

## STATE OF BERRIES PRODUCTION IN UKRAINE

*V. Karychkovskyy, Candidate of Economic Sciences*

*M. Khomenko, master student*

*Uman National University of Horticulture*

Horticulture is the traditional branch of agriculture of Ukraine, the development of which firstly is based on favourable soil and climate conditions for growing of fruit and berry crops, culinary traditions of population etc. However in the last years of its development negative tendencies predominate. Beginning from the eighties of the last century the sharp reduction of amount of production of fruit and berries crops, the decrease of quantity of farms which are engaged in commodity production are observed [1].

Among horticultural products berries occupy special place by a range of organizational, economical and technological characteristics: they open the seasonal arrivals of fresh fruits at the market; their production is very labor-intensive, high-intensive and at the same time provides quick circulation of capital. In the 20s of the last century, the famous Russian agrobiologist economist P.G. Shytt emphasized that great labour intensity of fruit and berries production is a factor that provides the use of rural surplus of labor force and thus contributes to suspension of spontaneous migration of rural residents to cities.

The above mentioned advantages of berries production have been widely used by farmers in Europe, as evidenced by the berries proportion of gross collection: EU countries – 10%, in particular in Poland about 20%. Unfortunately in Ukraine this index is only 2% [2].

**Research methods.** In the article the dialectical, retrospective and abstract-logical methods of research are used.

**Research results.** Horticulture is the traditional branch of agriculture of Ukraine, among the products of which the important place is occupied by berries. They have essential for human being biochemical composition, they quickly enter the fructification season and are characterized by good taste and high productivity and they are able to provide consumers with fresh products from May to September. Berries are one of the key elements of the solution of quality and well balanced food in the country, which is provided in the concept of the State Scientific and Technical Program “Biofortification and functional products on the basis of plant raw materials for 2012-2016” [3].

In the process of agrarian reform government and producers implemented number of measures to stabilize berry production and increase its efficiency. However, a number of issues related to the solution of this problem haven't been solved yet, in particular relations of ownership of land and property are not fully resolved, efficient management of production is absent, zonal advantages of allocation of production and labor potential of agricultural regions are used insufficiently, progressive technologies of production and effective marketing system of fruits and

berries products are not enough engrained, and its quality does not always meet the requirements of the market.

On the average for 2006-2010 in Ukraine the area of berries plantations amounted 21.6 thousand hectares and gross harvest of berries was 109.1 thousand tons, with productivity – 54.9 hwt/ha. Export of berries at that time was about 1 thousand tons per year, while import was about 55 tons. Thus, 3.4 kg of berries are produced per resident of Ukraine at the physiological consumption rate of 10 kg. Let's consider in details yield, gross harvest and area of berry plantations in Ukraine in 2010 (table 1).

### 1. Area, yield and gross harvest of berries crops in 2010

Region	Total area of plantations, thous. ha	The area of plantations in fructiferous age, thous. ha	Gross harvest of total area, thous. hwt	The yield from 1 ha of plantations in fructiferous age, hwt
Ukraine	21,6	19,9	1174,8	59,1
Crimea	0,8	0,8	81,7	108,1
Vinnitsya	1	0,9	76,5	83,7
Volyn	1,1	0,9	39,1	44,9
Dnipropetrovsk	1,5	1,5	125,4	83,4
Donetsk	2	1,8	122,4	66,6
Zhytomyr	1,1	1	90,1	87,3
Zakarpattia	0,5	0,4	26,1	65,4
Zaporizhya	0,6	0,6	40,6	63,3
Ivano-Frankivsk	0,9	0,7	12,6	16,8
Kyiv	1,4	1,4	77,4	55,7
Kirovograd	0,4	0,4	18,6	53,2
Lugansk	0,9	0,7	23,5	32
Lviv	1,3	1,1	42,4	37,9
Mykolaiv	0,2	0,1	5,8	46,7
Odesa	0,6	0,6	24,3	42,8
Poltava	0,7	0,6	52,4	82,9
Rivne	0,5	0,5	41,6	81,6
Sumy	0,6	0,6	29,9	47,5
Ternopil	0,9	0,9	22,5	25,9
Kharkiv	1	1	41,1	41,6
Kherson	0,4	0,3	31,4	98,4
Khmelnitsk	0,7	0,6	37	60,2
Cherkasy	1	0,9	53,1	57,1
Chernivtsi	0,9	0,8	40,1	50,7
Chernihiv	0,6	0,6	19,4	31,9

As we can see from table, the total area of berry plantations in Ukraine in 2010 was 21.6 thousand hectares, and gross harvest was 1174.8 thousand hundredweights.

The leading regions in growing berries among others are Donetsk and Dnipropetrovsk regions, and the smallest area of berry plantations is in Mykolaiv region. The highest yield of berries was in Crimea and Kherson region (108.1 and 98.4 hwt/ha), due to favorable soil and climatic conditions and production and economic characteristics of these regions.

For the development of horticulture, including berries production "Branch Program of Horticulture Development of Ukraine till 2025" is of great importance, which was developed by the Ministry of Agrarian Policy and Food of Ukraine. [4] According to the objectives of the program it is planned to increase industrial production of berries to 573.0 thousand tons by expanding the area to 59.3 hectares and increasing of productivity to 96.6 hwt/ha. For the supply of population with berries produce due to physiologically reasonable standards of consumption, volumes of production of currant should be increased from 25.8 to 240.0 thousand tons, production of raspberries – from 25.7 to 45.0 thousand tons, production of strawberries – from 57.2 to 192, 0 tons, production of gooseberries – from 6.8 to 96.0 tons.

One of the most important factors of berry production development is a need for a careful approach to the territorial location of production. As the environmental conditions of a particular region are a permanent factor in agricultural production, they largely determine the possibility of efficient production of certain berries varieties. A comprehensive consideration of the natural environment conditions allows to determine which crops and varieties can be successfully grown in a particular region.

The increase of berry production will be achieved by further intensification of the industry through the introduction of high-productive varieties, intensive technologies of cultivation and storage, mechanization of hand works, etc., which can help to improve the productivity of plants and meeting the needs of the people in berries.

**Conclusions.** The increase of berries production by means of intensification of the branch through introduction of highly productive varieties, intensive technologies of growing and storage of products etc. will promote the increase of plants productivity and provide the population demands in berries.

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