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SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTIONS SPEARHEAD DEVELOPMENT OF KAZAKH AND UZBEK REPUBLICS

[Numbers in parentheses refer to appended sources]

Kazakh SSR

The Kazakhstan Academy of Sciences is one of the newest scientific academies in the Soviet Union. During its 3½ years of existence, it has become one of the USSR's largest scientific institutes. It has 2,000 members, 368 of whom already have doctorates or are candidates for scientific degrees.

The development of the Kazakhstan Academy during 1949 was varied and extensive. Over 560 scientific subjects were studied at the academy, and many of them are now being practically applied. The academy is also doing much work in studying and developing effective methods of utilization of land, vegetative and animal resources of the republic. Attempts have been made to apply the agrobiological theory of Dokuchayev-Williams-Michurin-Lysenko under conditions peculiar to Kazakhstan. As a result of this work, a vegetation map of agricultural oblasts of Kazakhstan was drawn up.

The discovery of a new variety of drought-resistant wheat produced a good yield in 1949 in the unirrigated regions of Balkhash and Dzezkazgan. This yield was greater than was gathered in villages growing the usual grain varieties with irrigation. Rice growing has been introduced into south Balkhash and tea raising into southern Kazakhstan. Measures have also been taken to introduce effective crop rotation in rice growing kolkhozes.

During 1949, the prolonged effort to raise the valuable "Kazakh Arkharo-merinos" sheep hybrid was successfully terminated. This new sheep variety is a hybrid of wild mountain sheep and merino sheep. Its wool is of high quality and the sheep do not require much care.

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Work is being done at the academy to develop a new variety of goats. Development of more prolific varieties of livestock will aid considerably in fulfilling and exceeding the 3-year plan for kolkhoz and sovkhoz livestock raising.(1)

The work of the Water Management and Forestry Institute of the Kazakhstan Academy of Science is also of great importance to the future agricultural development of Kazakh SSR.

Plans for this institute include the study and utilization of water resources of Kazakhstan, problems of shelter belt planting, means of preserving and improving natural water sources, development of measures to control mountain streams, planned utilization of installations for water conservation, and other scientific questions important for the development of the republic's agriculture and livestock industry.(2)

Uzbek SSR

Other progressive changes have been carried out under the leadership of the scientific institutions of Uzbekistan.

Over 700 kolkhozes in Uzbekistan are now electrified. By 1953, kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and MTS in the Fergana Plain and Tashkent Oblast will be completely electrified. All the remaining oblasts will have complete electrification by 1955.

Uzbekistan now has over 220 MTS which have made it possible to mechanize the cotton-growing industry and to utilize thousands of hectares of virgin soil.

A high cotton yield is possible only if scientific soil cultivation is utilized. Under the leadership of scientific workers of the Institute of Agriculture of the Academy of Sciences Uzbek SSR and agronomists in republic kolkhozes, laboratories and experimental zones are being set up. Kolkhoz workers themselves are conducting experiments in scientific cotton raising. They are studying the soil and improving the varieties of cotton. Laboratories established in 162 kolkhozes are receiving considerable aid from agrochemical laboratories located at MTS.

The Soviet government has established a network of machine-excavating stations and excavation zones which play an important role in the utilization and improvement of the Uzbek land. Many kilometers of canals and ditches have been dug by excavators in the Golodnaya Steppe, Fergana, and Khorezm. The use of machinery has freed hundreds of kolkhoz workers from the heavy labor of canal cleaning.(3)

Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan with their huge, little exploited areas offer many responsible and interesting research opportunities for scholars. Workers of the Kazakh and Uzbek Academy of Sciences as well as other USSR scholars will continue to direct their efforts to improve conditions in these republics.(1, 3)

SOURCES

1. Izvestiya, 8 Jan 50
2. Kazakhstanskaya Pravda, 18 Jun 50
3. Pravda Vostoka, 3 Dec 49

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