

## ADVISORY SERVICE AND ANIMAL PRODUCTION IN ALBANIA

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Albania is a small country located in Balkan Peninsula. It has a total area of 28 thousand km<sup>2</sup> with a population of about 3 million of inhabitants and about 50% of the population is living in rural area right now.

As a result of the decollectivisation of the agriculture system were created nearly 490 thousand small family farms. The average size of the land of the farms is about 1.4 ha/farm: It varies from 3-4 ha/farm in low areas and 0.5 ha/farm in mountain areas.

Almost all family farms are breeding livestock animals. Actually, there are 320 thousand family farms or 82% of them are breeding livestock animals. Animal production fulfilled 48% of the overall agriculture output.

It is produced (in 000 ton):

Nr	Description	1998
1	Milk	861
2	Meat (live weight)	106
3	Eggs (in million)	397
4	Honey (in ton)	805
5	Sheep wool	3
6	Leather (in ton)	4500

Actually, family farms have a limited number of animals. These farms produce for their own needs mainly and 20-30% of their production is sold. The actual trend is the increasing of the production for trade. During the last years is observed a new trend of specialisation of the farms.

There are about 8000 private farms that are breeding more than 3 cows and more than 100 sheep and goats. The private farmers demand is to possess high genetic quality and high production animals.

The predomination of cattle or sheep and goats breeding depends from the area. Cattle is the most important species in Albania. Breeds for milk and their

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crosses with local breeds of cattle are predominant in our country. Meat breeds do not almost exist. There are about 294 thousand family farms that are breeding cattle. The structure of cattle is predominated by the crosses of Jersey and Black and White cattle 65%, pure breed 12% and local breed 23%. These private farms produce 83% of the milk and 56% of meat.

There are 176.5 thousand family fauns that are breeding sheep and goats. The structure is predominated by the crosses of Tsygaia and Merinos breeds that compound about 70% of sheep population, local breed 27% and pure breed 3%. Goats structure is predominated by local breed 98% and 2% of population is cultivated breeds only. Sheep and goats produce 17% of milk, 30% of meat and 2900 wool (ton).

Pig and poultry industry is still unconsolidated activity in our country. It produce 14% of meat and 310 million eggs.

In Albania, advisory service as a process is a new one. In 1992-1993 years with EC assistance some special offices of agriculture advisory were organised in 6 districts of our country (under PIC project).

At the beginning the advisory service was concentrated on the giving of the technical assistance and some small material aid (seeds and fertilisers). In 1994-1995 the advisory service was extended in some other districts, under the EC PHARE project, and the number of them were increased to 12 districts. The advisory service offices were organised and equipped with means of informative organisation.

In October 1995 has been held a national seminar "Development of Agriculture Advisory Service in Albania". Immediately after the seminar advisory service was organised and a new office of Advisory service was created under the Science Department in MoAF. This service is extended in 27 from 36 districts that exist in our country. This service has got the following structure:

#### Ministry of Agriculture and Food

##### Science and Advisory Department

##### Animal Production Department

##### District Agricultural Department

1. Subject Matter Specialist (SMS) Extension
2. SMS Agronomy
3. SMS Livestock specialist
4. etc. (e.g. irrigation, vegetables, olives,)

.....  
General extensionists in communes.

The advisory section in MoAF is responsible for the co-ordination and development of all the advisory activities at national and district level. Its main objective based in our Green Strategy approved by our Government is: *To set up nation-wide a cost effective public extension service delivering free of charge services to small and medium farms, responding to their technical and economical needs in the process of their integration in the market economy, this service will be supported by a limited research network for technology development and integrated in an Agriculture Knowledge-Information System (AKIS) and gradually to pass into private service.*

Districts in Albania are further divided in communes and villages, in total 317 communes and 2949 villages. It is only 1 advisor per 1000 ha/land, although there are big local differences and communication is in many places extremely difficult.

At the beginning the aim of this structure was qualification of the staff of the advisory section in MoAF, District Agriculture Departments and Communes so there were organised a number of courses, workshops and seminars for the different aspects of advisory services. At time was continued the districts and communes staff professional qualifications for the different aspects of the livestock production and the other problems of the most organised farms. Their result are generalised through regional meetings with farmers.

There are published from central and regional advisory offices a lot of simple booklets for the different aspects of production.

The monitoring system has to improve the efficiency of the advisory service to farmers through the flow of information between farmers, districts and Ministry. Extensionists provide information to the, districts, where after processing a first feedback is given to them. Districts provide information to the Ministry where after processing a feedback is given to the districts. Technical problems are transferred to the proper Research Institutes.

