

ANALYSIS OF THE EVOLUTION OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION DURING 2006-2011 PERIOD

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Abstract: *Cereals are the most important sector in the Romanian agriculture, cultivated on about 65% of the national agricultural area and the main cereals grown are wheat and corn. These crops are concentrated at the level of approx. 2.7 million farms, mostly small (less than 5 ha), production reached in 2011 to 21 million tons, while exports have exceeded 5 million tons. "The process of adhesion to the European Union caused major changes in the economy and society by accelerating the transition to a functioning market economy, an openness to international environment through progressive liberalization of movement of goods, persons, capital and services through business development in a legal and institutional frame, closer to the European one."*

Key words: *agricultural production, Romanian agriculture, economical growth.*

INTRODUCTION

Romania has seen a growth during post-adhesion (2007-2011) compared to pre-adhesion period, with a slight decrease in 2009 amid global recessionist trends. In 2011, the gross domestic product (GDP), expressed in nominal terms, had increased compared with 2006 with 67.9 per cent. With regard to the role of agriculture in the gross domestic product there is an obvious trend of falling: 7.8% to 6.5% (by 1.3 percentage points).

Gross value added in agriculture increased by 35.8% in the period 2006-2011, being accompanied by an increase in the value of production of 51.1%, positive developments of those indicators rapidly resulting in an increase in labour productivity, amid a slight reduction of the population occupied in agricultural activities.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The overall impact of the adhesion on the Romanian agriculture is reflected in the macroeconomic and sectoral indicators registered during the period 2007-2011. In this context, impact assessment shall be carried out taking priority into account the effects of the adhesion on agriculture and indirectly the changes generated by these effects in the economy.

RESEARCH RESULTS

With regard to agricultural products produced in the period 2006-2011, it is noted that Romania has recorded increases in most plant products, except in the case of potato, vegetables and grapes (Table 1). From these crops yields have fallen amid the decrease in the special areas, while other cultures production increases have taken place especially amid increasing yields per hectare (36% in barley and two-rowed barley, with 33.4% in wheat and 26.9% in corn).

Table 1.
Agricultural production and average yield for the main crops cultivated in Romania during 2006-2011 period

	Indicator	UM	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2011/2006 %
Cereals grains	Total production	tons	1,538,002	1,340,969	1,630,802	1,164,485	1,606,069	1,692,468	110.0
	Average production	kg/ha	3,081	1,523	3,229	2,815	3,316	3,989	129.5
Wheat	Total production	tons	395,962	321,188	428,770	277,561	339,408	434,917	109.8
	Average production	kg/ha	2,746	1,541	3,403	2,421	2,688	3,663	133.4
Barley and two-road barley	Total production	tons	87,143	70,702	86,254	61,267	82,686	89,154	102.3
	Average production	kg/ha	2,331	1,461	3,069	2,284	2,542	3,170	136.0
Oats	Total production	tone	66,821	55,876	75,140	56,749	56,202	73,086	109.4
	Average production	kg/ha	1,763	1,206	1,906	1,459	1,679	2,028	115.0
Corn grains	Total production	tons	945,305	858,027	1,009,247	735,923	1,096,326	1,060,818	112.2
	Average production	kg/ha	3,565	1,526	3,215	3,409	4,309	4,525	126.9
Sun-flower	Total production	tons	83,312	64,226	88,164	60,497	52,179	89,114	107.0
	Average production	kg/ha	1,540	654	1,437	1,433	1,597	1,798	116.8
Potatoes	Total production	tons	873,154	852,931	735,342	800,566	550,218	760,587	87.1
	Average production	kg/ha	14,191	13,663	14,108	15,498	13,354	16,554	116.7
Grapes	Total production	tone	36,633	32,150	28,366	33,438	20,759	29,329	80.1
	Average production	kg/ha	4,788	4,654	5,360	5,369	4,182	4,980	104.0
Fruits	Total production	tons	267,869	138,610	202,205	252,589	211,098	291,216	108.7
	Average production	kg/ha	16	11	13	15	14	17	106.3
Vegetables	Total production	tons	464,128	377,243	375,982	376,075	342,731	353,968	76.3
Green fodder from arable land	Total production	tons	2,086,036	1,839,163	2,203,007	2,225,446	2,283,353	2,500,842	119.9

Source: based on INS data, available online at www.insse.ro [8]

In terms of animal production in 2011, 41% of the meat production was provided by the pig population (though it has been reduced by 9.9%) and 35.2% by the poultry sector (Table 2).

