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THE DIRECTIONS OF DEVELOPMENT AS A CHANCE FOR SMALL FAMILY FARMS

The research was conducted in the year 2004 in the district Radków, among the farmers running family farms. The results show the lack of a uniform direction in agricultural development. There are family farms with ecological, integrated as well as with conventional production methods coexisting with each other. Agricultural activities are responsible for 1/3 of degradation of natural environment in the region. The authorities are expected to support proecological activities and connect the future of the region with development of agroturism and production of ecological food.

Исследования проводились в 2004 г. в районе г.Радков среди фермеров, ведущих семейное хозяйство. Результаты демонстрируют отсутствие единого направления в развитии сельского хозяйства. Одновременно существуют фермерские хозяйства, использующие экологические, комплексные и традиционные методы производства. Сельскохозяйственная деятельность отвечает за треть экологического ущерба в регионе. Ожидается, что правительственные органы будут защищать окружающую среду и свяжут будущее региона с развитием агротуризма и производством экологически чистой продукции.

Introduction

The present report is based on materials collected during scientist camp in Radków in 2004 year.

The agriculture is changing as the year go by. The village's situation is different, because of new technologies, modern ways of plants cultivation and animal husbandry. The agriculture meet with new challenges connecting with Polish accession to UE. Nowadays there is not the food production situated in the country, it is also a place where citizens take a rest. The farmers are looking for the new development directions. The equilibration agriculture contain protection of nature ability to produce food of standard value without devastating of natural resources. The present day economic growth consistent with equilibration development stand integration of all aspects human life like social, economic, ecological and even demographical. The economic growth show the best ways of activities in the natural environment at regional and local level, what shall correctly estimate all advantages and reveal problems. The basic purpose of the equilibration agriculture is:

- to ensure the proper standard of living in rural society,
- to use methods, which are not dangerous for biological existent and natural environment,
- to use rather the renovate sources,
- to supply in food and save all aspects culture life, historical heritage of rural territories and build well developed, safe rural sociality,
- to protect ethical aspects of agricultural production.

The items of the research were farms situated in Kotlina Kłodzka. The purpose was:

- to learn about the direction of economic development in the region,
- to learn about sources of the environment pollution,
- to learn about sources of the agricultural knowledge.

Methodology of the research

The research was conducted in 2004 year In the district Radków in region of Kłodzko, among farmers running economic activities. Kotlina Kłodzka is situated in mountain-foot and Sudet's Mountain. The characteristic features of this area is a green grounds in the structure of the plough-land and harder condition to

agricultural production. There is a supremacy of corn-growing, potato and fodder plant in the vegetable production.

The research contain farms, where the main sources of maintenance of the rural family was work at family farm, but leave out farms with acreage less than 5 hectare of plough-land (intentional selection). From the group of selection farms, based on the typical character of test criterion, choose 30 farms to examine with great care.(random selection). During collection of the base materials the questionnaire of inquire with the farmers was used to ascertain the methods of running their farms. It was also used direct conversation method and participating-observation method. The research material elaborate with use of analytic-description methods.

Treatment of the research

There was a domination men over women, which stand ¼ the person under examination in the analyzing group. From the psychological point of view person in such ages are rather stabilized in their social, professional and economic life, and their decisions and long-term task are based on knowledge and life experience. The main part of the farm organization stand a manager. The accuracy of the decisions depends on his qualifications. There was a supremacy of person with a secondary education over persons with high level of education, who were only 15 %.

They were the owners of the large farms which considerably exceed average area in Poland. It is worth to notice that ¾ were situated in ecological region (table 1), what can provide lots of advantages and especially it shall build an ecologic potential next to capital and human coexisting with each other [2] In spite of great conditions only one half of respondents was interested in running the ecological farm. The reasons of their interest were: health and conservation of the natural environment. The opponent claimed that it is laborious activity with low economic effects and it need special education, which they do not possess (table 2). The greater part of the farmers know the terms of ecological and integrated agriculture. Some kind of surprise is the lack of knowledge connecting with conventional agriculture. It is possible that it was forgotten during searching the modern solution.

