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 FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS

REPORT

50X1-HUM

CD NO.

COUNTRY: USSR  
 SUBJECT: Economic - Agriculture  
 HOW PUBLISHED: Daily newspapers and monthly periodicals  
 WHERE PUBLISHED: USSR  
 DATE PUBLISHED: Jan 1952  
 LANGUAGE: Russian

DATE OF INFORMATION: 1952

DATE DIST. 29 Apr 1952

NO. OF PAGES: 7

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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SOURCE: Newspapers and periodicals as indicated.

USSR AGRICULTURE REVIEWS 1951, PREPARES FOR 1952

[Numbers in parentheses refer to appended sources.]

USSR

In the fall of 1951, kolkhozes and MTS sowed 1.5 million hectares more to winter crops, chiefly winter wheat, than in 1950.(1)

In 1951, the area sown to annual grasses was three times that of 1948, perennial grasses almost two times, and ensilage crops, fodder-root crops, and cucurbits more than 2.5 times. In 1951, the plan for planting fodder root crops was fulfilled 101.5 percent, ensilage crops 116.7 percent, and annual grasses 122 percent. The 1951 plan for harvesting natural grasses was fulfilled 109.9 percent, and the area cut was almost 6 million hectares greater than in 1950. In 1952, 4.8 million more metric tons of ensilage are to be stored than in 1951.

There are 25 million hectares of meadowland in the nonchernozem region of European USSR.(2)

During the Fourth Five-Year Plan and 1951, USSR agriculture received more than 670,000 tractors (15-horsepower units) and about 150,000 combines. In 1952, field work is to be mechanized to the following extent: sowing of spring crops 78 percent, sowing of winter crops 88 percent, harvesting of grain 72 percent, and harvesting of sugar beets 90 percent. The total volume of tractor work, in terms of soft plowing, is slated to increase 38 million hectares over 1951. More than 40 percent of haying and more than 50 percent of fodder storage work will be performed by MTS machines. Supplemental fertilization of winter crops with local and mineral fertilizers will be carried out on 12 million hectares, and deep plowing on 18 million hectares in 1952.(3)

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Estonian SSR

In 1951, kolkhozes of the republic increased their total sown area 17 percent over 1950, including increases of 44 percent for winter wheat and 34 percent for industrial crops.(4)

During the postwar Five-Year Plan, the aggregate tractor horsepower available to Estonian MTS increased 11.5 times. In 1951, MTS performed 45 percent of all field work on kolkhozes. The volume of tractor work in 1951 was almost double that of 1950; MTS performed 625,000 hectares more tractor work than in 1950 and fulfilled the plan for tractor work 103 percent.(5)

Latvian SSR

As of 15 January, the 1951 - 1952 fall-winter plan for tractor repair was fulfilled 44 percent for the republic.(6)

In 1949, kolkhozes of the republic fulfilled the plan for sowing perennial grasses 90 percent. In 1950, this figure was 87 percent; in 1951 it was 76 percent.(7)

Lithuanian SSR

In 1951, the republic received 1,190 tractors.(8) All 32 sovkhoses in Shyauliy Oblast have been fully electrified.(9)

Belorussian SSR

The following table represents percent fulfillment of the 1951 - 1952 fall-winter plan for tractor repair by oblasts of the republic:

| <u>Oblast</u> | <u>5 Jan (10)</u> | <u>10 Jan (11)</u> | <u>20 Jan (12)</u> |
|---------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Gomel         | 42.9              | 47.7               | 54.1               |
| Mogilev       | 40.6              | 43.3               | 49.5               |
| Bobruysk      | 36.2              | 41.1               | 46.9               |
| Pinsk         | 27.2              | 37.6               | 46.2               |
| Brest         | 33.4              | 36.5               | 45.8               |
| Poles'ye      | 34.7              | 37.5               | 44.7               |
| Minsk         | 33.3              | 37.2               | 43.0               |
| Molodechno    | 30.0              | 33.1               | 42.7               |
| Vitebsk       | 32.3              | 35.7               | 41.6               |
| Grodno        | 32.4              | 34.6               | 41.4               |
| Polotsk       | 32.7              | 34.9               | 41.4               |
| Baranovich    | 24.6              | 29.0               | 39.6               |

In 1951, kolkhozes of the republic fulfilled the plan for kok-sagyz seed procurement 223.1 percent. In 1952, kolkhozes of Grodno Oblast are to sow 800 hectares of chicory.(13)

