

FACTORS WHICH DETERMINE THE PRODUCTION AND PRODUCTIONAL ORGANIZATION OF TOBACCO TYPE VIRGINIA IN THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

ABSTRACT

In the ten-year period (1988-1997), problems in production of the Virginia tobacco in the Republic of Macedonia were determined and identified. A special accent was put on the organizational set up in the production of this tobacco type, with a detailed presentation of three forms of organization: the public – which is in the process of transformation into stock holding companies, the mixed and the individual form.

Analytical, calculative and observational methods were used in the course of investigation. Special attention was paid to the poll-method and data were collected from secondary internal and secondary external sources.

The average year production of Virginia in the Republic of Macedonia is about 1500 tons, and the requirements of our factories for cigarette manufacture range from 6500 to 7000 tons. It means that domestic production supplies only 20% of the Virginia tobacco and the others 80 % are supplied from imports. Having in mind the average price of fermented tobacco of this type in the world, which is about 4.25 US \$, it is obvious that over 14 million dollars are spent for the requirements of Macedonian manufacturers.

Results of the investigations showed that our Republic has an optimal soil and climate conditions for an increasing production of Virginia tobacco in the future period. We should emphasize the role of the regions of Prilep, Bitola and Tetovo, with their special forms of organization of the production. Each form has its advantages and disadvantages resulting from the way of this organization. The analysis, however, shows that the greatest attention in future should be paid to the individual form of organization, which is suitable for production in plantations. Namely, in the period 1988-1997, the average area under Virginia tobacco was about 2 hectares per farmer. For a more rapid growth of this form of organization, greater investments from farmers for construction of curing barns is necessary.

A general conclusion from the investigations is that the Republic of Macedonia has a capacity to produce sufficient quantities of Virginia tobacco raw. The objective conditions for production give a solid guarantee that our Republic can decrease the deficit of about 5000 tons a year and that the total requirements for this tobacco can be completely covered by domestic production. This conclusion confirms the economic justification for further growth of the Virginia tobacco production in the Republic of Macedonia.

UDC: 633.71 (497.7)

Key words: tobacco, Virginia, organization, forms of organization, yield, quality, supply, demand.