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RURAL AREA-DEFINITIONS AND CHARACTERISTICS

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Abstract: *The purpose of this article is to emphasize specific aspects related to the notion of rural area. Rural represents a field in which, until now, a unanimously accepted definition has not been reached, although the multiple concepts and definitions given by specialists refer to the same physical (geographic) space. The rural space is not a homogeneous whole, but it is not an abstract space either. Rural area - is the expression of man's long-term effort to put the physical-geographical components of space, of nature, at his service. It is a space that man shaped over time, according to his needs, that he created through his work and filled it with his creations of an anthropic nature, thus being a true "rustic masterpiece" of man.*

• Introduction

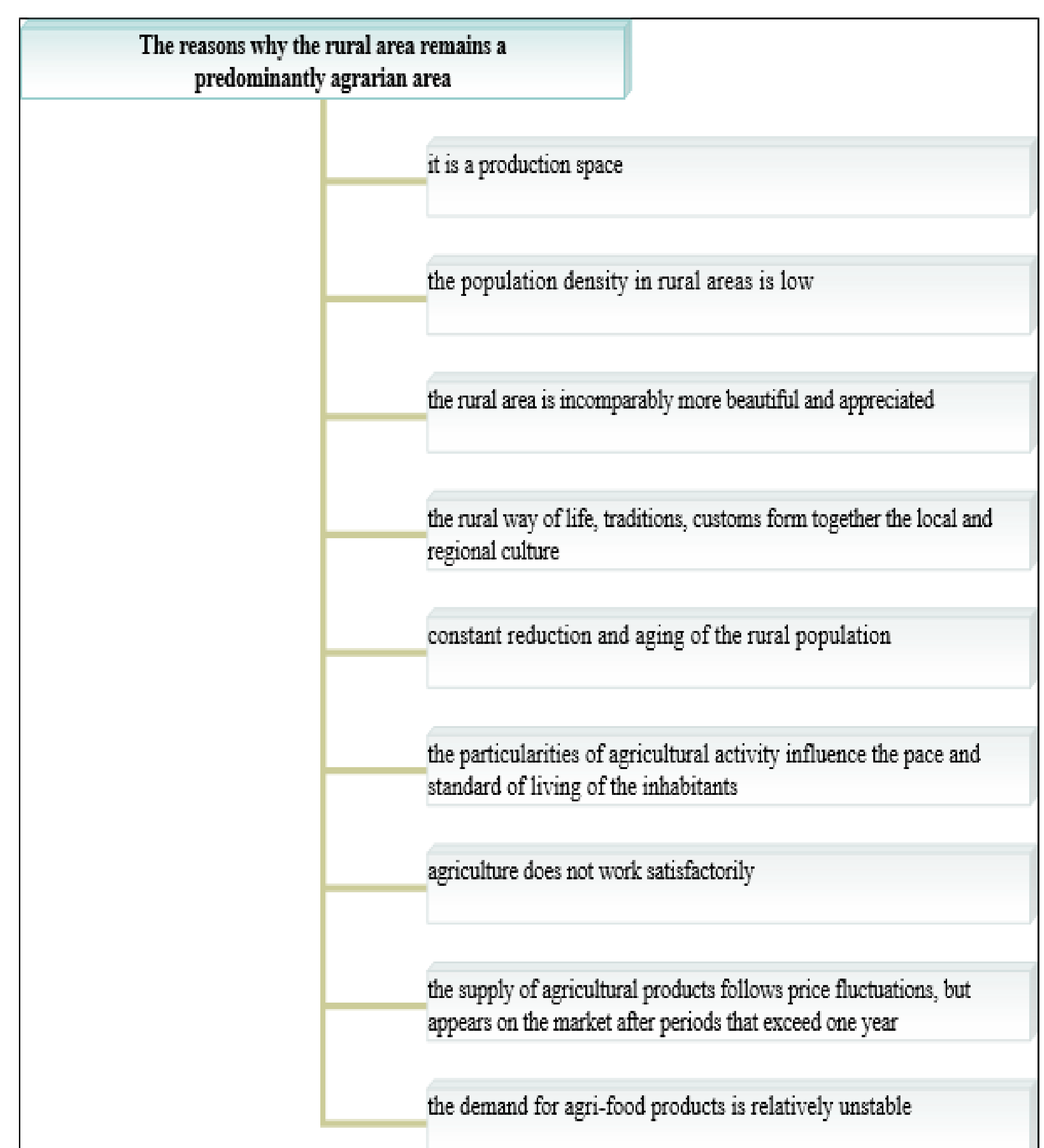
The rural area, in the banal but real sense of the term, appeared on the surface of the earth with the sedentarization of man and the appearance of the first houses and the first facilities and primarily in order to achieve some agricultural productions (in the first place). In historical time, a series of lasting relationships were created between rural societies and the land taken into exploitation, strengthened by traditions, customs and interests, expressed in the landscape through different types of rural spaces.

• Material and method

As a research methodology, the case study method was used, and in terms of the stages followed, they followed the natural route of specialized research, involving documentation, information gathering, information processing, and then the interpretation and preparation of the relevant conclusions to be included in the actual thesis.

Results and discussions

The rural environment is considered, in general, as the one that produces food in traditional conditions, thus creating social relations based on kinship and neighborhood ties, on a high degree of social solidarity.



• Conclusions

In its evolution, rural area showed two contradictory trends. On the one hand, the rural area was dominated by conservative trends regarding the economic, ecological and social environment. On the other hand, in the same evolutionary process, the liberal tendency to modernize rural life was manifested. The decision-makers must create the framework in which the balance can be ensured between the tendency to preserve the traditional values of the rural area and the ones of its modernization.