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DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURE IN UZBEK SSR

Pravda Vostoka  
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[This report presents information from an article in Pravda Vostoka on agriculture and summaries of reports by A. N. Niyazov, Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party, Uzbek SSR, and M. A. Mukhamedzhanov, Minister of Agriculture and Procurement Uzbek SSR, to the Seventh Plenum of the committee in session on 9, 10 October 1953, pursuant to the decree of the September 1953 Plenum of the Central Committee of the CPSU "On Measures for the Further Development of Agriculture in the USSR."]

Report by A. N. Niyazov

Agriculture in the republic has achieved considerable success in its development.

Many kolkhozes, sovkhoses, rayons, and oblasts are obtaining high, stable cotton yields. In 1952, 158 kolkhozes of the republic achieved yields exceeding 30 quintals per hectare. In 1953, cotton production is to increase to a level almost twice the prewar level. Bast growing, silk-cocoon production, and astrakhan output have increased in the republic.

Nevertheless, there are serious shortcomings in the development of agriculture in the republic. Many kolkhozes and sovkhoses still obtain low yields of cotton and other crops. Land and water resources are not fully used; more than 400,000 hectares of land with irrigation networks are not being utilized for crops; 200,000 hectares of this land could be put to use with small capital investment.

The cattle herd in the republic has become smaller in number. There are fewer cows than in the prewar period. Livestock productivity is very low.

Production of potatoes, vegetables, and rice has declined sharply. Wool, oleaginous crop and bast production is low.

An important task in the republic is to increase cotton production by increasing the yield and sown area, the latter to be achieved through reclamation of presently unused lands and addition of new lands. In the next years, it is necessary to expand the area devoted to cotton by at least 300,000 hectares and, in the next 5 years, to almost double raw-cotton production.

Report by M. A. Mukhamedzhanov

Plowing of winter fallow is of great importance in the achievement of a higher cotton yield. Nevertheless, many kolkhozes and sovkhoses do not plow winter fallow and begin to prepare the land for cotton in spring with consequent delayed sowing and a reduced harvest. Introduction of crop rotation is also ignored. The check-row method of sowing cotton is not employed.

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Pravda Vostoka's Article on Agriculture

In 1953, the greatest increase in cotton production was being achieved in Surkhan-Dar'inskaya, Kashka-Dar'inskaya, Tashkentskaya, and Andizhanskaya oblasts. But many kolkhozes and sovkhoses are still not coping with the tasks set by the state. In 1952, the average raw-cotton yield in more than one half of the kolkhozes in the republic was under 20 quintals per hectare.

Since the September Plenum of the Central Committee of the CPSU was held, 28 agricultural specialists with higher educations returned to kolkhozes and MTS of Tashkentskaya Oblast; about 200 former tractor drivers and machine operators returned to MTS of the oblast.

On the whole, little has been done in the republic to implement the measures decreed by the September Plenum. The Ministry of Agriculture and Procurement Uzbek SSR and its local organs are working very slowly in that direction. Earnest work to transfer specialists from their apparatuses to kolkhozes and MTS has not yet been undertaken. The other measures decreed are being acted upon very slowly.

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