

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE EFFECTIVE USE OF FRUIT VEGETABLE CLUSTERS IN AGRICULTURE OF UZBEKISTAN

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Abstract

The article describes the development of fruit and vegetable clusters in agriculture in the republic and their functions. Also, proposals were made on the development and problems of fruit and vegetable clusters in agriculture.

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The agricultural sector in Uzbekistan is one of the most important sectors of the economy, ensuring the growth of employment and income of the population. Therefore, measures are being taken to develop it based on the requirements of the Times and strategic approaches. Therefore, comprehensive measures aimed at the development and expansion of agricultural production, storage, processing and export of fruit and vegetable products are being implemented at an accelerated pace in our republic. Especially good results are achieved in the cultivation and export of fruit and vegetable products in agriculture. The agricultural sector in Uzbekistan is one of the most important sectors of the economy, ensuring the growth of employment and income of the population. Therefore, measures are being taken to develop it based on the requirements of the Times and strategic approaches. Therefore, comprehensive measures aimed at the development and expansion of agricultural production, storage, processing and export of fruit and vegetable products are being implemented at an accelerated pace in our republic. The agricultural sector in Uzbekistan is one of the most important sectors of the economy, ensuring the growth of employment and income of the population. Therefore, measures are being taken to develop it based on the requirements of the Times and strategic approaches. Therefore, comprehensive measures aimed at the development and expansion of agricultural production, storage, processing and export of fruit and vegetable products are being implemented at an accelerated pace in our republic. Especially good results are achieved in the cultivation and export of fruit and vegetable products in agriculture. Today, more than 80 types of agricultural products grown in our republic are exported to 66 countries of the world. In this case, the export volume of fruits and vegetables and legumes increased almost 2 times from 2016 to 2021. In addition, according to the State Statistics Committee, in January-February 2022, Uzbekistan exported fruits and vegetables worth \$ 114 million. Uzbekistan exported the most fruits and vegetables in the first 2 months of 2022: Kazakhstan – 67.5 thousand tons, Russia – 29.5 thousand tons, China – 16.6 thousand tons, Kyrgyzstan – 14 thousand tons, Afghanistan – 6.8 thousand tons, Pakistan – 3.3 thousand tons, Ukraine – 3.3 thousand tons, Turkey – 3.2 thousand tons, Iran – 2.5

thousand tons, Azerbaijan – 2.4 thousand tons, the Republic of Belarus – 2.2 thousand tons, 553 tons, USA– 386 tons.

In order to achieve the above results, new-cluster and cooperative methods of production are being established in all sectors in order to increase the volume of exports in fruit and vegetable and viticulture, to develop land, to increase the planting of agricultural crops exported to areas reduced to cotton and grain, and to widely establish entrepreneurial activity in the industry. In this regard, by the decree of the head of state of October 23, 2019, the strategy for the development of Agriculture of the Republic of Uzbekistan for 2020-2030 was adopted, according to which fruit and vegetable clusters are being created. At the same time, the appeal of the president to the Oliy Majlis also indicated specific directions in agriculture, as well as in all areas. Basically, it is aimed to increase the volume of the country's gross domestic product by 2025 to \$ 100 billion, and annual exports to \$ 30 billion, to achieve these indicators in the agricultural sector. For the implementation of this goal, a number of tasks are set for the systematic organization of exports on fruit and vegetable growing, the implementation and development of a cluster system in fruit and vegetable growing and viticulture in order to correctly establish relations between the producer of products and the exporter. Also, in the strategy for the development of Agriculture of the Republic of Uzbekistan for 2020-2030, a number of important measures have been established to diversify agricultural production, create a favorable agribusiness environment, apply advanced technologies in the industry. In particular, as a result of this, new technologies have entered cotton growing, productivity has risen by 20-30% compared to last year, material interest has increased. In the current season, 73% of the cotton crop fell on the contribution of cotton-textile clusters. According to statistics, today more than 80 types of agricultural products are grown in our republic and exported to 66 countries of the world. Also, the fruit and vegetable sector has great potential in our country, more than 21 million tons of fruits and vegetables are grown in Uzbekistan per year, but 1.5 million tons of these fruits and vegetables are exported. This is shown to be due to the lack of cultivation of products that are competitive in foreign markets, low yields in gardens and vineyards. For example, in foreign countries, 70-100 tons are harvested from one hectare of intensive garden, up to 130 tons of certain fruits, in Uzbekistan 10-30 tons are harvested from one hectare, and in traditional garden-vineyards-4-5 tons. Again, it should be said that in the field of Agriculture, 31 Agriological Centers for sorting, packaging, processing and export of products have been established, in order for them to work non-stop, certain works are being carried out. It should be said that in total, 41 agricultural associations in the field of fruit and vegetable growing were created in our country, and in 2021 100 agricultural associations were created. At the same time, serious attention is paid to the development of a new system – the cluster system, which has justified itself in the world experience in the agricultural sector of our country. As a result of the reforms carried out in this regard, a total of 47 clusters specializing in fruit and vegetable growing in the Republic were created and 13.5 thousand hectares of land were allocated to them. Clusters have at their disposal 15.9 thousand tons of refrigerated storage facilities, 7,810 tons of sorting, 800 tons of calibration, 4 modern laboratories, 119.8 thousand tons of fruit and vegetable processing, 23,201 tons of fruit and vegetable sorting and packaging offices, 1,046 permanents, 1,085 seasonal jobs have been established. The clusters set out to export products in the amount of 127 million 262 thousand US dollars this year, of which 7 million 293 thousand US dollars were exported by August 1. The use of advanced technologies for growing products in the sustainable development of fruit and vegetable growing, the introduction of modern methods of processing and storing products make it possible to prevent food shortages today. Attracting entrepreneurs with many years of experience in the industry, who have an infrastructure for storing and processing products, to do this, has a good effect.

Clusters - innovation is based on technologies and close technological ties to each other. As criteria for the organizational form of clusters, the following features can be distinguished:

- first of all, systematicity, the presence of relationships and the strength of relationships (weak, medium, strong and very strong);

- Secondly, the application of innovative technologies, the use and the presence of close technological ties; •thirdly, clusters are a self-governing and largely self-organizing economic form.

At the same time, self-government and self-organization in clusters are based on certain economic interests. The content of these interests is largely determined by innovative technologies and technological connections in them. Clusters, a chain-based activity designed to address these problems, are carried out, merging into clusters, creating and benefiting facilities for both the cluster entities and the territorial and national economy. In particular, the study of the experience of developed foreign countries and the regulatory framework adopted for the development of fruit and vegetable sectors in the Republic, the diversification of Agriculture in the development of the fruit and vegetable cluster, the placement of productive and exportable varieties of fruit and vegetable crops suitable for natural and climatic conditions of the regions, the introduction of new technologies. If we consider the geography of the export of fruit and vegetable products of Uzbekistan, then almost 70% of these products are exported to 3 countries (Kazakhstan, Russia and Kyrgyzstan), the rest to 8 countries. Whether it is an increase in the volume of exports to the above countries due to the market of which countries Uzbekistan increases, or the study of the expansion and diversification of export geography is one of the main tasks of the cluster system.

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