The following information was contained in a speech made by N. S. Patolichev, secretary of the TsK KP(b) Belorussian SSR, on 24 January 1952:

In 1951, the total sown area in the republic increased 23.6 percent over 1950. The greatest increases in the eastern oblasts were registered in Minsk and Mogilev oblasts. Sown areas by crops increased as follows: grains 23.6 percent, kok-sagyz almost three times, other industrial crops 17 percent,

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including flax 14 percent and potatoes 22 percent. For the first time in the postwar period kolkhozes of the republic exceeded the plan for sowing perennial grasses. The increase in the area sown to perennial grasses over 1950 was 126.6 percent, and annual grasses 26.1 percent.

Sowing of winter grains in the fall of 1951 was carried out under difficult conditions. There was insufficient moisture content in the topsoil. This resulted in delayed sowings, delayed sprouting, and caused sowings in many sections to enter the winter period in an underdeveloped condition. Since winter rye is the most valuable food crop of the republic, kolkhozes must make special efforts at snow retention to increase the moisture supply in the soil and also to prevent freezing of the shoots. In 1951, 44.6 percent of the area sown to grains in kolkhozes was sown with graded seed.

Kok-sagyz is potentially one of the most valuable industrial crops grown in the republic. The area sown to this crop in 1951 was almost three times that of 1950. Despite the dry year, kolkhozes gave the state twice as many kok-sagyz roots as in 1950. In 1952, sowings of kok-sagyz will be further increased. Until 1951, rubber-bearing plants were grown chiefly by kolkhozes of Bobruysk, Minsk, Gomel', Poles'ye, and Mogilev oblasts. In 1951, kok-sagyz was sown to small areas in five other oblasts for the first time. None has yet been sown in Baranovichi or Grodno oblasts.

In 1952, sown areas will be extended over 1951 as follows: kok-sagyz 59 percent, hemp 108 percent, makhorka 30 percent, and sugar beets 38 percent. The areas sown to flax, potatoes, vegetables, and fodder crops will be increased. A total of 140,000 hectares of unplowed fallow (zalezh') and 50,000 hectares of turf peat are scheduled for exploitation. In 1952, the proportion of industrial crop sowings to the total sown area will increase from 7.9 percent to 8.5 percent, fodder crops from 6.7 percent to 10.3 percent, and cultivated crops to 11 percent.

In 1951 the Belorussian SSR received a large number of tractors, 1,589 combines, 2,900 seeders, 2,600 cultivators, 1,022 flax combines and flax pullers, and more than 8,000 other machines and trailer implements. Ten MTS were established and 100 Mechanized Land Improvement Branches were set up in MTS. At the end of 1951, the total draft power in the republic was 38.1 percent greater than prewar; available combines totaled 150.8 percent of 1940, flax pullers and flax combines 170 percent, tractor seeders 245.3 percent, and cultivators 358 percent. At present, MTS have 719 flax seeders and 2,255 flax pullers and flax combines; aside from the flax-processing plants, there are 277 flax-processing machines of the model TL-40. In 1952, the following additional equipment will be made available: 900 seeders, 1,200 flax pullers and flax combines, and 180 flax-processing machines.

In 1951, field work was mechanized as follows in kolkhozes of the republic: plowing 72 percent, sowing grains and flax 47 percent, harvesting grains with combines 13 percent, and flax pulling 37 percent. MTS of the republic fulfilled the total plan for tractor work by 93 percent, but various types of work which have important bearing on yields were underfulfilled by larger margins; for example, plowing winter fallow, sowing spring crops, sowing winter crops, shallow plowing of stubble, haying, and flax pulling. This indicates that MTS leaders have the tendency to give quality of work and scientific agricultural practices secondary priority, and to concentrate on fulfilling the total plan for tractor work in terms of soft plowing, which often results in the undesirable prolongation of certain types of work.

In 1952, an increase in the total volume of tractor work has been scheduled, including an increase of 750,000 hectares for row sowing, 600,000 hectares for combine harvesting, and 50,000 hectares for flax pulling.

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In 1951, 40,694,000 cartloads of manure were applied to fields of the republic as compared with 29,396,000 cartloads in 1950. In 1951, 4,870,000 metric tons of peat were applied to fields as against 3,034,000 metric tons in 1950. In 1951, Polotsk Oblast applied 850,000 metric tons of peat to kolkhoz fields, and Vitebsk Oblast 180,000 metric tons. In 1951, a total of more than 18 million metric tons of local fertilizers (manure and peat) were applied to fields of the republic, of which spring crops received 13,818,000 and winter crops 4,213,000 metric tons. Spring grains and legumes were allotted 3,650,000 metric tons of fertilizers, potatoes 8,767,000, and the rest went to flax and other crops.