Therefore in Zootechnic Research Institute and in Agriculture University in Tirana were setting up Co-ordinated Advisory Service Offices (CASO) that are co-ordinated from the Advisory Service Office in MoAF.

CASO in Research Institute supported by Animal Production Department and Science and Advisory Service Department in MoAF under GTZ project was carried out:

- surveys in farms in different ecosystems conditions in order to know:
  - animal breeding situations in private farms
  - species and conditions of the breeding of the animals
  - farmer's knowledge on the breeding of the animals etc.

- based on these surveys were prepared reports with data on the situation in the districts.
- was contacted with all zootechnic specialists of the districts and communes to evaluate their knowledge and possibilities related with livestock advisory service.
- CASO in co-operation with the other sectors of zootechnic Research Institute, compiled an action plan in respect to acknowledgement and divulge activities:
- CASO prepared some special messages with basic knowledge as the following items:
  - Cattle breeding
  - Feeding of the animal
  - Drawing up the feeding balance in farm
  - Forage crop
  - Housing of the animals
  - Artificial insemination in cattle etc.

These messages are given to the specialists for judgement and to make their objections. They made suggestion for the most indispensable messages. The messages are written in a simple, understandable and short form. They are rather practical in use from the advisors.

In order to verify the knowledge that are given to the farmers and at time for studding purpose we are working with special contact farmers for the management on the farm. We contact them 1 or 2 times in a month. We have already noticed that when everything is simply and practically explained the farmers understand and do everything well.

In order that advisory service to be as efficient as possible and to reach as many people as possible extension methods are combined with publications magazine articles, and emissions on TV and radio.

Zootechnic Research Institute through its advisory service office take part in Research National Board and organise research experimental in farms in co-operation with regional advisory service.

There are some foreign NGO-s that are actually acting in our country as Land O'Lakes, SARA (ABC), FAO-GTZ, VOCA ORT, HPI, etc. They are giving e valuable contribution in livestock advisory field in co-operation with MoAF as following:

- reconstructing and developing of the breeding infrastructure of the animals
- improving the methods of the treatment and exploitation of the animals
- establishing specialised farms to produce meat from cattle, sheep and goats, pigs and poultry.

- training related with business, management and compiling of business plans
- credit application assistance.

An obstacle in the extension of the advisory activities has been the lack of the organised associations which are actually few in number with no sufficient financial means. However there are some farmer's associations that are just working in the livestock field.

In Albania the advisory service is a public one. The private advisory service is rather limited. It is gradually working to pass the public advisory service into private one through organising of some regional private centre. The private advisory service is organised in some other big farms that are breeding cattle, poultry and pigs but their work is at the first steps.

During this period are organised some visits to exchange experience to the other country as in Greece, USA, France, etc.

We think, it has been lacked the reciprocal recognition of the livestock activities between our Balkan countries. In this aspect, it would be with interes the Balkanik institutionalisation of the livestock activities.

We have a lot of work to do and the cost of this work isn't a little one but having some clear objectives it would be esaer to realise them with the supporting of the foreign and albanian investors.

## SAVJETODAVNA SLUŽBA I PROIZVODNJA ŽIVOTINJA U ALBANIJI

Albanija je mala zemlja, smještena na Balkanskom poluotoku. Ima ukupnu površinu od 28000 km<sup>2</sup> s populacijom oko 3 milijuna stanovnika, a oko 50% populacije živi u ruralnom području.

Kao rezultat dekolektivizacije poljoprivrednog sustava stvoreno je skoro 490 hiljada malih obiteljskih gospodarstava. Prosječna veličina zemlje gospodarstava je oko 1.4 ha/gospodarstvu. Ona varira od 3-4 ha/gospodarstvu u nizinskim područjima i 0.5 ha/gospodarstvu u planinskim područjima.

Gotovo sva obiteljska gospodarstva uzgajaju stoku. Zapravo 320 hiljada obiteljskih gospodarstava od kojih 82% uzgaja stoku. Proizvodnja životinja čini 48% ukupne poljoprivredne proizvodnje.

Proizvodi se (u 000 tona):

Br.	Opis	1998
1	Mlijeko	861
2	Meso (živa vaga)	106
3	Jaja (u milijunima)	397
4	Med (u tonama)	807
5	Ovčja vuna	3
6	Koža (u tonama)	4500

Zapravo obiteljska gospodarstva imaju ograničen broj životinja. Ta gospodarstva proizvode uglavnom za vlastite potrebe a 20 – 30% proizvodnje se proda. Tendencija je povećanje proizvodnje za trgovinu. Zadnjih godina primijećena je nova tendencija specijaliziranja gospodarstava.

