

THE ROLE OF COOPERATIVE RELATIONS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE FRUIT AND VEGETABLE SECTOR OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

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Abstract: This article discusses issues related to the formation of cooperative relations in the field of production and sale of fruits and vegetables. Given the key role of cooperative relations in the development of the agricultural sector of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the authors analyzed the data and offered a number of recommendations on the prospects for the formation of cooperatives in the field of agricultural production.

Keywords: Agricultural products, cooperation processes, export potential, fruit and vegetable industry, clusters, cooperation.

The natural and climatic features of our country create favorable conditions for the sustainable development of the agricultural sector, including horticulture. The leadership of the Republic of Uzbekistan pays considerable attention to the development of this area as an important direction in the transition to market relations in the industry. This is due to the fact that a significant part of the country's foreign exchange income depends on the export of fruits and vegetables to international markets, which underlines the importance of reforming and actively developing this industry.

Studying the experience of developed countries in the field of cultivation, storage, processing and export of fruits and vegetables demonstrates that there is a need to develop cooperation and form clusters of producers of these products. In our country, there is a significant modernization of enterprises of various forms of ownership operating in the sector of production, storage, preparation, processing, sale, maintenance and supply of agricultural products. Nevertheless, as the President noted, "the analysis of best practices in the field of production, storage, processing and sale of agricultural products indicates the need to effectively stimulate the development of cooperation between producers of these products." The successful implementation of these strategically important and high-potential measures requires the formation of organizational, economic and legal relations of cooperation based on modern cooperative principles in the agro-industrial complex.

Agriculture, especially in the fruit and vegetable sector, is characterized by seasonality of production, perishable nature of products, wide assortment and high requirements of plants for soil, climate and other conditions. These factors are more pronounced in this area of agriculture than in others. Therefore, it becomes necessary to import, transport and store many types of products.

In the early years of the reforms, agriculture, although it did not fully use the opportunities provided, gradually and consistently adapted to the conditions of the market environment. This has created the foundations for the development of healthy market relations in a short period of time, corresponding to the transition period.

In the context of socio-economic and demographic changes taking place in the world, problems arise with the effective use of land, water and labor resources to provide food for the population. Providing the population with high-quality food products is becoming one of the global challenges for the countries of the world.

In 2019, one of the most consistently implemented aspects of agrarian reforms and priorities in our republic was the reform of the agricultural sector management system and the introduction of advanced technologies for the rational use of land and water resources. Special attention was also paid to ensuring food security.

The Head of the country also stressed the need to think not only about the current, but also about the future, and raise reforms to a new level with a long-term perspective. In this context, a strategy for the development of agriculture for the period from 2020 to 2030 was developed, based on the principle of

"one mahalla (district) – one commodity". To achieve this goal, it is necessary to widely implement a system of logistics services and cooperation in the field.

In our republic, fruit and vegetable products are mainly grown in the private sector, and 75-85 percent of them belong to farmers and farms. However, there is currently an increase in the number of large horticultural business entities, which leads to increased competition among private vegetable growing sectors.

In such a system, there is a significant volume of fruit and vegetable products that ripen seasonally and are often inconvenient for transportation due to their scattered location. In order for farmers and small farms to compete, their cooperation becomes an important aspect.

In this regard, organizational, economic and legal bases for the development of cooperation are being developed in our republic. For this reason, the development of trade and logistics infrastructure in fruit and vegetable production and the development of proposals and recommendations for creating a value chain in the industry are becoming one of the most pressing issues of our time.

In the agricultural sector of our country, there is a significant untapped potential for the production and export of fruits and vegetables. According to the results of the analysis, it turned out that in years when the volume of grown fruits and vegetables exceeds domestic demand, the average price of products on the domestic market decreases significantly, which leads to losses for farmers. Also, the low market price becomes an obstacle to the entry of products into the market, which is why a significant part of the products is lost before reaching the consumer.

