

CHANGES ON THE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIONS LEVEL AND EVOLUTION OF THE CONSUMPTION OF DIFFERENT SOCIAL CATEGORIES

IONELA VLAD

University of Agronomic Sciences and Veterinary Medicine of Bucharest

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Abstract

The aim of this paper is to emphasize the changes which have been taken place at the agricultural productions level in Romania and meanwhile to do a comparison between similar situations existing in some European Union member states. Thus, we have been taken note of a vegetal sector majority in the whole agricultural sector of which implications on the associated sector have been shown in the present study.

We have been also intend to observe if there is a correlation between the trend of the agricultural productions in our country and the changes in the human food consumption. Especially, we wanted to analyze if these changes were supported maybe by the international trade with different countries in the European area.

INTRODUCTION

The agricultural sector asked many reforms in the transition countries. Thus, Romania has been also adopted some measures in order to improve its commercial sector and its trade reconsidering the goods exchanged. Even with these changes, Romania is still depending of its imports and we can explain this situation by an inefficient reconstruction of its economy and by the big proportion of the State enterprises which produces the products traded especially on the international markets.

The objective of the present paper was to make an analyse about the Romanian agricultural productions and the trade on agricultural products, in order to emphasize the structure of an agricultural sector, so here between the vegetal sector and the animal sector.

Thus to do so, we took tree vegetal products (wheat, maize and potatoes) and tree animal products (poultry meat, pork meat and beef meat). The time period in-between the analyze was done is from 1993 till 2008.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

For this paper, we have been gotten data from the Food Agricultural Organization, Eurostat database and the National Institute of Statistics. Based on that, we made our calculations, analyses and got results which are presented here below.

So we calculated the correlation coefficients between imports/exports and two other indicators: consumption and production prices, for the same products mentioned above and for four European countries.

Also, using the data on international trade we got the coverage degree of the imports by the exports, the opening degree of the economy (the imports and the exports related to the GDP), for the last 15 years and the Index of European geographical adjustment of foreign trade.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The results have been shown in the following statements. It was observed that in Romania, the vegetal sector counts, in term of value, more or less tree times than the animal sector. We have taken note about a similar situation in the other European countries, but not with the same proportion because, in those countries, the agricultural services sector is more important than in Romania.

Concerning the Romanian trade for the six products, in the time period 1993-2008, these ones were relatively stable before 1997-1999; after that, a fluctuation has been noted. This statement is more important for the vegetal sector, where together with an increased area, the volume and the consumption have been increased too (with 7-10% during the mentioned period).

On the domestic market, we observed some changes in the structure of the goods consumption between two types of households: farmers and employees. Thus, the farmers consume now farm products from their own agricultural production less than 5-7 years ago (some 9-10% less in the last 3 years). For the employees, we sow the same trend; their consumption, from their own agricultural production is degreased with 7-8% in the last 3 years.

For the correlation coefficients between the indicators pointed out above, there was a positive and significant correlation between the exports and human consumption of the products considered in the study, except for the beef. The correlation coefficients between imports and consumption hadn't the same values. We have got positive and significant correlation for the beef and poultry, negative correlation for the pork meat, wheat and potatoes and no correlation for maize. Also, there is no correlation in our study for the production prices and exports for four (pork meat, wheat, maize and potatoes) of the six products considered here.

The coverage degree of the imports by the exports has confirm that the volume of imports is no cover by the exports, the index calculated being below 100% for all the four partners (France, Germany, Hungary and Poland) taken into account.

The opening degree of the economy gives results which lead to a quite closed level of the economy (between 0.6 and 3.1 points for the four countries, in the same order like here above).

The index of the European geographical adjustment of foreign trade is calculated for the last 6 years and for the same four countries, like above. This index could explain the added modifications of the imported /exported quantities between two consecutive periods, related to the import/export global with total volume corresponding to the previous period. In our case, the small values indicate an adjustment geographical of the foreign trade, observed with a quite stable level of the transactions after a certain number of time periods.

CONCLUSIONS

1. The Romanian productive orientation has been influenced the domestic internal consumption and the international trade.
2. There is a correlation between the exports and human consumption for the six products considered in the paper.
3. The coverage degree of the imports by the exports must be improved in the future period.
4. It was observed an adjustment of the foreign trade in the last years.

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