but I think this is harmful because the final market, the product enters the market with a price that does not always reflect needs of the market, some losses or inefficiencies hidden subsidies. Since farmers are accustomed to certain expenses are covered by the state, they are not motivated to be performing. Another minus that we bring to market this aid is that it helps some productions over others, being encouragement discretion, only part of the population is engaged in this type of activity. In the rural economy dominates the high percentage of small farms producing mainly for own consumption, selling products on the market only sometimes obtained. The existence of a large number of small farms to large farms number reveals the structural imbalance that affects agriculture and its competitiveness.

Another problem facing Romania during this period, and not only is the degree of fragmentation of agricultural land (almost 91% of farms are small-sized sub 5ha) and the majority of holdings are held for own consumption. (On the other hand, this is also a factor that helped farmers in times of crisis to face the difficult period she went through Romania). This constrains the achievement of performance, and the Romanian state must take action by relevant agricultural policy, to help merging plotting to develop production capacity.

The division has several negative effects of these include: higher costs through additional consumption of material and time, bad farming systems for small portions of land

because it is not profitable to make large investments in equipment performance. This hampers lots and work of civil servants in determining subsidies because it is difficult to determine portions to be calculated because of these fragmentations, duplication land has a greater possibility.

Most of the agricultural land before 1990 that were collectivized, currently under the possession of several owners, they spreading on small areas, and most owners are old you do not cultivate the land, but not lease it for fear not to be fooled so are left to decay. For these uncultivated lands it was proposed a bill that could fine all owners, either as a farmer or without this quality. From my perspective, this totally violates property rights, not ethical action and thereby encourages maximal state coercive rights on the population.

A benefit brought by merging fields is the development of irrigation systems, and through this process reduce dependence on weather.

CONCLUSIONS

Romania has many deficiencies as regards its institutional system, taxation, bureaucracy and even the mentality of the population, there is still communist mark on the country's government, however, the country has potential in terms of resources, but these should be exploited given a sustainable development with care for future generations. Organic food industry should be promoted in our country because it has a positive impact on public health, this would lead to further promotion of the offer, and while the price of these products would be reduced and would be acceptable to all. With this policy of sustainable development and environment help to recover, but also has a positive impact on the economy of developing a new branch of agriculture, but to do this and education has an important role and should be supported educational programs aimed training people to a healthy diet.

Currently this production is expected to be carried out by SMEs as large corporations do not aim this diet; they usually rely on large

volumes of production at low prices. Because of this and the population is influenced to consume products "industrialized" cheaper, as mentioned above, information about health insurance and long term care for the environment is the key organic products. There is a chance this as production increases from year to year. Romania's agricultural potential, especially the new trend of organic products. The fact that this country is still underdeveloped compared to EU countries can be an advantage, it would be that you can make new things susceptible evolutionary growth potential, investments would be beneficial, and business is less developed may be attractive to new trends (countries in transition may have a higher economic growth than developed countries).

All these things would be possible if the state does not intervene in the system distortion but would come only to protect private property.

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