Ima oko 8000 privatnih gospodarstava gdje se uzgaja više od 3 krave i 100 ovaca i koza. Zahtijeva se da privatni farmeri posjeduju životinje visoke genetske kakvoće i visoke proizvodnje.

Pretežnost uzgajanja goveda ili ovaca i koza ovisi o području. Stoka je najvažnija vrsta u Albaniji. Pasmine za mlijeko i njihovi križanci s lokalnim pasminama stoke prevladavaju u našoj zemlji. Mesne pasmine gotovo da ne postoje. Oko 294 hiljada obiteljskih gospodarstava uzgaja goveda. U strukturi goveda prevladavaju križanci Jersey i Crno-bijelog goveda sa 65%, čiste pasmine sa 12%, i lokalne pasmine sa 23%. Ta privatna gospodarstva proizvode 83% mlijeka i 56% mesa.

Ovce i koze uzgaja 176.5 hiljada obiteljskih gospodarstava. U strukturi prevladavaju križanci pasmina Cigaja i Merino, što obuhvaća oko 70% populacije ovaca, 27% lokalna pasmina i 3% čiste pasmine. U strukturi koza prevladava lokalna pasmina sa 98% i samo 2% su kultivirane pasmine. Ovce i koze proizvode 17% mlijeka, 30% mesa i 2900 tona vune.

Industrija svinja i peradi još nije konsolidirana u našoj zemlji. Ona proizvodi 14% mesa i 310 milijuna jaja.

U Albaniji savjetodavna služba kao proces je u začetku. Nekoliko posebnih ureda za savjete u poljoprivredi organizirano je uz pomoć EZ godine 1992-1993. u 6 okruga (u okviru PIC projekta).

U početku savjetodavna služba se koncentrirala na davanje tehničke pomoći i male materijalne pripomoći (sjeme i umjetno gnojivo). Savjetodavna služba se 1994.-1995. proširila na druga područja, u okviru EZ PHARE projekta, te se broj povećao na 12 okruga. Uredi savjetodavne službe organizirani su i opremljeni su informativnim sustavom.

U listopadu 1995. održan je nacionalni seminar "Razvoj poljoprivredne savjetodavne službe u Albaniji". Odmah nakon seminara organizirana je savjetodavna služba i osnovan je novi ured u Odjelu za znanost Ministarstva poljoprivrede i prehrane.

Ova služba je proširena na 27 od 36 postojećih okruga u našoj zemlji. Služba ima ovu strukturu:

#### Ministarstvo poljoprivrede i prehrane

Odjel za savjetovanje i znanost

Odjel za proizvodnju životinja

Okružni poljoprivredni odjel

1 Stručni opseg (SMS)

2 SMS agronomija

3 SMS stručnjak za stoku

4 itd. (npr. navodnjavanje, povrće, masline)

.....,

Glavni savjetnici u općinama

Savjetodavna sekcija u Ministarstvu poljoprivrede i prehrane odgovorna je za koordinaciju i razvoj svih savjetodavnih djelatnosti na nacionalnoj i područnoj razini. Glavni joj je cilj u našoj Zelenoj Strategiji koju je odobrila vlada: osnivati širom zemlje troškovno djelotvornu javnu dodatnu službu koja će pružati usluge, bez naplate, malim i srednjim gospodarstvima, odgovarati na njihove tehničke i ekonomske potrebe u procesu integriranja u tržišnu

ekonomiju, a tu će službu podupirati ograničena mreža istraživanja u razvoju tehnologije i integrirati u Sustav znanja i informacija u poljoprivredi (AKIS) te postepeno prijeći u privatnu službu.

Okruzi su u Albaniji podijeljeni na općine i sela, ukupno 317 općina i 2949 sela. Samo je jedan savjetnik na 1000 ha zemlje, iako postoje velike razlike i veze su u mnogim dijelovima vrlo slabe.

U početku je svrha ove strukture bila osposobljavanje osoblja savjetodavne sekcije u Ministarstvu poljoprivrede i prehrane, okružnim poljoprivrednim odjelima i općinama, pa su organizirani brojni tečajevi, radionice i seminari za razne aspekte savjetodavne službe. S vremenom okružno i općinsko osoblje stručno je osposobljeno za razne aspekte stočne proizvodnje i druge probleme dobro organiziranih gospodarstava. Njihovi se rezultati stavljaju u opću upotrebu na regionalnim sastancima s farmerima.

Središnji i područni savjetodavni uredi izdaju mnogo jednostavnih brošura za razne oblike proizvodnje.