Meat of sheep and goats, though growing by 9.0%, provided only 8.1% of regional production. Under these conditions, inside the structure of production, poultry meat increased by 9.4 percentage points, on the background of decreasing share of cattle meat.

Table 2.
Farm animal production by agricultural products in Romania in the period
2006-2011

	MU	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2011/2006
Meat*	Tons live weight	1,400,708	1,502,791	1,426,154	1,443,548	1,305,260	1,357,053	96.9 %
- Cattle	Tons live weight	318,054	333,282	306,373	264,155	205,347	211,971	66.6 %
Share of cattle meat from total meat	%	22.7	22.2	21.5	18.3	15.7	15.6	-7.1 pp
- Pigs	Tons live weight	617,848	641,505	605,164	584,868	552,734	556,694	90.1 %
Share of pig meat from total meat	%	44.1	42.7	42.4	40.5	42.3	41.0	-3.1 pp
- Ovines and caprines	Tons live weight	100,928	110,188	103,802	104,244	99,524	110,034	109.0 %
Share of ovines and caprines meat from total meat	%	7.2	7.3	7.3	7.2	7.6	8.1	0.9 pp
- Poultry*	Tons live weight	361,228	416,193	410,237	489,075	446,387	477,529	132.2 %
Share of poultry meat from total meat	%	25.8	27.7	28.8	33.9	34.2	35.2	9.4 pp
Milk production (including calf consumpt.)	Th. hectolitres	64,607	61,049	59,006	56,383	49,129	50,074	77.5 %
Milk production (without calf consumpt.)	Th. hectolitres	57,886	54,992	53,329	51,270	44,799	45,872	79.2 %
Milk production (including calf consumpt.) – cow and buffalo	Th. hectolitres	58,307	54,875	53,090	50,570	42,824	43,947	75.4 %
Milk production (without calf consumpt.) – cow and buffalo cow	Th. hectolitres	51,586	48,818	47,412	45,457	38,494	39,745	77.0 %
Share of cow and buffalo cow milk from total milk	%	89.1	88.8	88.9	88.7	85.9	86.6	-2.5 pp
Total milk production – sheep and goat	Th. hectolitres	6,300	6,173	5,917	5,813	6,305	6,127	97.3 %
Share of sheep and goat milk from total milk	%	10.9	11.2	11.1	11.3	14.1	13.4	2.5 pp
Wool production	Tons	19,378	21,025	22,075	22,352	20,457	19,026	98.2 %
Eggs production	Million units	895	852	877	742	859	892	99.7 %
Production of extracted honey	Tons	7,429	6,523	6,692	6,211	6,199	6,327	85.2 %

Note: * Live weight of animals to be sacrificed for consumption
Source: based on INS data, available online at www.insse.ro [8]

The orientation of the animal production is obvious if we consider that although herds of sheep, goats and poultry increased, milk production has been declining compared to the pre-adhesion period. However, reducing the production of cows' and buffalo cows' milk, the share of sheep and goats milk production increased by 1.5 percentage points, arriving in 2011 at 13.4% of the total production of milk. There is, however, an ineffective

use of secondary production from sheep sector, wool production increasing by the year 2010, but in 2011 decreasing below the level of 2006. As for honey production, there is a decrease of 14.8%, even if herds have increased by over 40%.

CONCLUSIONS

With regard to agricultural products produced in the period 2006-2011, Romania has risen in most plant products, except in the case of potato, vegetables and grapes where yields have fallen on the background of areas' decreasing. In the animal sector, there is an obvious trend towards meat production, if we take into account that although herds of sheep, goats and poultry increased, milk production has been declining compared to the pre-adhesion period. As for honey production, there is a reduction in production compared to the pre-adhesion period, even if herds have increased by over 40%, which proves that not all products entered in commercial use.

All of this demonstrates an overall positive evolution of agriculture in Romania in the post-adhesion period, but also the fact that there is no identifiable impact of the implementation of the CAP system except for the animal sector, although in comparison with other funding coming from the EU, as well as those in pillar II, the absorption of funds for measures in the field of agriculture is very good.

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