

The Production Indices in Agriculture

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Abstract

This paper outlines the main evolution of Romanian agriculture in the recent period. Romania is holding an overall middle position in the European Union, if considering the outputs of agriculture branch, but a better position from the viewpoint of resources, which encourages future developments and favorable evolutions. The research is focused mainly on the analysis of agricultural production by types of culture, of animal breeding, and size of agricultural exploitations.

Key words: *agriculture, harvest, outcome, culture, breeding*

As well known, Romania is one of countries of the most pronounced agrarian profile from the European Union. Unfortunately, this character does not mean implicitly neither a corresponding contribution of the agriculture to the GDP forming, as already mentioned previously, nor a high level of efficiency as productivity level resulting both out of the comparison of this sector with other sectors of our economy and, mainly, with the yields for various cultures and animal species recorded by the other European countries. The same situation, if not even more underlined, is stated out when considering the yields for potatoes and rape, as well as for sun-flower, although the last one is not a significant culture for the other EU member states. Extremely significant are the statistics¹ regarding the agricultural potential of the greatest agricultural producers from the EU, among which Romania is placed as well, considered from the point of view of the place and weight held within the total EU, as cultivated surfaces and production.

¹ Anghel M.G. și alții (2012). *Production and Trade of Goods*, Revista Română de Statistică – Supliment

Thus, for wheat, Romania is holding the 4th place from the point of view of the cultivated surface, with a weight of 8% in total, accounting together with France, Germany and Poland, almost 50% of the total cultivated surface of the total EU. But as far as the wheat production is concerned, Romania is holding the 7th place only, by three places lower than in the case of the surface, respectively with a weight of 3.7% of the total production of wheat of the EU. Together with France, Germany, Great Britain, Poland, Italy and Denmark, the weight in the production counts for over 75%. The corn production is by far more interesting, as Romania holds as surface, the 1st place with a weight of over a quarter (27.4%) in the total surface cultivated by the EU member states. From the point of view of the corn production, we are holding the 2nd place only, after France, with 13.8%, whereof a gap as against the weight of over 50% in the cultivated surface. In 2013 and 2014, we record two different moments. In 2013 we achieved harvests, maybe the highest after 2000, while in 2014 the harvests have recorded low levels, due to the “meteo” factor.

Animal effectives recorded by certain EU states, in 2013
- thousand heads -

Country	Bovines	Porcines	Sheeps + Goats
Romania	2479.0	5439.0	9375.0
Austria	2026.3	3137.0	412.9
Belgium	2538.3	6207.6	-
Bulgaria	547.9	729.8	1761.1
Czech Republic	1355.6	1913.7	199.8
Denmark	1621.0	12873.0	-
France	19199.3	14552.0	8846.2
Germany	12897.2	26604.4	2071.7
Greece	675.0	1073.0	13795.0
Ireland	5934.7	1604.6	3430.7
Italy	6446.7	9157.1	8973.6
Holland	3998.0	12108.0	1506.0
Poland	5590.2	14252.5	342.8
Portugal	1396.1	2332.6	3385.1
Great Britain	9984.0	4610.0	21033.0
Spain	6000.9	25286.8	22475.5
Sweden	1482.0	1615.8	540.5
Hungary	700.0	3247.0	1026.0

Data source: Eurostat, processed with current data regarding Romania, for 2013

A similar situation is stated out in respect of the animal effectives. Contrary to the situation in the past, when Romania counted among the first countries from Europe from the point of view of the effectives of bovines, porcine, ovine and goats, presently, with its 2 million five hundred thousand bovine heads, Romania is slightly outrun by Belgium and in a significant manner, by France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Spain, Ireland, Poland and Holland.

As to the porcine effectives, Romania is holding the 9th place only, after Germany, Spain and France.

We manage to maintain ourselves on the 4th position of the top for ovine and goats only, after Spain, Great Britain and Greece.

The evolution of the agricultural branch in 2014 comparatively with 2013, is showing a slight increase, as a result of the increase of the same value recorded by the vegetal production, a little lower increase of the animal production and an increase of 2.7% of the agricultural services which, however, are not holding a significant weight.

The weight of the vegetal production in 2014, counting for 53.5%, is noticeably lower than the average of the years 2006 – 2011. The fact that the weight of the animal production is however low, as comparatively with the potential of our country in this respect, has to be emphasized.

On the other hand, splitting the land into small parcels and lack of any crop rotation whatsoever, lack of a proper quality seed as a general feature, are the factors counting as determinants for both the poor crops and their poor quality.

Out of the approximately 4 million of exploitations (4.3 million in 2005 and 3.87 million in 2013), over 98% are representing exploitations characterized, according to the EU standards, as small and very small.

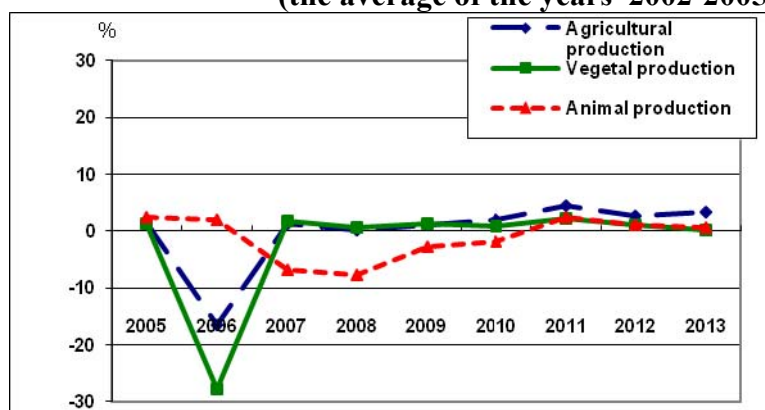
They are utilizing, as ownership or other forms, over 60% of the agricultural surface of the country, with a production estimated as average per exploitation to less than 8 ESU.

For those who, maybe, are not familiar with, we recall that ESU represents a unit of stable economic size at European level, through a relatively complex process of estimating the value of different agricultural products (both vegetal and animal), namely an ESU equals to 1200 euro.

Counting for a very low number, of 0.1% only, the large agricultural exploitations of over 40 ESU per unit, generally agricultural exploitations

with legal personality, are holding and utilizing over a quarter of the agricultural surface.

**The evolution of the agricultural branch production until June 2013
(the average of the years 2002-2005 = 100)**



Data source: Statistical researches

*) Provisional data MADR

The average economic size of an agricultural exploitation in Romania levels up to approximate 1 ESU which, from this point of view, is placing us behind all the other member states, this implying also the structure resulting out of grouping the agricultural exploitations in accordance with their size (see the following tables).

The typology of the Romanian agricultural exploitation shows the number of the agricultural exploitations specialized for field cultures and mixed cultures is prevailing, as they are amounting 36-37% in the frame of the generic term of the vegetal production, as well as the 40% specialized in the animal breeding.

Another feature of the Romanian agricultural exploitations is given by carrying on combined activities of vegetal culture and animal breeding, their weight counting for about 20%.

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