**Annotation**

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*Current state and prospects of developing slaughter livestock and poultry units of producers of the agricultural sphere in Ukraine*

Slaughter production and primary processing of livestock are key technological elements of meat production subcomplex.

Currently, the Ukrainian society faces a difficult choice – to use the Law of Ukraine № 771/97-BP “On safety and quality of food products” that will cause adverse changes in the domestic food market or not to use it – that will cause a negative reaction from WTO and EU and will make the Ukrainian European integration more complicated.

The article is devoted to the analysis of the current state of slaughter livestock and poultry units in agricultural production in Ukraine, identifying reasons which hinder the development of this segment of the infrastructure and assessment of its prospects.

Supporters of the early entry into force of the Law of Ukraine № 771/97-BP rightly point out that cattle slaughter in slaughter equipped units allows to solve a number of important issues:

1) increasing safety of livestock products;  
2) waste utilization;  
3) increasing competitiveness of livestock branches of the Ukrainian agricultural sector for a long period.

Opponents of Articles 33 and 35 of the Law of Ukraine №771 / 97-BP point to negative consequences of implementing livestock production ban of homestead slaughter:

1) breeding for selling cattle is one of the main sources of farm budgets;  
2) food safety – reducing economic availability of meat and meat products for households.

Total capacity of surveyed slaughterhouses for change is 2.811.0 tons of meat in slaughter weight. If they all worked every day for a year they would ensure production of only 1.026 thousand tons of meat in slaughter weight which is only 40.2% of the actual needs.

Conclusions:

1) constant postponement of legislative prohibition on implementation of slaughtered meat inflicts image losses of Ukraine and is not accompanied with the government support of infrastructure network of slaughter units;  
2) shortage of capacity of slaughter units is 1.524 thousand tons or 59.8% of the demand based on the fund relevant product consumption in the domestic market of Ukraine;  
3) to minimize negative social and economic consequences of introducing legislative ban on the implementation of slaughtered meat we must:

3.1) expand the information campaign to prepare the population to ban introduction which is accompanied with popularization of service cooperatives in the sector of functioning slaughter units and create mass consumer consciousness of firm conviction on the unacceptability of risks associated with meat purchase of livestock slaughter;  
3.2) develop and implement a comprehensive national target program for the construction and maintenance of slaughter units.

**Key words:** meat production subcomplex, slaughter production, farms, safety, quality, competitiveness, slaughter unit, service cooperative, information campaign, state support.