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ANALYSIS OF THE DYNAMICS OF CROP PRODUCTION IN TIMIȘ COUNTY

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Abstract: Agriculture represents an important sector of the economy in Timiș County, owing to favorable natural conditions, extensive agricultural land, and high agricultural potential. In this context, examining the evolution of crop production is of particular importance for understanding key development trends and the transformations that have taken place in this field. This paper aims to analyze the dynamics of crop production in Timiș County using statistical indicators representative of agricultural activity. The research findings contribute to a better understanding of the evolution of the crop sector in Timiș County, offering relevant insights into the utilization of agricultural potential and the prospects for the sustainable development of agriculture at the county level.

• Introduction

The agricultural potential of Timiș County is supported by the extent of its arable land and by soil conditions favorable for the cultivation of cereals, oilseeds, industrial crops, and forage crops. Notable among the major agricultural crops are wheat, corn, sunflower, and rapeseed, which contribute to the utilization of land resources and the development of the crop production sector.

• Material and method

The research is based on the processing and interpretation of data provided by the National Institute of Statistics, employing methods of comparison and analysis to track the evolution of the indicators under study. The study examines changes in the value of crop production, the areas dedicated to major agricultural crops, as well as variations in total yields and average yields per hectare.

• Results and discussions

The interpretation of these indicators provides an overview of the shifts that have occurred in agricultural activity throughout the period under review.

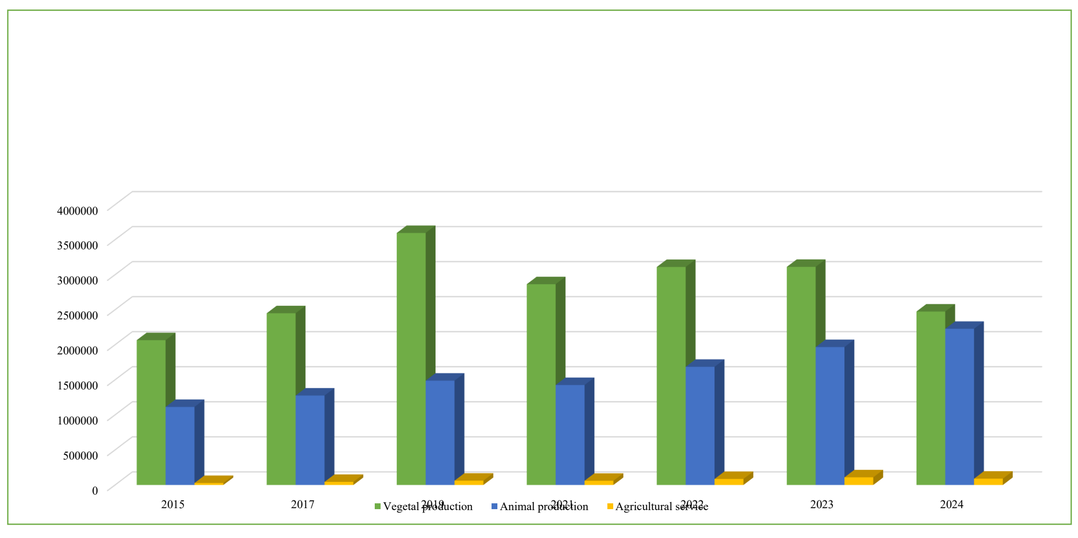


Figure 1. Evolution of agricultural production in Timiș County, 2015–2024

Figure 1 shows a fluctuating trend in the value of agricultural output in Timiș County during the 2015–2024 period. Total agricultural output increased from 3,206,735 thousand lei in 2015 to 4,791,942 thousand lei in 2024, representing an increase of 49.43%. Crop production followed an oscillating pattern, reaching a peak of 3,596,060 thousand lei in 2019, while in 2024 it stood at 2,474,413 thousand lei—19.81% above the 2015 level. In contrast, livestock production grew by 100.07%, whereas agricultural services made a minor contribution to the total value of output. The share of the crop sector decreased from 64.40% in 2015 to 51.64% in 2024. For a more detailed analysis of the crop sector in Timiș County, Table 2 presents the evolution of the areas cultivated with the main agricultural crops during the 2015–2025 period.

Table 1.Trends in areas cultivated with major crops in Timiș County, 2015–2025

-hectares-

Specification	2015	2017	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Cultivated area, of which	445738	501424	500330	393981	371935	394288	365079	358762	430354
Cereals for grains, of which	345406	327388	328376	265642	249389	263594	235355	230064	259557
- Wheat and rye	138961	127280	133657	131542	112180	135579	133620	128124	141140
- Wheat	138938	127280	133604	131524	111530	135334	133363	127919	140931
- Barley and barley	20072	18048	13601	14388	12679	13829	15925	14535	17379
- Grains maize	175000	167519	165643	111718	117658	107667	79370	80582	94242
Legumes for grains	728	646	807	1220	661	1182	1181	1037	1272
Oil plants, of which:	64004	124218	115927	89401	80044	86006	92442	90866	125299
- Sunflower	46000	73451	78242	43099	28308	30483	33173	37197	56613
- Rape	10051	25213	16312	24784	33525	38708	42617	40191	58920
Potatoes	5469	3010	2866	2501	1413	788	762	643	748
Vegetables	12670	11282	11286	12389	8608	8084	8113	7990	6306

The data presented in the table indicate a fluctuating trend in the areas cultivated with major agricultural crops in Timiș County during the 2015–2025 period. The total cultivated area decreased from 445,738 hectares in 2015 to 430,354 hectares in 2025, representing a reduction of 3.45%. Cereals occupied the largest areas but saw a decline from 345,406 hectares to 259,557 hectares (-24.85%), primarily due to a reduction in the area cultivated with maize—from 175,000 hectares to 94,242 hectares (-46.15%). Conversely, the area cultivated with oilseed crops increased from 64,004 hectares to 125,299 hectares (+95.77%), with a notable expansion in rapeseed cultivation, which grew from 10,051 hectares to 58,920 hectares. At the same time, the areas cultivated with potatoes and vegetables experienced significant reductions, of 86.32% and 50.23%, respectively.

• Conclusions

An analysis of the dynamics of crop production in Timiș County reveals a fluctuating trend in key agricultural indicators, characterized by shifts in both the value of output and the areas under cultivation. Although the crop sector continues to play a significant role in the county’s agriculture, its share of total agricultural production has declined over the period under review. A reduction in the area sown with cereals—most notably maize—alongside an expansion in oilseed crops—particularly rapeseed—reflects a shift in the focus of agricultural production. These developments underscore the need to adapt farming practices to local soil, climatic, and economic conditions, as well as the importance of the efficient use of resources to ensure the sustainable development of the crop sector in Timiș County.