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FEATURES OF CROP ROTATION FORMATION IN KHARKIV REGION DURING THE NEP YEARS (1921-1929): A HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

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Abstract. The authors studied the process of land use in agriculture in Ukraine during the NEP period. The process of crop rotation in a historical context was identified in order to study important factors of the impact of Agriculture on society as a whole.

Keywords: NEP, crop rotation, Land community, peasant, agriculture

Introduction. The New Economic Policy in Ukraine had significant features in agriculture. New forms of management appeared, which certainly influenced such important technologies as crop rotation. The process of crop rotation is very important in the process of growing crops. Therefore, it is a significant task to study such important processes from the point of view of historical processes. In Kharkiv region, during the NEP years (1921-1928), thanks to new socio – economic processes, crops alternated for the purpose of intensive agricultural development. The issue of new economic policy is carefully discussed in different periods. At the present stage, we should recall the significant achievements of agricultural historians: Kalinichenko V. V. [1], Kulchitsky S. V.[2], Lazurenko V. M.[3], Marochko V. I.

[4], Sushko A. A.[5]. Research on agricultural history requires further study, so the authors continue to explore these important issues.

Aim. The authors refer to the history of the new economic policy (1921-1929), its Agricultural Relations, its crop rotation, regulation of economic problems, and so on. Carry out a historical review of the formation and significance of crop rotation in Kharkiv region during the new economic policy. To study the impact of crop rotation on the cultivation of agricultural crops and on agricultural relations, on social and food policy in this period. Review the historical realities of NEP in the context of some important economic tasks, such as agriculture, and draw parallels in the context of the present.

Materials and methods. In order to overcome the political and economic crisis, changes were taking place in the rural economy. The authors used the following research methods in the study. First of all, historical-comparative, statistical, historical-system, chronological, and actualization method. The agrarian transformations of the 20s influenced the forms of peasant land use. Unfortunately, land redistribution had a negative impact on the state of land use. The state tried to influence this situation, but there were errors, because the peasants cultivated the land carelessly. What is the place of crop rotation in obtaining positive results? First of all, crop rotation is a system of Agriculture that ensures the alternation of crops and vapors according to a certain plan. Alternation takes place on a specific field. Therefore, the Land Code has limited the time of land redistribution to three crop rotations [6]. The communal form of land use was more conservative. The community members divided the arable land as follows. Each field in the crop rotation was divided into parts, depending on the quality of the land, then into rut, which depended on the distance from the village. Of course, the peasants were well aware that the old forms of management hinder the development of Agriculture. Crop rotation is a fairly powerful tool that allows you to solve a number of economic problems. We considered the prospect of multi-field crop rotation, which opened up new prospects for farmers during the NEP period. Unfortunately, in the Kharkiv region, as well as in other regions, there were cases of non-compliance with crop

rotation. The reason was the lack of a sufficient number of working livestock among the poorer strata of the peasantry, as well as the lack of seeds, the lack of Organization of sales of row crops, and the shortcomings of the sowing crops themselves. It should be noted that these reasons gradually disappeared, as this issue was important in achieving high yields.

Results and discussion. Consequently, the introduction of multi-field crop rotations enabled peasant farms to develop progressively in obtaining high-quality results. The debatable is quite natural for researchers. Were there really no painful changes for the peasant? After all, with the introduction of public crop rotation, the role of the Land community in rural areas increased. Organization of public crop rotation, formation of agricultural equipment points, and other important tasks – these tasks could be performed by United land growers, i.e. the community. The peasants were forced to unite for positive changes. Some farms have already started using a six-field crop rotation: corn, potatoes, sunflower, winter wheat, oats, melons. The authors will study this undoubtedly interesting and important question in more detail in the future.

Conclusions. Thus, during the NEP period, farmers fought for their right to land, tried to be prudent owners, and grow high yields on Ukrainian lands. The crop rotation process is part of an important process in rural areas. The material shows that thanks to crop rotation, the Land of Kharkiv region during the NEP period retained and improved its capabilities. However, there were problems that needed to be solved. Thanks to the study of past historical experience, farmers fulfill their important issues and apply the latest technologies. Therefore, the experience of past times is invaluable for our contemporaries for the future of our children and our country.

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