Table 1

Selection dates concerning the farmers

No.	Specification	%
1.	Ages	41
2.	Sex: • women • men	 25,00 75,00
3.	Education: • elementary school • technical school • secondary education • university education	 6,00 20,00 59,00 15,00
4.	Average farm area(hectare)	45,08
5.	Is the farm situated in an ecological region? • yes • no	 72,00 28,00

Table 2

Conservation of natural environment

No.	Specification	%
1.	The knowledge of terms: • conventional agriculture" yes no • integrated agriculture" yes no • ecological agriculture yes no	 43,00 41,00 60,00 32,00 88,00 4,00
2.	Inclination to run the ecological farm • yes: economic effects health ecological food cheap technologies conservation of environment • no lot of work low effects the lack of knowledge the lack of market • I do not know	 **44,00** 14,00 47,00 15,00 8,00 49,0 **50,00** 44,00 53,00 10,00 45,00 **6,00**

Then, the respondents were asked about equilibration development of the farms. The replays shall to ascertain that over 50 % of respondents is familiar with this term. However, it was hard to them pointed the examples of such activity. They were pointed only some part of agricultural activity like correct use of plant preservation measures. The main sources of the agricultural knowledge were mass-media and then special schooling. The fewest information in this matter the farmers receive from their familiar and family (table 3)

Table 3

The agricultural knowledge

No.	Specification	%
1.	The knowledge of the farm equilibrating development term: • yes • no	 52,00 48,00
2.	Examples of the farm equilibrating development: • correct use of pesticides • plant preservation measures • agro technical work • state help • grant-in-aid	 16,00 12,00 23,00 16,00 28,00
3.	The knowledge sources: • newspapers • radio • TV • special courses • international cooperation • friends	 36,00 16,00 43,00 23,00 5,00 3,00

The farmers claim that their agricultural activity determines 1/3 of the degradation of the natural environment, but they pointed at industry, human activity, smoky chimneys, sewage, cars and even the local authorities too. The farmers notify the need of schooling, promotion of the ecological activity, respecting the law and supervision.

Kotlina Kłodzka is the region with great natural value, where the main direction of development should become tourism, which could support the ecological farm activity, the folklore and service. The examine persons asked about the direction of the development in commune pointed at the tourism and then at an ecological investment to prevent the degradation of the natural environment (building purification plant, refuse dump). Then they pointed the need of improve the system of approach roads. The issue connected with running ecological farms, services and processing food were mentioned at the end (table 4).

Table 4

The future of the agriculture in district Radków

No.	Specification	%
1.	Degradation of natural environment: • cars • the local authorities • chimneys • municipal sewage • wrapping • industry • people • no devastation	 15,00 3,00 18,00 24,00 5,00 36,00 40,00 8,00
2.	Expectation concerning authorities: • respected of law • laying down proecologic law • promotion of ecological activities • building purification plants • grant-in-aid to ecological investment • schooling • supervision and inspection	 20,00 12,00 14,00 18,00 24,00 46,00 15,00
3.	The directions of rural economical development: • tourist • the ecological agriculture • forestry • services • technical infrastructure • melioration • food processing • building purification plants • enlargement of approach roads	 34,00 8,00 6,00 12,00 10,00 16,00 20,00 25,00 18,00

The conducted analysis shall to claim, that Polish rural areas, to be ready to access to UE, should evaluated into direction of multifunction organization with great activity of inhabitant.

Summary and conclusions

According to the conducted research we could come the conclusion that:

1. The farmers are looking forward to support their own ecological activity, and connect the future with the development of tourist.

2. The agriculture determines 1/3 of the degradation of natural environment in the rural region. It is connected with bad waste management and the lack of purification plants.

3. The farmers get their knowledge from mass media and also at special courses.

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