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Research Article

DIRECTIONS OF DEVELOPMENT OF FRUIT AND VEGETABLE CLUSTERS IN UZBEKISTAN

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Uzganbayeva Dilnoza To'Xtasinovna
Assistant At The Department Of Economics Fergana Polytechnic Institute, Uzbekistan

ABSTRACT

This article discusses the development of fruit and vegetable clusters in the Republic of Uzbekistan. The author in his study points out the relevance of the problems associated with the development and implementation of fruit and vegetable clusters in different regions of the country. As part of the study, the author studied the experience of introducing fruit and vegetable clusters and the conditions for their improvement. The relevance of the research topic comes from its significance at the present time. In the course of the study, an analysis was carried out and recommendations were given for the effective use of the relevant clusters in the agriculture of Uzbekistan.

KEYWORDS

Agriculture, fruit and vegetable clusters, fruits, vegetables, infrastructure, agro-logistics centers.

INTRODUCTION

Nowadays in our country more and more attention is paid to the development of fruit and vegetable clusters. This is predetermined by the fact that this system and its implementation in agriculture shows its effectiveness.

As part of our research, we would like to consider priority areas for the introduction and development of fruit and vegetable clusters.

The question arises - why it is fruit and vegetable clusters and the answer - because Uzbekistan has great potential for the development of this sphere, taking

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into account the geographical location and natural and climatic conditions.

In the process of agricultural development in our country, priority is given to the cluster system. In cotton-textile, cereal, fruit and vegetable and viticulture clusters, qualitative and quantitative indicators of production are steadily increasing.

Clusters are also organized in the horticultural sector of agriculture. However, the results of their work have not yet matched the potential. Thus, it is estimated that the industry is able to export products worth 5 billion dollars, now the figure is 1.2 billion dollars. In particular, fruit and vegetable clusters in the Asaki, Angor, Denau, Jambai, Samarkand, Altyaryk, Kuvinsky, Yukorichirik and Yangikurgan districts are currently successfully exporting products worth 20-25 million dollars.

The specialists analyzed the existing opportunities and problems in the sphere, discussed measures to increase the yield and employment of the population.

It should be noted that in the past, for example, only raw materials were sold in cotton production. In the best-rated years, the revenue was about $1 billion. And now, processing cotton in our country will reach the target of 3 billion dollars. And this is only the indicator of export. And how many more jobs, sources for income and taxes have been created. If you organize your work correctly, this result can be achieved in horticulture. The Head of State has repeatedly stated that there are many opportunities for this.

At present, it is planned to introduce a new system of development of fruit and vegetable clusters, dekhkan and auxiliary farms, their financing, as well as expansion of the provision of agricultural services.

ANALYSIS OF USED LITERATURE

Intensification of production is an important element of the mechanism of effective development of the vegetable cluster. The need to use intensive production factors in fruit production is widely discussed in the scientific literature. For example, such Russian scientists as E. P. Akimova, E. A. Egorov, I. M. Kulikov, A.A Sushkov etc. indicate the innovation of this process, the use of new scientific and technological developments. [2, 3, 4, 5]. A. M. Magomedov stresses the need to create a set of additional measures of state support for the further development of horticulture in our country, including perennial plantations with the use of intensive technologies. However, Magomedov's study states that " a new concept of intensive garden in this field of fruit vegetables should be introduced and used. Magomedov A. in his research notes the need to introduce on the basis of enterprises with high efficiency clusters of auxiliary services, which will provide services for the construction of nurseries, have their own equipment park, refrigeration warehouse,

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drying equipment, product grading and packaging. [6] Domestic authors such as S.Eshankulov and H.Urbiba note that it is necessary to approach the process strategically and involve innovative technologies in the agro-industrial formations of the country. [7]

ANALYSIS AND RESULTS

In modern times, every State is striving to increase exports of domestic products, and Uzbekistan is no exception.

On the part of the Uzbek Government and the President, comprehensive measures are being taken to expand exports, including fruit and vegetable products.

In order to meet the demand of our population for fruit and vegetable products, according to forecasts by experts in this area, about 80 per cent of the total volume of fruit and vegetable production in the Republic is enough, and the remainder is processed for industrial purposes (14 per cent) and exported (3%) and seed targets (3%).

Thanks to the comprehensive support of fruit and vegetable producers and exporters, the export of fruits and vegetables, both fresh and processed, is increasing every year.

It should be noted that the importing countries of our products highly appreciate its quality characteristics.

On October 17, 2018, the President of Uzbekistan granted the right to export products without advance payment, opening a letter of credit, issuing a bank guarantee and having an export contract insurance policy against political and commercial risks.

At the same time, exporters who have not received export revenues in a timely manner will be entered into the register of unscrupulous exporters and will be subject to 100 per cent prepayment requirements when exporting fruit and vegetables.

Second and third place was also for dried fruits: prunes and kuraga were among the top three products that Uzbekistan supplied to CIS shits on the volume of sales.

