



PROSPECTIVE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE EFFICIENCY OF AGRICULTURAL SERVICE CENTERS

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ABSTRACT

The main goal of this study is to develop scientific provisions aimed at improving the quality and expanding the scope of agricultural advisory services, as well as practical recommendations and methods for assessing the effectiveness of the functioning of the regional agricultural advisory service. The subject of the research is the processes of formation, development and functioning of the system of agricultural consulting for agricultural producers.

KEYWORDS. *Innovation, development, regional agro-industrial complex, agroconsulting services, techno park, agricultural services.*

INTRODUCTION

The formation of a highly efficient, competitive and socially oriented domestic agro-industrial complex is possible only with targeted, systematic, painstaking work to increase the competitiveness of agricultural products based on the technical and technological modernization of production processes, improving the quality of the resource potential used in agriculture.

The fastest and most effective way to bring to the consumer the agricultural producer) new knowledge, skills and abilities of modern, rational, competitive and, therefore, profitable management is the work of business entities in close contact with agricultural consulting services.

The demand for Agro advisory services in the agro-industrial complex is due to the general low level of education of the rural population, the lack of an adequate number of qualified and highly qualified personnel capable of independently mastering modern technologies and various kinds of innovations, as well as extremely limited access to information resources in remote rural areas.

Assessing the level of functioning of Agro advisory services, it should be recognized that it does not fully meet the needs and modern tasks of a complex agro-industrial complex.

And agroconsulting centers, departments and services in the regions function without proper methodological and personnel support, clearly set conceptual tasks and priorities. The status of an agroconsultant has not been fully defined, a

mechanism for the development of paid services has not been developed, there are no price lists for information and consulting services for agricultural producers and the rural population, an organizational and economic mechanism for the interaction of services and centers of agricultural consulting with the state authorities of the agro-industrial complex has not been developed, there are no comprehensive methods for evaluating the effectiveness functioning of the information and consulting service. Such a situation with the development of agricultural services in the agricultural sector of the economy, of course, actualizes the choice of the topic of scientific research.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The methodological and theoretical basis of the scientific research was the fundamental provisions of modern economic theory, a systematic approach to the study of the studied socio-economic phenomena and processes in the national and foreign economy, the works of leading domestic and foreign economists, revealing the patterns of development of the consumer market. The work uses the provisions contained in the laws of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Decrees of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, other government and regulatory documents. The empirical basis of the study was the materials of foreign (American, German and English), national and local statistics published in the press. In the process of research, various methods and techniques of economic analysis were used, including



systemic and level approaches, ascent from the abstract to the concrete, the unity of the logical and historical, statistical groupings, economic and statistical calculations, comparisons and comparisons, economic and mathematical modeling. At different stages of work, depending on the nature of the tasks to be solved, program-target, sociological and expert methods were used.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In recent years, certain measures have been taken to improve the efficiency of research activities, the widespread introduction of advanced technologies and scientific achievements in agriculture, as well as the organization of services related to the dissemination of knowledge and the introduction of innovations in the agricultural sector.

As a result of the ongoing reforms in the field of science, new varieties of plants are consistently introduced into practice, corresponding to the soil and climatic conditions of the regions and providing the opportunity to produce export-oriented products, as well as resource-saving intensive agricultural technologies for caring for plants and growing products.

The state order for the cultivation of agricultural products has been canceled, market principles and new financing mechanisms have been introduced into the sphere. Modern forms of farming have been created, including clusters and cooperation, and measures are being taken to create a value chain by expanding the system of storage, processing and logistics of agricultural products.

Along with this, due to the lack of a systematic organization of strategic research and forecasting in the agro-industrial complex, the creation of an integral system for determining development priorities based on scientifically based conclusions based on an analysis of existing problems in the field and its industries has not been achieved.

As a result, there is a need to ensure the deep integration of education, science, innovation and production in agriculture, as well as the formation of links for the effective management of this system.

The concept of priority development of the system of knowledge and innovation in agriculture in 2021-2025 (hereinafter referred to as the Concept) serves to implement these tasks.

The main objectives of this Concept are aimed at further deepening the integration of education, science, innovation and production, the formation and application of new knowledge, the introduction of resource-saving innovative technologies, advanced achievements of foreign and domestic science, the training of specialists with modern knowledge and qualifications, as well as the development of a system for providing agricultural services and cover the following priority areas:

Improvement of the system of agricultural education aimed at the development of human capital in accordance with changes in the labor market conditions;

Further development of scientific and innovative activities of scientific institutions of the agro-industrial complex;

development of a network for the provision of agricultural services for entities involved in the production, storage and processing of agricultural products, operating on the basis of an information and consulting system.

As a result of ongoing reforms, Uzbekistan on the Global Hunger Index (GHI) in 2020 took 30th place among more than 100 countries, rising by 20 steps compared to 2017 (then it was ranked 50th).

Agriculture is an important sector of the Uzbek economy, accounting for approximately 28.5% of GDP. It employs about 4.2 million people, which is more than 30% of the total employment in the country. The main agricultural crops are cotton and grain, but the abolition of quotas and price controls in 2020-2021 is already actively contributing to the diversification of crops, a phased transition to the cultivation of other crops, fruits and vegetables.

Uzbekistan is pursuing dynamic reforms and transformation of the economy. Large-scale reforms are also underway in the agri-food sector, opening up significant new opportunities for further expansion and diversification of the agri-food sector. The important role of agriculture in the economy of Uzbekistan determines the important role of agricultural reforms in the economic success of the republic. Thus, Uzbekistan was one of three countries in the Europe and Central Asia (ECA) region that maintained positive economic growth in 2020 despite the pandemic.