Accepting the figures given in the foregoing paragraph, the following conclusions may be drawn: Total local fertilizer applied in 1951 was 18,031,000 metric tons (13,818,000 plus 4,213,000). Peat comprised 4,870,000 metric tons of this total, and therefore manure comprised 13,161,000 metric tons. If 13,161,000 metric tons of manure are equal to 40,694,000 cartloads of manure, one metric ton is equivalent to approximately 3.1 cartloads. Therefore, the 29,396,000 cartloads applied in 1950 equaled 9,482,580.6 metric tons. Local fertilizer applied in 1950 may therefore be estimated as 12,516,580.6 metric tons, including 9,482,580.6 metric tons of manure and 3,034,000 metric tons of peat.

In 1952, kolkhozes of the republic are to apply 44 million metric tons of peat and manure to their fields, almost 2.5 times as much as in 1951. In 1951, the plan for liming acid soils was fulfilled only 53 percent for the republic as a whole, and only 25 rayons did any liming at all. No liming was done in Gomel', Poles'ye, Polotsk, Bobruysk, Brest, or Molodechno oblasts. The 1951 plan for draining marshland was considerably exceeded for the republic as a whole. In 1952, five new Mechanized Land Improvement Stations and 100 Land Improvement Branches in MTS will be established.(14)

#### Ukrainian SSR

Kolkhozes of the Ukraine have exceeded the plan for storing spring crop seed to be used in the 1952 spring-sowing period. A considerably larger stock of cereal, sudan grass, and lupine seed is available this year than in 1951. During the winter of 1951 - 1952, 10 million more metric tons of local fertilizers have been applied to the fields than last winter.(15)

In 1951, sugar beet yields by oblasts were as follows: Chernovitsy 252 quintals per hectare, Ternopol' 238, Kamenets-Podol'sk 220, Rovno 213, Khar'kov 212, and Vinnitsa 192.(16)

#### Moldavian SSR

In 1947, kolkhozes of the republic applied 2,744 metric tons of all types of mineral fertilizers to their fields. In 1951, this figure increased to 17,137 metric tons.(17)

In 1950, 96 percent of the tobacco delivered to the state was low grade. Conditions did not improve in 1951.(18)

The following table represents percent fulfillment of the 1951 - 1952 fall-winter plan for repair work in MTS of the republic:

| Type Work      | 5 Jan (19) | 10 Jan (20) | 20 Jan (21) | 25 Jan (22) |
|----------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Tractor repair | 36.2       | 40.1        | 48.3        | 52.4        |
| Combine repair | 45.7       | 47.5        | 52.3        | 53.7        |

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Georgian SSR

During the last 5 years, the area planted to citrus crops in the republic has increased by 23,400 hectares.(23)

Armenian SSR

In 1952, kolkhozes of the republic will sow 5,000 hectares more to perennial grasses than in 1951, and will harvest perennial grasses from an area 15,000 hectares greater than in 1951. Of the area sown to perennial grasses in 1952, 20,000 hectares will be set aside for seed requirements.(24)

Three new MTS have been established in the republic: Maraliskaya MTS in Aginskiy Rayon, Karmaslenskaya MTS in Talinskiy Rayon, and Kafanskaya MTS, which will service kolkhozes in both Kafanskiy and Megrinskiy rayons.(25)

RSFSR

In 1951, MTS of Leningrad Oblast received 610 tractors (15-horsepower units), 200 self-propelled combines, 100 complex threshers with clover hullers, 200 seeders, 300 potato-planting and potato-harvesting machines, and other equipment. In 1951, agricultural work in the oblast was mechanized to the following extent: plowing 88 percent, working summer fallow 95 percent, sowing spring grains 51 percent, sowing winter grains 55 percent, planting potatoes 28 percent, harvesting potatoes 26 percent, etc. Combines were used to reap 38 percent of the sown grain area, and 61 percent of the sown grasses area.(26) As of 20 January 1952, MTS of the oblast had completed the 1951 - 1952 fall-winter plan for tractor repair 53.3 percent.(27)

