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NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL POLICY FOR ORGANIC FARMING

POLITICI AGRICOLE NAȚIONALE PENTRU AGRICULTURA ECOLOGICĂ

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Abstract: *Organic agriculture is the base of the Romanian rural economy, the sector has seen dynamic growth in recent years. Thus, in 2009, total area cultivated by the way of environmental protection was of 240,000 ha, representing an increase of 68% compared to 2006. For 2010, the area cultivated by organic production is approx. 260,000 ha. This development is based on growth and arable surface area for the collection of spontaneous flora.*

Key words: *agriculture, policy,organic, farm*

INTRODUCTION

National agriculture is an important branch of the Romanian economy. The contribution of agriculture, forestry, fisheries in gross domestic product stands at around 6% of GDP and the EU Member States stands at about 1.7%.

This study aims to analyze the role of agriculture in the economy, with reference to the way is used agricultural and arable areas, the situation of agricultural holdings , with reference to the number of agricultural enterprises.

Statistical data refer to the period 2007-2009 which accounted for Romanian agriculture a transition period, but also with some recent figures with operative character from the first semester of 2010.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Marketing of organic products is performed by traders registered with MADR, using various channels to market: sales of the company gate, wholesale sales in stores, sales in shops, online sales through stock organic products, sales by market seasonal.

In order to promote organic products, the European Commission supports up to 50% of information and promotion offered by professional organizations / branch, representative national or community sector, involving at least 20% of the real cost of, financing is provided from the state budget.

Among the policies and programs that have the effect of sustainable development and improving environmental quality can be mentioned:

- National program for renewal of tractors and agricultural machines autopropelled;
- The project "Irrigation Rehabilitation and Reform";
- Research projects funded by the World Bank;
- Implementation of law package "energy-climate". National Action Plan on Renewable Energy (PNAER);
- National Strategy for t reducing the drough effects , prevention and combating land degradation and desertification for the short, medium and long term;
- Strategic elements and fertilizers in agriculture regime;
- Programs on exploitation and soil conservation;
- Programs to promote and support organic farming systems;
- National strategy for drought mitigation, prevention and combating land degradation and desertification in the short, medium and long term;
- Soil and crop management;
- Promotion of energy crops to produce biofuels in non-alimentary, bioliquids and biomass for fuel and electricity.

RESULTS AND DISCUTIONS

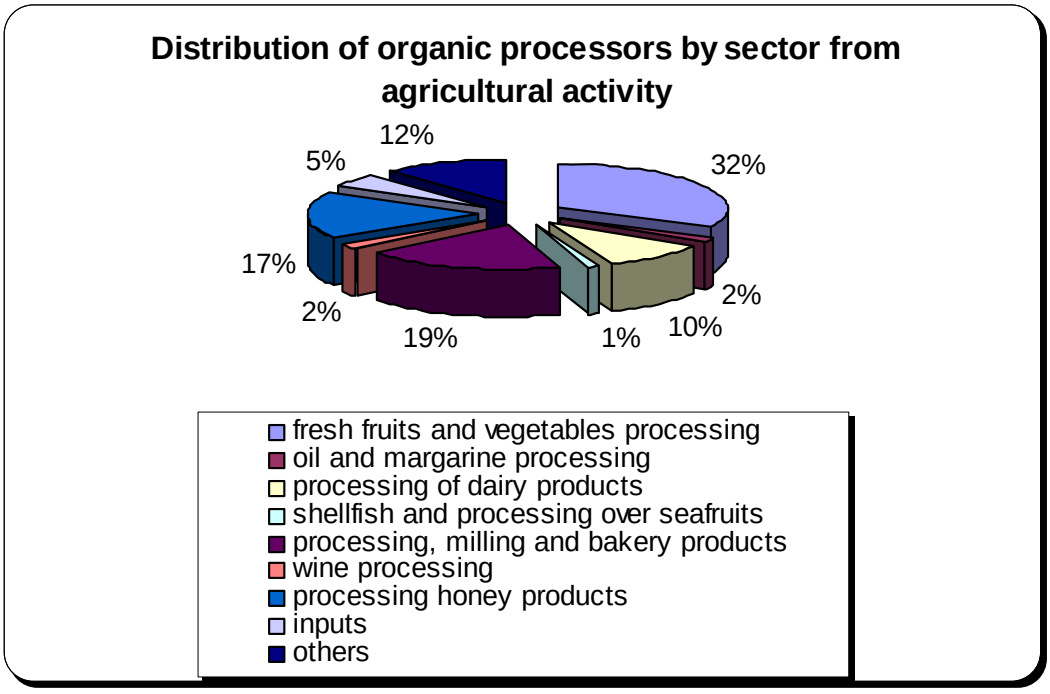
Operators and surface dynamics in organic farming

