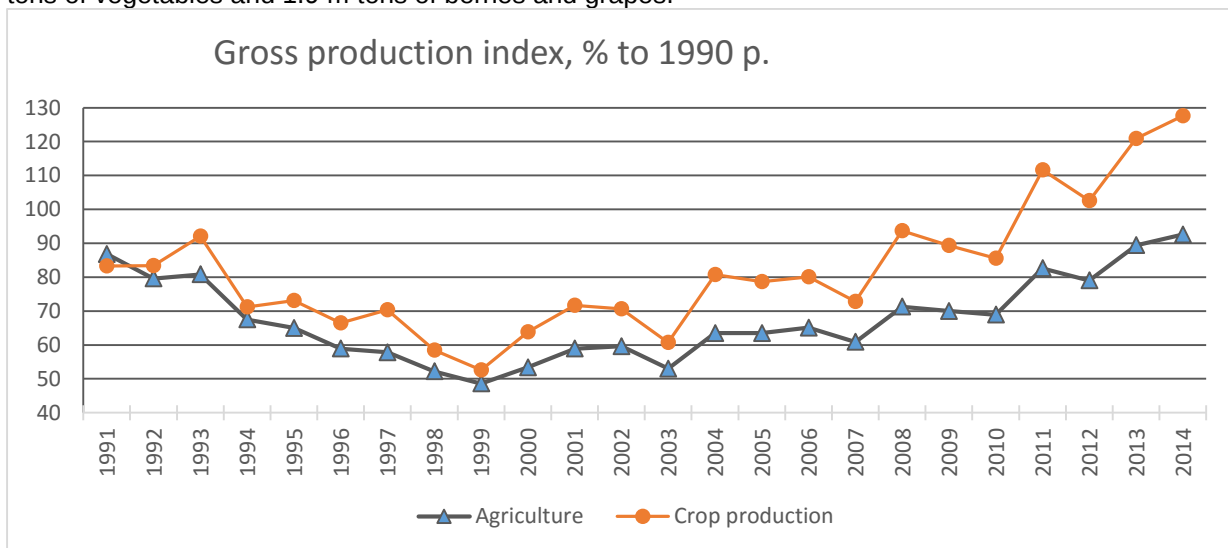


Ukrainian agriculture in XXI century

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Over 15 years of Ukrainian independence scientists and managers declared the critical state of agriculture, presenting data on low levels of profitability, a decline of material resources, low wages, low yields, high energy consumption, low product quality, non-compliance with international quality standards and as a consequence - poor competitiveness in the global market. Finally, for last several years, agriculture is positioned as one of the leading production spheres of the national economy, a provider of foreign exchange earnings and the only hope of the Ukrainian villages. Statements about the powerful agribusiness nevertheless are at least premature, and high overall performance hides significant internal imbalances, financial instability, environmental problems, rising unemployment in rural areas.

According to the Ministry of Agrarian Policy and Food of Ukraine for 6 months in 2015 92.7% of farms received income, in previous years it has also demonstrated positive dynamics - the index of gross output reached almost 1990, and for the crop - even exceeded it in 2011. According to the data provided by Department of soil management and technical policy in agro-industrial complex in 2015 Ukraine harvested 26.5 m tons of wheat, 8.4 m tons of barley, 23 m tons of corn, 388 th tons of rye and 138 th tons of buckwheat, 11.1 m tons of sunflower, 3.8 m tons of soybeans, 10.2 m tons of sugar beet, 21.3 m tons of potatoes, 8.7 m tons of vegetables and 1.9 m tons of berries and grapes.



In recent years, the gross output of agriculture in Ukraine is growing faster than global rates. Along with the increased efficiency, an indicator of which is the yield - in 2013 we obtained 3.99 t/ha of grain and leguminous crops on the average against 3.55 t / ha for global rate.

A significant proportion of product is intended for export. Despite the fall in world grain prices by 24% in 2015, the share of agricultural products (groups 1-24) in total Ukrainian exports increased and amounted to 38.2%, which made the industry a leader among other sectors and ensure high foreign exchange earnings for the economy. According to the data provided by Minister of Agrarian Policy and Food, total exports in 2015 amounted to 14.6 bn dollars. The foreign trade balance of these commodity groups was 11.1 bn dollars and allowed to cut the deficit for mining and petroleum industry. The basis of the commodity structure of Ukrainian agricultural exports are crops - 16% of total exports, fats and oils - 9% and oilseeds - 4% [1].

Among the factors that influence the development of agriculture, domestic and foreign scholars have identified the most common consolidated groups: natural resources, economic, social and demographic, technological, infrastructural, of endogenous and exogenous nature. In this case, multiple factors impact helped to succeed - traditional natural resource advantages of Ukrainian agriculture: sufficient amount of fertile soil, favorable weather conditions, favorable geographical location. Many of us would like to prize the effective adaptation of farms to market conditions, effective economic policy - favorable tax environment (preferential taxation of VAT, until recently - FAT), state agricultural development programs. But in our opinion an effective national ownership was finally created and played the major role. Powerful vertically integrated corporations with own production of agricultural raw materials, preserving and processing companies, effective sales systems, effective enterprise management system appeared. Such corporate formation we call agricultural holdings and their activity is the main key to economic growth in agriculture. Unfortunately, their influence carries many threats the economy and rural areas.

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