If we analyze the fruits for which the most dramatic increase in supplies is observed, it is worth noting, first of all, fresh apricot. Its export from Uzbekistan to the CIS market increased almost 14 times to 168 tons or 240 thousand dollars.

It is also noteworthy that Uzbek producers, as exporters of horticultural products with the support of the Government and the President, are expanding their export geography.

Since June this year, fresh fruit from Uzbekistan has been delivered to the Indian market. Cherry and apricots were sold in beautifully designed boxes with the inscription «Natural Fruits From Uzbekistan» in Delhi wholesale centers.

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Dekhkan (personal auxiliary) farms account for 56.9% of the total production and farms - 40%. The smallest amount was observed in organizations carrying out agricultural activities - 3.1% of total production.

Horticultural enterprises differ significantly in their tasks, conditions, size of production, level of specialization and intensity, combination and management of industries achieved by economic indicators. Despite the great diversity can be distinguished four of the most promising types of specialized enterprises: fruit, fruit and berry, fruit and canned, fruit and nursery.

The main difference between Uzbek fresh fruits and dried fruits, unlike similar products from other countries, are their quality characteristics, that is, taste. The foreign consumer, having tried at least once Uzbek fruits, will not buy other fruits, which is firmly convinced by business representatives from the importing states.

In our view, our producers should pay attention when growing horticultural products to the use of harmless fertilizers, as the trend in recent decades is increasing the use of pesticides in agriculture. The analysis of the industry shows the following results. Since 1 March 2022, horticultural clusters (cooperatives) and farms with an export contract are reimbursed 50% of the insurance premium paid when using the fruit and vegetable crop risk insurance service, but not more than 1% of the insurance amount. The insurance amount should not be less than 70% of the value of the crop insured against risk. Clusters and cooperatives will be able to receive 50% compensation for the cost of attracting qualified agronomists, entomologists, laboratory specialists from abroad, but not more than $ 1000 per month. In this case, clusters are recommended to conduct training seminars on the creation of gardens and vineyards, growing vegetables, potatoes, melons, pulses and oilseeds for producers of products fixed to them.

It should be noted that in a number of ministries, including the Ministry of Economy and Finance, the Ministry of Investment, Industry and Trade, The Ministry of Energy and others were instructed by the end of 2022 to raise loan funds of the Asian Development Bank in the amount of up to $100 million for the construction of external engineering networks (electricity, natural gas, drinking water and sewerage network, roads)necessary for fruit and vegetable clusters (cooperatives), processing enterprises and agrologistic centres, and repair of existing ones. This will have positive results for the development of the horticultural sphere.

At present, the Agency for the Development of Horticulture and Greenhouse Economy at the Ministry of Agriculture has been entrusted with solving the problems of fruit and vegetable growing clusters. In the regions of Uzbekistan, the Agency's departments

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and project offices will be established to assist clusters and cooperatives that grow, store and process vegetables, potatoes, flowers, melons, greenery and medicinal plants, and the creation of a value chain based on the principle of «field to counter». At the same time, the Agency's structures are allowed to provide natural and legal persons with paid services in the field of agriculture on a contractual basis.

On the positive side, in December 2020, the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic signed an agreement with the French company Rungis Sammaris («Rangis Sammaris») to create eight large agro-logistic centers in Uzbekistan. They were to be built on the outskirts of major cities. The total area will be about 200 hectares with a total capacity of more than 3 million tons of agricultural products per year. The largest agrologistic center, Tashkent, will occupy an area of 70-100 hectares, the most compact, Khorezm, - 10 hectares.

Within each individual agrologistic center it is planned to concentrate all necessary facilities: cross-docks, trade pavilions, hotels, representative offices of banks, trade enterprises and agricultural companies. In addition, sorting, calibration, drying, processing, storage, transportation, delivery, customs clearance, quarantine, food safety certification, marketing consultations of specialists and others are planned.

According to statistics, more than 20 million tons of fruits and vegetables were collected in Uzbekistan in 2021, and about 1.5 million tons of fruit and vegetable products were exported to 65 countries. According to authorities, the fruit and vegetable industry is able to export $5 billion, but so far this figure is only $1.2 billion.

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

In conclusion, there are several factors that determine the high efficiency of fruit and vegetable production in our research work. The innovation pathway, which is an important way to improve the efficiency of fruit and vegetable production, is of great importance in intensifying quality. This direction is realized not only on the basis of quantitative growth of resources in horticulture, but, above all, on the basis of their rational use. The intensification of the horticultural sector ensures efficient functioning of material, labor and financial resources, faster growth of production of horticultural products than growth of cost. The main directions of intensification of the fruit and vegetable industry are: creation of new high-yield intensive horticultural areas; further improvement of the composition of the seedlings is a topical issue. Intensive gardens based on high-yielding horticultural plantations are the main areas of intensification in this area. Significant minimization of economic losses of commodity producers due to increase of efficiency of production of fruits allows to solve issues of material and financial support, to carry out scientific and information support, Regulate the flow of fruit products to the domestic and world markets.

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