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THE PROCESS OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCT PRODUCTION AND ITS SPECIFIC FEATURES

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Abstract: *This scientific thesis is dedicated to the specific characteristics of agricultural production that distinguish it from other sectors of the economy. The study focuses on the role of land as the primary means of production, analyzing its limitations and the possibilities for maintaining and improving its fertility. Issues such as the direct impact of weather conditions, the relatively low marketability of products, and the slow turnover of production assets are also highlighted. Using the example of the Kashkadarya region, ways to increase agricultural efficiency and sustainability through the integration of traditional and modern agricultural technologies are proposed.*

Keywords: *agriculture, soil fertility, means of production, weather impact, agro-technologies, drip irrigation, Kashkadarya region, law of diminishing soil fertility, product processing.*

Agriculture, unlike other sectors of the economy, has its own unique characteristics. In it, the interconnection of technological, socio-economic, and natural-biological processes is observed. The main characteristic of this industry is that land is the primary means of production. Land is fundamentally different from other means of production.

The main characteristics of the land are:

1. Land is a product of nature. While most of the other means of production

were created as a result of human activity, the earth was created by nature itself. Currently, for example, it is possible to grow plants without artificial soil using the hydroponics method, but the share of agricultural products grown using this method is still very low.

2. The area of land is limited and cannot be multiplied indefinitely. The total area of the Earth is relatively stable. New lands can be created using methods such as draining the seashore (as in the case of the Netherlands) or dredging on mountain slopes, but this requires significant material and labor costs.

3. Properly cultivated land improves. Other means of production wear out and become unusable over time. Land, however, maintains and even improves its fertility if the necessary agrotechnical measures are carried out.

It should be noted that the land is simultaneously an object and a means of labor. In the process of land cultivation, it serves as an object of labor, and due to its fertile soil properties, it serves as a means of labor.

Strong influence of weather: Weather conditions have a direct impact on production results. Due to the difficulty of accurately forecasting the weather in advance, with the same costs, the volume of harvest in different years can differ significantly. This feature is particularly relevant in regions with arid climates such as Kashkadarya.

Relatively low marketability of products: A significant portion of the manufactured products remains in their own farms and does not reach the market. They are recycled for use as seeds, feed, organic fertilizers, or in further production processes (e.g., livestock farming). Therefore, agriculture is a sector with a high level of self-sufficiency for its own production.

Slow turnover of means of production: In agriculture, many technical means are used only for a short period (for example, a grain harvester for 10-20 days a year). At the same time, for efficient production, the farm is required to have a complete set of

all necessary equipment. Furthermore, agriculture is an industry requiring high energy and fuel and lubricant costs.

In economic literature, the "law of diminishing returns" formulated by the physicist A. Turgot is frequently cited. The essence of this law is that when additional investments (labor or capital) are made in soil fertility, their profitability begins to decrease after a certain limit. Currently, there are both supporters and opponents of this law. Importantly, modern agricultural technologies and advanced methods (for example, the introduction of drip irrigation in Kashkadarya instead of traditional irrigation) may limit the scope of this law.

Production processes are divided into the following depending on their role in obtaining the final product:

– Main processes: Transformation of raw materials into finished products (e.g., grain cultivation, cotton harvesting).

– Auxiliary processes: Production of products necessary for the main process (e.g., energy production, manufacturing of spare parts).

– Service processes: Operations such as transport, warehousing, and technical supervision necessary for the uninterrupted operation of core production.

The use of parallel and parallel-sequential types makes it possible to reduce the duration of the production process.

The Kashkadarya region is located in the south of Uzbekistan and possesses a favorable climate and natural resources for agriculture. Cotton growing, grain farming, horticulture, vegetable growing, and melon growing are developed in the region. The region's fruit and vegetable products, grapes, and melons are particularly popular. Kashkadarya also has great potential for the development of animal husbandry, especially cattle and sheep farming.

By implementing modern approaches and agricultural technologies, it is possible to increase the efficiency and competitiveness of the region's agriculture. Efficient use of water resources and increased productivity have been established through the combination of drip irrigation systems, high-quality seed production, traditional and modern methods. The region has ample opportunities to increase the added value of agriculture by creating agro-clusters and developing the processing industry.

Agriculture is the main sector of the national economy and serves as the basis for the development of more than 90 different spheres and industries. Its role in providing the population with high-quality food products is invaluable. To ensure the sustainable development of this sector, the formation of reserve and insurance funds, the effective use of bank loans, and the introduction of advanced technologies are of great importance. The Kashkadarya region, with its unique natural and climatic conditions, plays an important role in ensuring the country's food security.

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