

REFORMS IMPLEMENTED IN THE LIVESTOCK SECTOR IN UZBEKISTAN

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Abstract

As a result of the reforms implemented in Uzbekistan based on the new development strategy, serious attention is being paid to the development of the livestock sector on a multi-pronged basis in order to meet the population's needs for livestock products. Despite this, the number of livestock and the volume of products, as well as the productivity of livestock, remain relatively low. This article presents opinions on the reforms implemented in the livestock sector in Uzbekistan.

Keywords: Surkhan oasis, livestock, cattle, dairy products, reforms.

Introduction

After the Republic of Uzbekistan gained independence, in the process of implementing fundamental economic reforms in agriculture, state farms were transformed into collective and joint-stock farms. Livestock farming, cattle farms of most farms were privatized, and farms with a dehkan and livestock orientation began to be organized. During the years of independence, large-scale organizational changes took place in the livestock sector due to the implementation of deep socio-economic reforms aimed at the transition from an administrative-command system of economic management to a market economy. The process of reorganization of low-profit agricultural enterprises - state farms and collective farms, which began in the early years of independence, had a certain impact on livestock farming. After all, farms raising cattle were mainly located on large cotton farms. State farms and collective farms, later on the basis of partnerships, were established, as well as specialized livestock farms with individual livestock, as well as collective-owned livestock farms. During the formation of a new organizational and legal form of activity in agriculture, the government widely supported the

farming and dekhkan movement in livestock farming. The population was provided with preferential loans for the purchase of livestock, land plots were allocated for the organization of farm and feed production, and the state order for livestock products was canceled, breeding work was developed and pedigree cattle were purchased from foreign countries, and the production of compound feed was widely established.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

According to the resolutions of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated March 15, 1993 "On measures to deepen economic reforms in animal husbandry of the republic", dated February 23, 1994 "On measures to improve economic reforms in animal husbandry and protect the interests of peasant (farmer) farms and privatized farms", dated March 24, 1995 "On measures to continue privatization in animal husbandry and support private entrepreneurship", 1499 loss-making collective farms were privatized (1995). As a result, the private sector began to provide 75% of the meat and milk produced in the republic. The Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On Breeding", adopted on December 25, 1995, was of great importance in the development of animal husbandry [1].

During 1990-2003, the number of cattle in all categories of farms of the republic increased by 28.2%, cows by 38%, sheep and goats by 7%, horses by 36%, milk production by 32.8%, meat production by 18.6%, the main part of animal husbandry products fell on the share of farmers and farms. In 1992-1995, 22 thousand hectares were allocated for homestead farms to agricultural specialists, employees and workers in the Surkhandarya region. Of these, 8 thousand hectares were allocated at the expense of state farms that existed during the Soviet era. Because due to the abandonment of the developed lands in the state farms, most of the fertile lands in the Kyzylrik, Sherabad, and Muzrobot districts were saline, turned into reeds and bushes, and their productivity was significantly damaged. The allocation of these abandoned lands to personal plots created great opportunities for agricultural specialists, employees, and workers to supply food products for their own needs and the market [2].

Another noteworthy aspect of the issue is that in recent years, most of the lands allocated to agricultural specialists, employees, and workers for personal plots were allocated to young agricultural specialists, employees, and workers in the villages,

providing them with housing and personal farms. Thanks to the work carried out in the livestock sector, since 1991, it has been possible to increase the production of products such as meat, milk, and eggs. The number of ungulates in livestock farming has increased, and their provision with fodder has improved significantly. The republic's agricultural workers began to provide themselves and the domestic market with livestock products [3].

