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SOURCE Yugoslav newspaper sources as indicated. (Information requested.)

1948 REPORT ON YUGOSLAV AGRICULTURE

1948 AGRICULTURE REPORT -- Borba, No 314, 29 Dec 48

According to a report by Boris Kidric, the 1948 sowing plan has been fulfilled 100 percent in all the republics, and the plan for sowing grain crops 101 percent, including wheat 96 percent, corn 108 percent, and rye 99 percent. The plan for planting sugar beets was fulfilled 103 percent, rice 166, hemp fiber 98, hemp seed 91, flax 54, cotton 155, and sunflowers 92. The plan for garden crops was met only 92 percent. The production plans were fulfilled as follows (in percent): grain, 110, including wheat 112, corn 109, rye 137; rice 124; sugar beets 109; hemp fiber 109; hemp seed 79; flax 76; and cotton 139. The plan for number of fruit trees was met in all Yugoslavia 96 percent, in Serbia 98, in Croatia 112, in Slovenia 73, in Bosnia and Herzegovina 84, in Macedonia 99, and in Montenegro 103. Fruit production, low because of bad weather, was as follows: apples, 96 percent of the plan and 91 percent of the 1947 figure, plums 83 and 89 percent respectively, and olives 37 and 26 percent. The plan for planting young fruit trees was met 122 percent for all Yugoslavia, 112 for Serbia, 761 for Croatia, 96 for Slovenia, 100 for Bosnia and Herzegovina, 100 for Macedonia, and 75 for Montenegro. The plan for vineyards, in area, was fulfilled 99 percent in all Yugoslavia, 100 in Serbia, 104 in Croatia, 81 in Slovenia, 100 in Bosnia and Herzegovina, 102 in Macedonia, and 90 in Montenegro. Grape production in all Yugoslavia was 110 percent of the plan.

The plan for number of horses was fulfilled 100 percent, or 105 percent of the 1947 and 80 percent of the 1939 figure. The plan for number of cattle was met 102 percent, or 104 and 105 percent respectively. The plan for the number of hogs was met 90 percent, or 125 percent and 124 percent respectively. The plan for number of sheep was met 104 percent, or 106 percent of the 1939 figure.

The plan for crop purchase of white grains was fulfilled 134 percent, or 139 percent of the 1947 figure. The meat purchase plan was fulfilled 82 percent, but 135 percent of the 1947 figure. The crop purchase of potatoes and beans will not be completed until spring, but 153 percent and 503 percent respectively of the 1947 crop purchase totals have been purchased.

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PROGRESS IN AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH -- Borba, No 31, 6 Feb 49

Nine national institutions for scientific research on agriculture, in addition to 43 republic and provincial institutions (16 in Serbia, 8 in Croatia, 8 in Slovenia, 5 in Bosnia and Herzegovina, 3 in Macedonia, and 3 in Montenegro) and a net of experimental stations and farms are now operating in Yugoslavia. Their equipment is 20 times greater than before the war.

Through their efforts, hybrid seed corn was distributed to farmers in all parts of Yugoslavia in the spring of 1948. Fields planted with this "heterosis" seed produced crops 15 to 25 percent greater than ordinary corn. Over 300 carloads of "heterosis" seed will be distributed to farmers in 1949.

Last fall, a special kind of wheat, "vetvista," was planted in Yugoslavia for the first time. It is being grown in some parts of the USSR and in Yugoslav Macedonia. Academician Lysenko produced yields of 10,000 kilograms of this wheat per hectare in 1948.

A new type of corn developed in 1948, "Novi Sad Golden Tooth," yields an average of more than 6,300 kilograms (on the cob) per hectare.

Before the war, Yugoslav cotton and rice were grown almost exclusively in Macedonia. Experiments by the federal Ministry of Agriculture have shown that cotton will thrive in many other areas; 1,200 hectares in Montenegro, Herzegovina, and Dalmatia planted in cotton in 1947 and 1948 produced excellent crops. A yield of 2,400 kilograms of cotton per hectare was produced at Capljina (in Herzegovina), for example. As a result, cotton planting in these districts will be greatly increased during 1949.

Cotton production in Yugoslavia has increased ninefold since before the war.

Before the war, rice was grown on an area of only 300 hectares in Macedonia, as well as a little in the Vojvodina. After the liberation, the area was increased by over 1,000 hectares in Macedonia. Experiments made in 1947 in Croatia and the Vojvodina were very successful, and larger areas will be planted there in 1949.

Successful experiments with kok-saghyz, krym-saghyz, and guayule have shown that rubber-bearing plants can be grown in the Medjumurje, Bela Krajina, and Savinska Dolina districts of Slovenia, in northwestern Croatia, in Slavonia near the Sava, and in Pomuravlje in Serbia. Krym-saghyz grew very well last year in experimental plantings in several districts of Bosnia.

Experimental plantings of certain plants for use in the textile industry, especially ramie, vegetable sponge, and decan hemp, have been carried out in Strumica Brez in Macedonia and, on a smaller scale, in the Vojvodina.

FARMING PLAN FOR RIJEKA -- Borba, No 30, 5 Feb 49

The agricultural plan for Rijeka Oblast calls for the formation of many co-operative economies, livestock, poultry, pig, and other farms, and apiaries during 1949. The plan calls for 15,500 fruit trees, 500 breeding sows, 600 horses, and 400 breeding cows by the end of the year. Over 130,900 fruit trees on state and co-operative farms will be planted and grafted in 1949. Pruning of 200,000 fruit and 80,000 olive trees has begun.

PROGRESS IN LIVESTOCK RAISING -- Borba, No 31, 6 Feb 49

The Federal Institute for Animal Husbandry, founded 4 months ago, is now working on the development of a new breed of sheep, well adapted to Yugoslav conditions, but with better quality wool than that of the native stock. Since 1947,

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a program for breeding the native "cigaja" sheep with English Hampshires, and other native sheep with merinos, Corriedales, and Romney Marshes has been in progress. Experiments are being conducted on the Belje, Coka, and Han-Pijesak state farms. Last year "cigaja" sheep at Coka produced a record yield of over 7 kilograms of wool [per sheep].

Research on fattening hogs is being carried on at the Belje and Vukovar state farms. Experiments with "expressed fat" were to begin early in February. During February, a breeding program will be started under which the native "mangalica" hogs will be crossed with Yorkshires and Berkshires. Experiments will follow on methods of feeding the crossbreeds in order to fatten them as quickly and cheaply as possible.

An improved system for summer feeding of cattle has been developed, whereby green feed is grown from early spring to late fall and fed to cattle to save concentrated feed such as bran and corn.

CROATIAN HOG-RAISING SOCIALIZED -- Borba, No 33, 8 Feb 49

Late in 1948, the program for buying up hogs from rich peasants in Croatia was completed. Twenty-one state economies were formed to care for the hogs. In the 3 months since then, about 2,500 sows have farrowed, and some 11,000 pigs have been reared.

Because of increased experience, the plan for 1949 is expected to be fulfilled 110 percent.

NEW SERBIAN MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE -- Borba, No 30, 5 Feb 49

A session of the Presidium of the People's Skupstina of Serbia held on 3 February accepted the resignation of Radisav Nedeljkovic as Serbian Minister of Agriculture and appointed Rista Antunovic to replace him. Antunovic has been a Minister in the Serbian Government and Chairman of the Committee for Cooperatives.

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