



Latvian Presidency
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EU2015.LV



MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
REPUBLIC OF LATVIA



MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
REPUBLIC OF LATVIA



EASTERN PARTNERSHIP

Rural and Agricultural Advisory Systems: Best Practices and Experience in the Eastern Partnership



Riga, 15 – 16 April 2015



Ltd "Latvian Rural Advisory and Training Centre"



Latvian Rural Network

RURAL ADVISORY SERVICES IN BELARUS AND OUTLOOK INTO THE FUTURE

Priorities

- socio-economic development of rural areas and improvement of agro-industrial complex

Financing

- annually up to 1.6 billion US dollars is allocated by Government to support rural development in Belarus

State Support

- state regulation of development of agro-industrial complex;
- efficiency of agricultural production, as well as financial and economic problems in agro-industrial complex;
- transformation of the system of state support of the agro-industrial complex taking into account international practices;

State Support

- manufacturing industry and foreign trade activities in the field of agro-industrial complex;
- improvement of the forms and mechanisms of land management;
- development of social environment in rural areas.

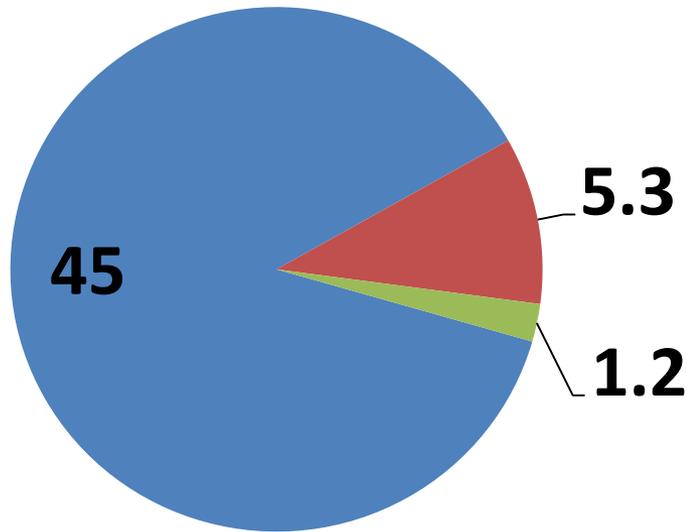
Actual Tasks

- establishing a strong industrial basis;
- improving the economic efficiency of agricultural production;
- raising competitiveness of agricultural sector;
- reaching domestic food market supply and demand balance;
- increasing the export potential of agro-industrial complex

- Modern agro-industrial complex of Belarus is well-balanced in terms of crop production (48.4%) and livestock breeding (51.6%).