From the first years of independence, the republican government paid special attention to the development and support of farms. As a result, the number of dehqan (farmer) farms increased and strengthened from year to year. In 1994 alone, the number of dehqan (farmer) farms increased by 1.9 times, and by the end of the year it amounted to more than 25 thousand. Of these, more than 10 thousand farms specialized in livestock breeding. Meat production on farms increased by 3 times, milk production by 2.1 times, and egg production by 1.3 times. These were the first practical results achieved by dehqan (farmer) farms in the development of livestock breeding. Year after year, work on improving zoo-veterinary services was effectively launched in the regions. In particular, in 1996, zoovet points in Namangan region concluded 365 contracts worth 5 million 137 thousand soums with dehkan (farm) farms, private livestock farms and other non-governmental organizations, and in Surkhandarya region concluded 520 contracts worth 3 million 311 thousand soums. In addition, veterinary pharmacies were opened and provided services to supply medicines to the population's personal livestock, dehkan (farm) farms, private livestock farms and other non-governmental organizations. In 1996, there were a total of 37 veterinary pharmacies in Surkhandarya region, 19 of which were private and 18 belonged to district and city animal disease control stations. Veterinary medicines worth 848 thousand soums were sold through these pharmacies. This year, 1,440 farms were established in Surkhandarya region, with 17,209 heads of cattle, including 5,475 cows, 20,530 sheep and goats, 21,600 poultry, 1,482 beehives, 94 horses, 202 pigs, and 22,472 hectares of land allocated for them. They were provided with 172 tractors and walk-behind tractors, 120 trailers, and 12 trucks. Among the farmers, Yodgorov from Muzrabod sold 14.7 tons of meat and 18.9 tons of milk, Khayitov from Termez district sold 30 tons of milk, and Ochilov sold 18.5 tons of meat to the state [4].

The initial experience of the farming movement in the country, despite some difficulties, has shown that it is a reliable way to ensure the development of the

sector. Due to state support, peasant (farmer) farms have been developing rapidly, despite the obstacles on the main road and certain difficulties. In the early years of our independence, a number of measures aimed at deepening reforms in the agricultural sector of our country were determined by the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan “On measures to support agricultural production by the state”, signed on April 3, 1996 [5].

DISCUSSION AND RESULTS

During the years of independence, peasant (farmer) farms have been improving year by year and have taken an important place in the production of agricultural products, including livestock. Due to the fact that peasant and farm households worked more efficiently than cooperative farms, the number of livestock in peasant and farm households increased during the years of independence, while it decreased in cooperative farms. In 1993-2001, the number of livestock in peasant households increased from 71 to 85.1 percent, in farms from 3.9 to 4.8 percent, while in cooperative farms it decreased from 25.1 to 10.1 percent during the same period. In 2001, peasant households had more than 3,226,000 head of cattle. They produced 90 percent of the milk and 91 percent of the meat produced in the country [6].

The main results achieved in the agricultural sector of Uzbekistan during the years of independence are the reforms being carried out in the country's agricultural sector, which are being implemented gradually on the basis of the five principles set by the first President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, I. Karimov. Since the first years of independence, the creation of comfortable and modern conditions for the population in the countryside has been considered a priority area of state policy. Over the past time, economic reforms have been positively implemented in the livestock sector of agriculture, and agriculture, in particular livestock breeding, plays an important role in the sustainable development of the economy.

In our country, one of the priority tasks is to satisfy the population's need for livestock products, to ensure the increase in the supply of meat, milk, eggs, fish and other products in the markets. In this regard, the Resolutions of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan “On measures to encourage livestock breeding in private households, dehkans and farms” adopted on March 23, 2006 and “On additional measures to strengthen the encouragement of livestock breeding in private

households, dehkans and farms and expand the production of livestock products” of April 21, 2008 serve as important programmatic guidelines [7].

A network of infrastructure for the provision of veterinary, feed sales and other services has been newly established in places convenient for the population. Most importantly, in order to develop livestock breeding in private households and dehkans, the issue of allocating microloans for the purchase of cattle by the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection of the Population of the Republic of Uzbekistan and commercial banks has been resolved.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, during the years of independence, agriculture, in particular livestock breeding, has played an important role in the sustainable development of our country’s economy. During this period, due to the implementation of deep socio-economic reforms in the livestock sector in our country, aimed at transitioning from an administrative-command system of management to a market economy, large-scale organizational changes have occurred. State and collective farms, and later, livestock farms with personal livestock were established on the basis of partnerships, as well as specialized livestock farms in the form of collective ownership.

As a result of the economic reforms being implemented in the agricultural sector of our country, as well as in the livestock sector, significant socio-economic changes have occurred. In the early years of independence, state and collective farms were engaged in the production of livestock products, but as a result of the reforms carried out in the field, collective livestock farms, joint-stock companies, private livestock farms, peasant and farm enterprises based on various forms of ownership are currently operating in the republic’s livestock sector.

In our country, meeting the population’s needs for livestock products and ensuring an increase in the supply of meat, milk, eggs, fish and other products on the markets was considered one of the priority tasks. The state order for livestock products, including meat and milk, was completely abolished. This allowed farms to freely sell their products at market prices.

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