Sustav praćenja mora poboljšati djelotvornost savjetodavne službe kroz pritičanje informacija između farmera, okruga i Ministarstva. Pratitelji daju informaciju okruzima gdje nakon obrade dobivaju prvu povratnu informaciju. Okruzi šalju informaciju Ministarstvu odakle se nakon obrade povratna informacija šalje okruzima. Tehnički problemi šalju se odgovarajućim Istraživačkim institutima.

Stoga su u Zootehničkom istraživačkom institutu i na Poljoprivrednom fakultetu u Tirani osnovani uredi za koordiniranje savjetodavne službe (CASO) koje koordinira Ured savjetodavne službe u Ministarstvu poljoprivrede i prehrane.

CASO je u Istraživačkom institutu uz potporu Odjela za proizvodnju životinja i Odjela za znanost i savjetodavnu službu u okviru projekta GTZ proveo:

- Preglede na farmama u uvjetima raznih eko-sustava radi upoznavanja:
- stanja uzgoja životinja na privatnim farmama
- vrsta životinja i uvjeta uzgoja
- znanja farmera o uzgajanju životinja itd.
- Na osnovi ovih pregleda pripremljeni su izvještaji o podacima o stanju u okruzima.
- Kontaktirani su svi zootehnički stručnjaci okruga i općina da se procijeni njihovo znanje i mogućnosti u vezi sa istočnom savjetodavnom službom.
- CASO je u suradnji s drugim sektorima i zootehničkim istraživačkim institutom pokrenuo plan akcije u vezi s priznavanjem i proširivanjem aktivnosti.

- CASO je pripremio posebne poruke s osnovnim znanjem prema sljedećim točkama:

- Uzgoj stoke
- Hranjenje životinja
- Sastavljanje uravnotežene prehrane na farmi
- Kultura stočne hrane
- Nastamba za životinje
- Umjetno osjemenjivanje goveda, itd.

Ove su poruke dane stručnjacima radi mišljenja i primjedaba. Oni su dali prijedloge za najvažnije poruke. Poruke su pisane u jednostavnom, razumljivom i kratkom obliku. One su praktične za savjetnike.

Radi provjere znanja pruženog farmerima radimo s posebnim farmerima za vezu za upravljanje na farmi. S njima stupamo u vezu jedan ili dva puta mjesečno. Primijetili smo da kad je sve protumačeno na jednostavan i praktičan način farmeri razumiju i učine sve kako treba.

Da bi savjetodavna služba bila što je moguće djelotvornija i doprla do što je moguće većeg broja ljudi dodatne se metode kombiniraju s izdavanjem članaka u časopisima i programima na TV i radiju.

Zootehnički istraživački institut sudjeluje putem svog ureda savjetodavne službe u Nacionalnom odboru za istraživanje, te organizira istraživačke pokuse na farmama u suradnji s područnom savjetodavnom službom.

U našoj zemlji rade neke strane institucije kao Land O' Lakes, SARA (ABC), FAO-GTG, VOCAORT, HPI, itd. Oni pružaju vrijedan doprinos savjetima u stočarstvu u suradnji s Ministarstvom poljoprivrede i prehrane, i to:

- obnovi i razvoju infrastrukture u uzgoju životinja
- poboljšanju metoda postupanja i iskorištavanja životinja
- osnivanju specijaliziranih gospodarstava za proizvodnju mesa goveda, ovaca i koza, svinja i peradi
- osposobljavanju u vezi s poslovanjem, upravljanjem i sastavljanjem poslovnih planova
- pomoći u primjeni kredita.

Prepreka u proširivanju savjetodavnih aktivnosti je nedostatak organiziranih udruženja koja su rijetka po broju s nedovoljno financijskih sredstava. Međutim, postoje neka udruženja farmera koja rade na području stočarstva.

U Albaniji savjetodavna služba je javna. Privatna savjetodavna služba prilično je ograničena. Postepeno se radi na pretvaranju javne savjetodavne službe u privatnu organiziranjem nekih regionalnih privatnih centara. Privatna savjetodavna služba organizirana je na nekim velikim farmama za uzgoj goveda, peradi i svinja ali njihov je rad tek u začetku.

U zadnje se vrijeme organiziraju posjeti drugim zemljama kao što su Grčka, USA, Francuska itd. radi izmjene iskustava. Mislimo da nema dovoljno obostranog priznavanja aktivnosti u stočarstvu među našim balkanskim zemljama. U tom pogledu institucionaliziranje stočarskih aktivnosti na Balkanu bilo bi zanimljivo.

Imamo mnogo posla za obaviti i cijena tog posla nije malena ali imajući neke jasne ciljeve bilo bi ih lakše ostvariti uz potporu stranih i albanskih ulagača.

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