The government expects that the ongoing reforms will increase the productivity of agriculture through the introduction of new technologies, including resource-saving ones, and further development of processing and packaging in order to increase the value of domestic and export products. It is planned to develop the country's textile sector and improve the value chain.

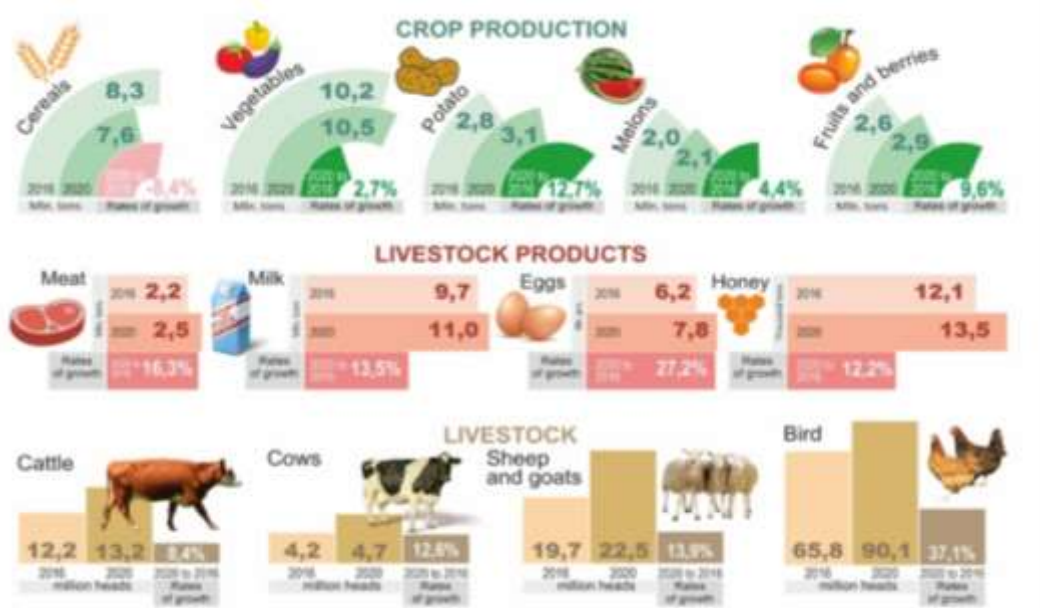
According to forecasts, due to the introduction of scientific and innovative ideas, the volume of production of fruits, vegetables, potatoes, legumes and oilseeds, meat by 16%, milk by 13%, eggs by 27%, fish by 2 times will increase annually by 6-8%, honey by 30%. The degree of processing of fruits and vegetables will be increased to 15%, meat from 9 to 15%, milk from 14 to 18%.

In accordance with the "Strategy for the Development of Agriculture of the Republic of Uzbekistan for 2020-2030", nine areas are priority.

1. Ensuring food security of the population. In a short period of time, the "malnutrition index" in Uzbekistan has dropped unprecedentedly from 15%

- to 2.4%, becoming one of the best results in the region.
2. Improving the agribusiness environment and creating value chains.
3. Decreased state participation in the industry and increased investment attractiveness.
4. Ensuring the rational use of natural resources and environmental protection.
5. Development of modern public administration systems.
6. Diversification of public spending to support the sector.
7. Development of the system of agricultural science, education, information and consulting services.
8. Development of rural territories.
9. Development of a transparent system of sectoral statistics.

To date, work is already underway to develop agricultural knowledge, services and innovations based on the new flexible modern AKIS system and the multifunctional centers created within its framework in all regions of the republic. In these extension centers, agricultural producers are already beginning to receive agricultural services, use mobile laboratories, and participate in educational events. And local and foreign producers of goods and services for agriculture get the opportunity to present their products first-hand, as well as advise their target audience. The AKIS infrastructure has demonstration and experimental fields where you can conduct research, test and demonstrate agricultural technologies, and much more. In 2022-2026, centers will be created in all regions and large districts, providing over 100 agricultural services.



Infographics 1. Reforms in the agricultural sector of Uzbekistan in 2017-2020

In continuation of the topic of education and development of scientific and expert potential, it should also be noted that new training formats are being introduced to improve the literacy of agricultural producers, including online, and the branches of the Tashkent State Agrarian Institute in the regions become separate institutions, expanding areas for training, theoretical and practical base.

Much attention is paid to the digitalization of agriculture, the widespread introduction of technologies for the rational use of water and land resources as part of the Smart Agriculture program, as well as through the provision of various benefits, subsidies and loans. For example, such a moisture-loving crop as rice, by 2026 will be grown on all repeated fields using the seedling method. Since this year, sprinkler and drip irrigation of this agricultural crop has been introduced as an experiment, machine planting of rice seedlings has been organized.

Much attention is also paid to the development of new and the return of lands that have come out of agricultural circulation, improving the quality of agricultural land, which is achieved mainly through the introduction of new technologies that are resource-saving and improve soil fertility and productivity. In general, by 2026 it is expected that agricultural land put into circulation will be about 900 thousand hectares, land with the introduction of water-saving technologies - 1.2 million hectares, including 445 thousand hectares of drip irrigation. In 2022-2026, the yield in cotton growing and the production of cereals will also be increased. At the same time, sown areas will be reduced, but their productivity will increase.

CONCLUSION

The conducted dissertation research clearly demonstrates a significant growth potential in the



number of consumers of agro services, which is determined by the uncertainty and complexity of the agribusiness environment. A feature of consulting activities in this case is close interaction, and not just the provision of one-time consulting services of an informational nature. This provision should be consistent with the desire of partner entrepreneurs to increase the competitiveness of agricultural products and agricultural consultant services.

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