Indicator	**2006**	**2007**	**2008**	**2009**	**2010**
Number of registered organic operators	3.409	3.834	4.191	3.328	3.155
Of which: number of processors	39	48	85	74	75
Total area certified in organic farming (hectares)	143.194	190.129	221.411	240.000	260.000
The share of total surface surfaces certificate in agriculture (%)	1	1	1,5	1,7	1,86
Surface certified in organic farming on arable land (hectares)	45.605	65.112	86.454	127.199	148.034
Certified organic farming area with permanent crops (ha) pastures and meadows	51.200	57.600	46.007	23.670	31.579
Certified organic farming area with permanent crops (ha) vineyard and orchards	294	954	1518	1590	3.093
Collection of spontaneous flora	38.700	58.728	81.279	82.871	77.294
Other surfaces certified organic agriculture (ha)	7.395	7.735	6.154	4.670	-

In 2010, the national market to offer a wide range of organic products, of which we mention: fresh fruit and vegetables, herbal teas, bread, pasta, pastry and confectionery, flour and cereal flakes, sunflower oil sun and soy, wine from organic grapes, honey and products, eggs and processed products:

- Cow and sheep milk (cheese, swaitzer, butter, cream cheese)
- Rice, soy, hemp seed (sandwiches, tofu, pate, hemp oil, etc..) pork, beef and snails (sausage, bacon, drums, pate, liverwurst, etc..)
- Fruit and vegetables (juices, jams, syrups, etc..).

The analysis of registered organic processors MARD in 2010 shows that 18% of processors dealing with fresh fruits and vegetables segment, 16% milling, bakery and pastries, honey products 17%, 10% of milk products, 6% other, 2% wine, oil and margarine and 1% heliciculture.



In the year 2010 there were about 136,000 tons for intra-Community trade of organic products with a value of approx. 103 million euros, representing an increase of approx. 22% compared to 2007.

The main products on the Community market were: oil and protein, grains, fruits and mushrooms depădure, dairy products, honey and derivatives, sunflower oil. Romanian ecological products were marketed in Germany, Italy, Greece, France, Switzerland and the Netherlands.

CONCLUSIONS

The findings of this study were structured in three sections that emphasize both what current status of Romanian agriculture, as well as national policies to be followed in this sector of the economy:

1. **Models of agriculture in Romania**

- *agroindustrial model - of large farms, agriculture adapted to the market and relative performance of the technically*
- middle agriculture - the European model of agriculture, the middle family farm;
- subsistence agriculture - many micro farms that produce for own consumption;
- farmers – a large proportion of older people are owning the majority of land;

An important part of the agricultural economy is done on land owned by individuals.

Romanian rural economy has as predominant feature a large percentage of small farms that produce mainly for own consumption, trading on the market only few remaining products.

The existence of a large number of small farms together with large farms reveals structural imbalance affecting agriculture in our country and its competitiveness.

2. **Relevant elements that have significant effects on the economy of agriculture and also on the environment**

- Degree of fragmentation of agricultural land,
- the active population working in agriculture is getting old
- The existence of a large number of small farms with outdated technology and reduced competitiveness,
- The existence of about 3 million hectare of uncultivated land,
- Lack of working capital for farmers,
- Difficulties of access to bank loans,
- Direct effects of climate change.

3. **Priority actions:**

- Stimulation of merging land
- Encouraging the development of non-agricultural activities in rural rurual,
- Promoting sustainable farming systems,
- Adaptation / mitigation,
- Helping to increase the competitiveness of agriculture (farmers),
- Simplifying the mechanisms for accessing funds.

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