In addition to many factors, the imperfection of the product sales system is a major obstacle to lowering product prices or reducing the percentage of defects. This, in turn, leads to problems in providing the population with high-quality food and a deterioration in the economic situation of agricultural enterprises. Fruit and vegetable products are also the main raw materials for the processing industry, playing an important role in meeting the needs of the population and providing income for those working in this industry. In recent years, much attention has been paid to the development of the fruit and vegetable industry.

Various aspects of fruit and vegetable production technologies, business management methods, the level of logistics for fruit and vegetable farms and the level of infrastructure development serving producers have a significant impact on the competitiveness of products in the market.

Within the framework of these factors, measures are being taken to optimize the quality and quantity of material and labor resources used, reduce the cost of production, ensure economic sustainability of production and create additional profits for farmers.

A.V. Chayanov defines the economic essence of cooperation as relations that contribute to the unification of the economic interests of various economic entities jointly solving the tasks of developing fruit and vegetable production and cooperation in agriculture. He emphasizes that it is important to pay attention to the interests of independent entities entering into cooperative relations, rather than property.

I.N. Buzdalov defines cooperation as a joint activity of various economic entities that unites personal, collective and public interests and stimulates creative activity. In addition, cooperation provides social protection and social security for a person.

In addition, M.I. Tugan-Baranovsky, one of the leading economists, drew attention to various forms of cooperation and social aspects of this process, considering it as a social movement. In turn, our scientist R.Khusainov explores the economic aspects of cooperation within the framework of his work, focusing on small producers. He analyzes the economic and social nature of cooperation taking into account the current time.

The study shows that the material and technical base of small farms is extremely weak, and the low level of marketability leads to the fact that farms act more like social actors than economic ones. This is an obstacle to the development of the cooperation process.

The current state of development of the agricultural sector is characterized by a relatively low investment attractiveness of the industry, slow capital turnover and a high degree of riskiness of doing business in agriculture. To overcome these problems, a thoughtful and systematic approach on the part of the state in

conducting agricultural policy is necessary. Such a policy will mitigate the negative impact of the market on the agricultural sector, increase its competitiveness, ensure long-term economic growth and food security of the country.

The role of the fruit and vegetable industry in the economy of our country is invaluable. In industry, it provides stocks of raw materials for the production of direct consumption products and other industrial sectors. The population's food needs are met year-round. In general, the ongoing economic reforms make it possible to solve a number of economic and social issues:

From an economic point of view, fruit and vegetable farming plays an important role in the incomes of the rural population, bringing 32.2% of the total agricultural output (which is 8.7% of the country's GDP). This directly affects the development of industrial sectors and is a key element of agricultural exports.

Socially, fruit and vegetable production contributes to improving the living standards of the rural population and public welfare. The effectiveness of the sustainable development of this industry has a direct impact not only on rural residents, but also on improving the social level of the entire population of the country. The ultimate goal of the reforms is to ensure food security, which is clearly manifested in the positive results of economic reforms implemented in all aspects of our country's development and contributes to improving the living standards of the population.

For effective management of the system of production and sale of fruits and vegetables, it is advisable to introduce the following measures to improve the scientific and practical basis for the development of the agricultural market:

-Theoretical substantiation of the role and importance of fruit and vegetable production in the country's economy in the context of economic modernization.

-Improving the coordination mechanisms of the state in the field of fruit and vegetable products, including pricing mechanisms, tax, financial, credit and insurance instruments.

-Improving the mechanisms of interaction and organizational, economic and legal relations between participants in the markets of agricultural products, agricultural resources and agricultural services, which directly affect the process of growing and selling fruit and vegetable products.

-Improvement of mechanisms for stimulating the use of environmentally friendly methods of production and sale of fruits and vegetables.

-Research and analysis of the impact of effective management of the system of production and sale of fruits and vegetables on production efficiency.

-Strengthening the coordinating role of the state in improving the process of growing and selling fruits and vegetables in the context of global climate change.

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