During the last 3 years, kolkhozes and MTS of Stalingrad Oblast have repaired or built 913 ponds, as many as were built during the previous 30 years. These ponds supply water to a 2.5-million-hectare area of land. During this period, kolkhozes built or repaired the irrigation network on an area of 10,000 hectares, and organized flood-water irrigation (limannoye orosheniye) on an area of 6,200 hectares.(28)

In 1951, MTS of Moscow Oblast received more than 1,800 tractors, 700 combines, more than 3,000 tractor sheafers, about 700 seeders, and more than 4,000 other agricultural machines and implements. In 1951 MTS of the oblast performed 95 percent of all plowing, 90 percent of sowing, more than 41 percent of potato planting, almost 63 percent of grain harvesting, 80 percent of flax pulling, 40 percent of the working of cultivated crops, and more than 30 percent of potato harvesting in kolkhozes.(29)

Kazakh SSR

In the spring of 1952, kolkhozes of the republic are to organize flood-water irrigation on an area of 1,300,000 hectares.(30)

In 1951 kolkhozes of Taldy-Kurgan Oblast planted more than three times the area to kok-sagyz than they did in 1950, and the root harvest almost doubled.(31)

Uzbek SSR

As of 24 January 1952 3,000 hectares of spring crops had been sown in Surkhan-Dar'ya Oblast.(32)

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Turkmen SSR

The following information was contained in a speech made by A. Ovezov, chairman of the Council of Ministers Turkmen SSR, on 22 January 1952:

In 1951, the republic delivered to the state 40,000 more metric tons of cotton than in 1950 and 105,000 more metric tons than in 1940. The average yield in quintals per hectare was one more than in 1950 and 5.2 more than in 1940. However, in 1951, 134 kolkhozes received yields of below 15 quintals per hectare; of these, 26 received less than 10 quintals per hectare.

Kolkhozes of Mary Oblast fulfilled the 1951 cotton procurement plan 111.13 percent, kolkhozes of Chardzhou Oblast 104.42 percent, and kolkhozes of Ashkhabad Oblast 116.6 percent. In 1949 and 1950, Tashauz Oblast occupied one of the foremost positions in the republic for cotton yields. However, in 1951 it was the only one of the four cotton-growing oblasts of the republic which did not fulfill the procurement plan. A total of 15 rayons and 231 kolkhozes in the republic did not fulfill the 1951 procurement plan; of these, 6 rayons and 96 kolkhozes were in Tashauz Oblast. The average cotton yield in Tashauz Oblast in 1951 was 1.5 quintals per hectare less than in 1950. Ashkhabad Oblast fulfilled the procurement plan due to the efforts of its pacemaking kolkhozes and rayons. Kolkhozes of Ashkhabad Oblast, first in the republic to fulfill the 1951 procurement plan, obtained the highest yields in the republic. However, the average yield for the oblast as a whole fell off 3.8 quintals per hectare from 1950.

In 1951, MTS of the republic performed tractor work on 746,000 more hectares than in 1950. However, the total plan for tractor work was not fulfilled. MTS did not fulfill the plan for several important types of work. In 1951, of 58 MTS in the republic, only nine fulfilled the plan for tractor work.

As of 16 January 1952, the 1951 - 1952 fall-winter plan for tractor repair was fulfilled only 31.7 percent in MTS of the republic, of which capital repairs were 27.5 percent complete and current repairs, 34.2 percent. This work must be completed by 10 March.

As of 10 January 1952 the fall-winter plan for cleaning the irrigation system was only 78.2 percent fulfilled. At the beginning of 1952, the plan for conversion to the new system of irrigation was 77.7 percent complete.

In 1951, crop rotation was to have been introduced on 275 kolkhozes in the republic. As of 1 January 1952, preparatory planning work for introduction of crop rotation had been completed for only 60 kolkhozes. (33)

During the next 5 years the area planted to cotton in the republic will be increased to 200,000 hectares, the average yield to 25 quintals per hectare, and the gross harvest to 500,000 metric tons. In 1952, the republic has pledged to achieve an average cotton yield of 22 quintals per hectare, including Ashkhabad Oblast 30, Mary Oblast 21, Chardzhou Oblast 22, and Tashauz Oblast 22. (34)

Kirgiz SSR

In 1952, the area sown to fodder crops in the republic will be increased 23 percent, sowings of grasses will be carried out on an additional 78,000 hectares, and sowing of fodder-root crops and ensilage crops on an additional 19,000 hectares. (35)

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