SUBSIDIES AND INSURANCE FOR ENERGETIC WILLOW PLANTATIONS

SUBVENTIONAREA SI ASIGURAREA PLANTATIILOR DE SALCIE ENERGETICA

OANA MARIA MURG[1]

[1]Banat's University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine Timişoara, Agricultural Management Faculty, Timişoara, Romania; oana.murg@yahoo.com

Abstract : *One of the most actual problems of our era represents the accelerated disappearance of the classic energy resources, also the extremely high pollution of nature, determined by its burning. Swedish researchers turned their attention to forestry products, seeking replacements for fossil energy carriers.*

Key words: *reimbursement, subvention, grant, plantation, policies.*

INTRODUCTION

Payments and Intervention Agency for Agriculture - APIA informed about the requests for state aid in agriculture on the payment of insurance premiums. State aid refers to insurance policies concluded with insurance-reinsurance companies, paid for crops established in spring 2011 (orchards, fruit trees, hops and vineyards - with the exception of wine grape varieties supported as OMADR no. 756/2008).

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The authors of the research used the following methods: data identification and collection, data process and analysis, data observation and interpretation.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

According to GD. 756/2010, as amended and supplemented, State aid reimbursement shall be paid as a percentage share of the cost of insurance premiums paid by farmers, as follows: 70% for policies that provide cover losses caused by adverse climatic events which can be assimilated to natural disasters; 50% for policies that provide cover losses

caused by adverse climatic events which can be assimilated to natural disasters and other losses caused by adverse weather and/or losses caused by animal or plant diseases or pest infestations.

State aid beneficiaries are SMEs that operate in primary agricultural production, defined as L 346/2004 on stimulating the establishment and development of small and medium, with subsequent amendments and in accordance with Regulation (EC) no. 800/2008 of the Commission, from August 6, 2008.

Applications shall be submitted accompanied by: centralized inssurance polices; show active account in treasury; sworn statement on beneficiary classification in one of the categories: micro or small or medium enterprise; certificate containing registration number in the Trade Registry and registration code assigned by the Ministry of Finance; concluded insurance policies for crops, payment documents related to insurance premiums; document showing that the object of activity is agricultural land; copy of the application of the single payment area that year, recorded at APIA, resulting structure of crop.

Energetic willow plantations is an investment not quite cheap, but from the second year, the money invested is recovered quickly. It is important to mention that in EU countries are different varieties of energetic willow are subsidied crops. Grants may be of various kinds (eg 50% of the costs of establishing the plantation, annual grants, subsidies, mixed etc.) In 2008, energetic willow culture in Romania entered the grant program.

A case study shows that: the cost of establishing a ha of plantation: aprox. 1650-1800 eur; from the second year, costs are minimal: aprox. 300 eur/ha/year; the price of the chopped willow is aprox. 40 eur/t (at a relative humidity of aprox. 30%) and therefore, for a yield of 30 tons/ha the income is aprox. 1.200 eur; net income as realized (ca.1000-1200 eur/ha/year) is comparable to income from other crops, and it may last for 25 -30 years with no provision for special works.

Terms of subsidizing this business: Grant conditions are clearly outlined in EU countries, and apply a standard method; Producers need to show ownership of agricultural land or a long term lease; Producers must also demonstrate that they have used cuttings of registered varieties and licensed nurseries; Producersers need to show a contract with a user - directly from biomass energy production, or produces products that serve

this purpose (briquettes, pellets); Contractor (purchaser) must also demonstrate that it has ways that transform biomass into energy (area boiler, power plant) or products that serve this purpose (briquetting lines, or lines of pellet); The purchaser pays a bond for each hectare of plantation in the contract (amount differs between countries, the values between 15-40 Euro/ha) bond that can recover when he takes the contracted crop.

Grant for the production of pellets and briquettes. The eafrd measure 312, is eligible for grant of 70% of the total project in the amount of 200.000 eur for the purchase of a technological line for manufacturing pellets or briquettes.

Apdrp proposed schedule for meetings for the year 2011, session of receipt of applications under measure 312 will run from may 2 to 31, 2011.

Briquettes and pellets are solid, with low moisture content, obtained from wood waste remaining after processing (sawdust, wood chips or bark), waste that is shredded and dried and briquetted with a special press. The main difference is the size of the briquette and pellet products, pellets are smaller.

In recent years the demand for such products, not only in industry but also among individuals increased. Because Casa Verde program, many families will implement heating systems based on pellets. Briquettes and pellets replace perfectly firewood, obtained in all the places that got burning places of firewood in wood boilers, wood stoves, tiled stoves, or fireplaces.

Some advantages of heating with briquettes/pellet: Low price: up to 60% lower than the price of oil products and at least 40% lower than the price of electricity; Increased efficiency: have a much higher calorific value than regular firewood, sawdust briquette ton is equivalent to about 3 tons of firewood, Comfortable maintenance: based on pellet boilers fed automatically from a tank, so should be fed only at a few days, Saving space: a ton of briquettes can be stored in a space of about 1.2 cubic meters, that is 7-8 times less than one ton of ordinary firewood; Protecting the environment: from burning results a small amount of CO_2 and a small amount of ash (1.5% compared to up to 40% for wood)

Production of briquettes or pellets can be a very profitable business, especially when obtaining a grant to purchase production equipment, including at least one cutter, drying line, briquetting press. Also, the manufacturing unit should be located in a rural area with easy access to raw

materials - or near forests (for raw materials branches and dry wood) or near furniture factory and / or sawmills (sawdust for raw materials). To obtain a maximum score grant application, applicants must be micro start-ups, the sole person under the age of 40 years or sole woman (all ages), located in rural areas and the project must establish a direct productive employment for every 25,000 Euro grant requested. NACE code mainly for the production of briquettes and pellets should be: 1629 - Manufacture of wood, manufacture of articles of cork, straw and plaiting materials.

CONCLUSIONS

Now, after a market study can say that no society recognizes culture of energetic willow as a crop, the only company that would insurre the crop is Grupama, but do not provide risk information specified in the act from Apia.

Culture does not need to be provided for basic risks such as frost, flood, drought, it is drought resistant and it can only affect in way of lower production but not by destroying the culture. Risks would be interesting to insure the willow for are pest and disease attacks including damage from wild animals, and these are not to risks that insurance companies insure.

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