

PERFORMANCE OF CROP PRODUCTION BRANCH OF AGRICULTURE OF UKRAINE IN 2015

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The priority of development of the agricultural sector and rural areas is determined by the exceptional importance of agricultural and foodstuff production in human life. The issue of food security is among the key issues for any country.

Crop production is the basic branch of agriculture. Increase in grain production is of the main importance for the recovery of all features of farming industry because it is the foundation of both crop and livestock production, and hence agricultural production in general. Increasing the yield of grain is the main way of improving the efficiency of grain production and its reserves. Implementation of high-yielding recognized varieties, the use of high quality seeds and application of fertilizers has the main effect on the yield.

The undertaken studies make it possible to conclude that the largest area of grain and leguminous crops – more than 15.8 million ha – was thrashed in Ukraine in 2013. The

area of grain and leguminous crops harvesting (thrashing) decreased by 2.2 million ha in the following 2014 year as compared to 2013. But in the following 2015 year the area of harvesting these crops increased by 1.02 million ha as compared to the previous year.

The dynamics of areas under sugar beets has a clear tendency to their reduction in Ukraine. Thus, in the last five years, the area under this vegetable reduced by almost 54% in Ukraine. Along with reduction of areas under sugar beets in Ukraine we can also observe the reduction (though not so impressive) of areas under such crops as potatoes and other field vegetables. In my opinion, the situation with the areas under vegetables is primarily explained by the lack of information from the ARC. In fact, in 2015, only sunflower harvesting areas exceeded the corresponding figure in 2011 in Ukraine. The excess amount is 9.4%.