

Tobacco waste in Bosnia and Herzegovina – problem or high-value material?

Abstract

Tobacco has been produced in Bosnia and Herzegovina since the first half of the 17th century, and during the 70's and 80's of the 20th century, the manufacturing has reached its peak. After that period, the production rapidly stagnates. However, tobacco is still being cultivated in many areas of Bosnia and Herzegovina as an important crop. Due to the unorganized buyout as well as the lack of tobacco growing supervision from the authorities, tobacco manufacturers launch their products to grey markets as semi-manufactured products. On the other markets these products are well-known as Herzegovinian škija. In the Posavina region there is an organized buyout, but the buying prices are low and it puts the manufacturers in a difficult position. Is the revitalization of tobacco growing possible? The opinion is that the revitalization of the traditional growing of tobacco is impossible due to the changes in consumers' preferences, in types of cigarettes and in the manufacturing technology.

However, there is a need to search for alternative launching ways for these tobacco sorts, with a focus on rolling tobacco and other local products. The role of the state plays one of the most important components, because there are special excise duties as well as a tax system on tobacco.

In this value chain, from growing to the processing of the product, waste management plays an important role. Due to the fact that tobacco waste is a rich source of valuable components which is reviewed in this paper, its usage could present an added value and increase the tobacco prices, and, at the same time, solve the problem of disposing this dangerous waste.

Keywords: tobacco, waste, bioactive compounds

