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SOURCE Rumanian newspapers as indicated. (Information requested.)

AGRICULTURAL STATIONS IMPROVED;
STOCK BREEDING ENCOURAGED

MINISTRY RELEASES STATISTICS -- Universal, No 4, 6 Jan 49

The Ministry has allotted 2,750,000,000 lei to its Administration for Agricultural Machinery and Tractor Stations, created in October 1948. The Administration immediately organized 80 MTSs with repair stations, eight centers for farming machinery, and eight centers for machinery. In the Bucharest area, 14 stations are equipped with electric generators and the units at Botosani, Ciuj, Ploesti, and Covurlui are electrified. Seven schools for tractor mechanics, five schools for agricultural machinery mechanics and two schools for crew foremen have been established to train personnel in the work of mechanizing agriculture. A total of 495 tractors have been put into use and repaired.

The Ministry has allotted 370,215,000 lei to projects for improving the soil, irrigation, and building levees. It was planned to improve 244,786 hectares, using 2,760,000 cubic meters of earthworks, and 228,987 hectares were actually improved.

To develop stock-raising, 4,600 breeding bulls, 5,075 rams, and 1,400 boars were procured. Five hundred forty-nine horse-breeding farms, stocked with stallions belonging to the state, and 152 sheep-breeding farms, where 110,000 head of sheep have been inseminated artificially, have also been established. To improve the quality of native stock, 976 blooded bulls and 837 blooded cows from Switzerland and 120 karakul ewes and rams from USSR have been distributed throughout the country. Repairs have been effected on 1,100 communal stables, and cattle-grazing farms have been established in 130 judets.

In the field of viticulture, 3,010 kilograms of copper sulfate have been distributed to combat plant diseases, and 513,753 treated graftings have been given to farmers whose vineyards had suffered from war and drought.

The 1948 spring sowing was completed 16 days ahead of schedule and the area sown amounted to 6,682,341 hectares. For the harvest, 12,033 threshers, supplied

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with 117,000 tons of coal, were used. There were 9,300 tons of agricultural machinery and tools made in the country, and 5,000 tons of agricultural machinery were imported from USSR, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, and Austria. The area planted in vegetables amounted to 147,880 hectares; in fodder, 129,323 hectares. To fight locusts, 20,500 kilograms of calcium arsenate were procured in USSR; out of a total of 4,500 hectares dusted, 4,297 hectares were dusted from aircraft; 114,823 hectares of orchards were checked for pests. The Ministry of Agriculture distributed 696 kilograms of silkworm eggs to stimulate sericulture.

The number of hatcheries was increased by about ten during the year. Research conducted by the Institute of Stockbreeding revealed that selge is a good feed for cattle, that curly-haired sheep can endure the climate of the Carpathians, and that bees will produce honey in mountainous regions. At the hatcheries of the Institute, 55,855 eggs were incubated from which 30,871 chickens hatched.

Numerous fishponds and hatcheries were built or repaired, and 8 million carp were released.

AGRICULTURE IN 1949 PLAN -- Universul, No 34, 11 Feb 49

As of 7 February, the following steps have been taken to fulfill the 1949 Economic Plan in the field of agriculture: Plans for crops have been sent to 6,086 communes with 754,065 inhabitants; 7,721 centers established for cleaning seed have handled 14,738 tons of seed; 4,395,700 tons of stable manure have been spread on 221,145 hectares; about 2 million hectares have been prepared for planting.

The following equipment has been repaired: for state farms, 1,565 tractors, 1,484 tractor plows, 1,107 animal plows, 1,244 seed drills; for private owners, 1,404 tractors, 1,155 tractor plows, 200,816 animal plows, 5,194 seed drills.

Eighty MTBs, eight regional mechanical centers, seven zonal mechanical centers, 80 repair shops have been created; all are equipped to repair equipment and to make spare parts.

PREPARE FOR SPRING SOWING IN IALOMITA JUDET -- Universul, No 22, 28 Jan 49

The councils of the plasi have already determined quotas for the communes; councils of the latter will establish their individual quotas. In order that the individual farmers may know exactly what is expected of them, each will receive written directions not later than 10 February; in all, about 85,000 plans will be drawn up.

Machinery and agricultural equipment are being repaired at the MTB and by the individual owners. The 350 tractors will be distributed throughout the judet, and blacksmith shops have received large shipments of coal to be used to repair tractors and other agricultural machinery.

Greater areas of cotton, flax, hemp, sugar beets and sunflowers will be planted this year than last. There are 35 centers in the judet for assembling agricultural machinery and equipment, with 1,340 different pieces. Steps have been taken to establish 420 centers for cleaning and disinfecting the seed to be planted.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY IN RAMNICU-SARAT JUDET -- Scanteia, No 1316, 5 Jan 49

Last year nine stables were built in Tamboesti, Bordesti, Amara, Cotesti, Urechesti, Obiditi, Bogza, Dediulesti and H. Radulescu communes. Also, 22

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stables have been repaired. New stables are to be built in Galbenu, Gradistea, and Urbeni communes in 1949.

To improve the stock 73 Siementhal and Swiss bulls have been purchased and distributed throughout the judet. In order to improve ovine stock, three stations for artificial insemination have been established.

STOCK RAISING IN SIBIU JUDET -- Scanteia, No 1319, 8 Jan 49

The Sibiu Inspectorate of State Farms has received 241 Siementhal cows, 12 breeding bulls and 26 yearlings which have been distributed to farms to improve and increase stock. Three farms to which cattle have been sent are at Stupini Brasov, Cisnadia, and Dealul Oanei. The Inspectorate also has 2,700 cross-bred Merino sheep on its farms. On many farms, there are large sties for raising and fattening pigs.

MEASURES FOR IMPROVEMENT OF LIVESTOCK -- Universul, No 22, 28 Jan 49

The Rumanian government has imported from Russia 4,600 thoroughbred bulls, 5,075 rams and 1,400 boars to improve the quality and quantity of livestock.

Communes have been granted credits of 105 million lei for the construction of stables, 125 million lei for procuring bulls, and over 22 million lei for procuring rams.

TRACTOR REPAIR AT PECIUL NOU -- Scanteia, No 1320, 9 Jan 49

In Peciu Nou, Timis-Torontal Judet, workers of the MTS have completed 80 percent of their quota for tractor repairs. Up to the present they have repaired 25 tractors of their quota of 31. To improve the quality of work and train new personnel, ten workers have been sent to the school for crew foremen and 16 others to schools for training tractor operators in Oradea and Dumbraveni.

NEW SILOS CONSTRUCTED -- Universul, No 8, 12 Jan 49

The new silos at Ternevela, Vidala, Balaci, Balessti, Segarcea and Forta-resti are almost completed. Work is progressing on silos at Tandarei and Titan. Work was begun on a silo at Sardinasa 15 December 1948 and is to be terminated by 31 March 1949.

DIKE CONSTRUCTED NEAR TULCEA -- Viata Sindicala, No 403, 3 Jan 49

Five thousand hectares of arable land and 1,200 hectares of communal grazing land will be protected by the new dike under construction on the right bank of the Danube River. The dike is 14 kilometers long, 4, or 5 meters high, and has many flood gates. The voluntary labor of inhabitants of Pecineaga, Turcoaia and Traian communes, which are protected by the nearly-completed dike, resulted in a saving of 3,200,000 lei. Workers transported 40,000 cubic meters of earth.

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