

STATEMENT



Regarding dissertation for obtaining the educational and scientific degree "Doctor" in the scientific field of Social, economic and legal sciences, professional field 3.8 Economics, scientific specialty, Organization and management of production (agriculture and sub-sectors)

Author of dissertation: Hayk Takvor Garabedyan

Full-time PhD student at the Department of Management and Marketing at the Agricultural University, Plovdiv

Dissertation topic: The Impact of the Common Agricultural policy for Management and Development of the Beekeeping sector in Bulgaria

Author of the Statement: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Georgi Biserov Nikolov - University of National and World Economy, Sofia, 3.0 "Social, Economic and Legal Sciences", 3.7 "Administration and Management", Department Regional Development.

Appointed as a member of the scientific jury under the regulation of an order № RD-16-99 / 11.02.2022 of the Rector of AU.

1. Relevance of the problem.

The relevance of the dissertation is justified by the long honey production tradition and bee products in Bulgaria, a prerequisite is the diverse and rich honey vegetation of the Balkan Peninsula, creating excellent conditions for beekeeping. Favorable nature, climatic and ecological conditions also have a beneficial effect, which contributes to the gradual yield increase of the products over the time.

2. Purpose, tasks, hypotheses and research methods.

The dissertation research is to analyze the Common Agricultural Policy role in the management and development of the beekeeping sector. There are five research tasks, and in my opinion, they author could optimize them by combining the tasks

into three categories. Regarding the CAP impact assessment on the research sector. The author of the study uses generally accepted approaches for this type of research:

System approach: The study perceives the economy of the sector as a production and system.

Expert approach: Processes analysis and assessment taking place in the sector, for the stages when official information about the condition of the site cannot be obtained the author applies expert assessment approach.

The following methods are used to prove the conceptual thesis in the research process systematic analysis; index method; statistical methods - descriptive statistics, t-test, one-way analysis of variance, chi-square analysis and the method of multiple comparisons. Something that always makes a very good impression on me and I appreciate it is that the specialized software product SPSS and statistical package of MS Excel were used for processing the empirical information.

3. Visualization and presentation of the obtained results.

The author structures the dissertation work in an introduction, three main chapters with five paragraphs and a conclusion with a total volume of 131 standard pages, the literature and references used and appendices. The author visualizes the study with 38 figures and 2 tables.

4. Discussion of the results and literature used.

Because of the sector analysis performed by the doctoral student, the following conclusions can be summarized:

- Bulgaria remains one of the dominant participants in the European market of bee products. The expansion of production resulting from the industry's involvement in the financial assistance provided under the CAP is being valorized, achieving market positions in markets where honey is traded at higher market prices;
- Regarding the financial instruments of the CAP the market orientation of beekeeping is significantly restructured within the last 18 years and this leads to higher benefit of Bulgarian honey production;
- Bulgaria's EU membership leads to an income increase of Bulgarian households, which in turn leads to an honey consumption increase, and hence in market prices.

These factors favor the investment industry process by creating conditions for a greater return on investment in this type of business;

- Beekeepers point out that they need information about good production practices.

5. Contributions to the dissertation.

In my opinion, the methodological approach for analyzing and assessing the impact of the CAP on the development of the beekeeping sector is clearly outlined. The impact of the CAP has been analyzed and the problems of beekeeping farms outlined, presenting a strategic framework for overcoming deficits in the sector.

Scientific contributions

The need to create a state policy and strategy for the development of the beekeeping sector is justified. The possibility for stimulating the farms in the field of organic production of bee products through the so-called joint investments of which to create functionality in the new rural development program was also argued.

Scientific and applied contributions

The following contribution moments of scientific and applied nature can be highlighted in the dissertation:

- The nature of beekeeping in the context of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) is clarified;
- The essence of the CAP support for the development of the beekeeping sector has been clarified;
- An objective methodology for analysis and assessment of the impact of the CAP on the development of beekeeping farms has been developed;
- The influence of the CAP on the development of beekeeping farms as well as on the sector has been established;
- The needs of beekeeping farms in the conditions of the CAP have been identified.

6. Critical remarks and questions.

Technical errors and inaccuracies are noticed in the dissertation. Some passages lack the author's critical opinion regarding some of the programs implementation in previous programming periods in order to make recommendations for the next one until 2027. These remarks in no way harm the merits of the dissertation, on the contrary. I sincerely hope the doctoral student continues with its scientific research to find beneficial solutions in the beekeeping sector.

7. Published articles and citations.

1. Borisov, P., H. Garabedian (2020). THE IMPACT OF THE PRODUCT STRATEGY ON THE MARKET SHARE. THE CASE OF BULGARIAN WINERIES. Journal of Bio-Based Marketing, vol.2 / 2020, 42-51, ISSN 2683-0825
2. Borisov, P., H. Garabedian (2020). EFFECTS OF THE APPLICATION OF THE CAP ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF BEE FARMS AND PROFILING OF THEIR NEEDS IN THE FUTURE. Journal of Bio-Based Marketing, vol. 3.2 / 2020, 39-51, ISSN 2683-0825
3. Garabedian, H. (2020). MARKET ANALYSIS OF HONEY PRODUCTION - BEFORE AND AFTER THE ACCESSION OF BULGARIA TO THE EU. Journal of Bio-Based Marketing, vol. 3.2 / 2020, 5-14, ISSN 2683-0825
4. Garabedian, H. (2021). IDENTIFICATION OF STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES, OPPORTUNITIES AND THREATS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF BEEKEEPING IN BULGARIA. Journal of Bio-Based Marketing, vol. 1/2021, 67-76, ISSN 2683-0825

CITATION:

Borisov, P., H. Garabedian (2020). The impact of the product strategy on the market share. The case of Bulgarian wineries. Journal of Bio-Based Marketing, vol.2, 2020, 42-50

Cited by Borisov, P. (2021). Strategic analysis for identifying the sources of competitive advantages of wine companies in Bulgaria. Journal of Bio-Based Marketing, vol.1 / 2021, 5-23, ISSN 2683-0825

The presented abstract objectively reflects the structure and content of the dissertation.

CONCLUSION:

Based on the different research methods learned and applied by the doctoral student, correctly performed experiments, summaries and conclusions, I believe that the presented dissertation meets the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff of the Republic of Bulgaria and the Rules of the Agricultural University for its application, which gives me reason to evaluate it **POSITIVE**.

I allow myself to suggest to the esteemed Scientific Jury also to vote positively and to award **Mr. Hayk Takvor Garabedian** the educational and scientific degree "**Doctor**" in the scientific specialty Organization and Management of Production (Agriculture and Subsectors).

Date: 24.03.2022

Sofia, BG

SIGNATURE:

25.3.2022 г.

X Georgi Nikolov

Assoc.Prof.Dr Georgi Nikolov

Signed by: Georgi Biserov Nikolov