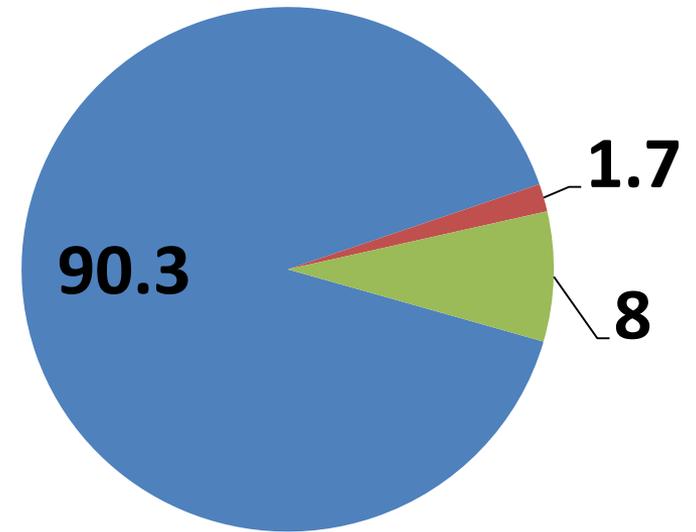
Crop production

Structure of cultivated area
by crops, in %



- grain and legumes
- potatoe
- vegetables

Structure of cultivated area
by types of farms, in %



- agricultural organisations
- farms
- homestead farms

Crop production

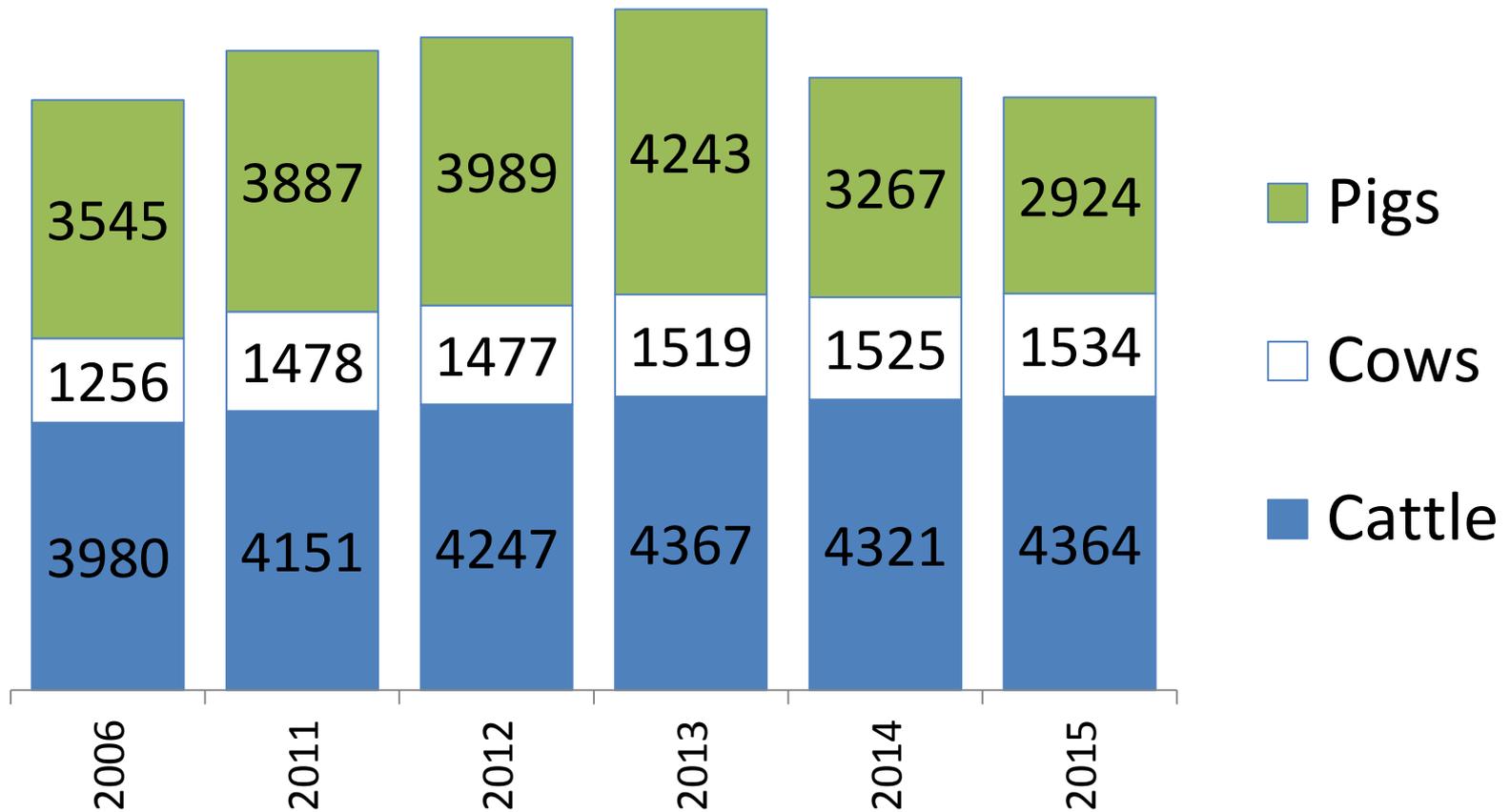
- The total area of cropped land in 2014 (all categories of farms) increased by 120.9 thousand hectares (2.1%) and amounted to 5,860.1 thousand hectares.

Crop production (2014)

- potatoes – 6,3 mln.t (+6,2%),
productiveness – 204 centner per hectare;
- vegetables – 1,7 mln.t (+6,5%),
productiveness – 242 centner per hectare;
- sugar beet – 4,8 mln.t (+10,6%),
productiveness – 463 centner per hectare;
- rapeseed – 729,7 th.t (+8%);
- flax – 48,3 th.t (+7,4%).

Livestock breeding

1000 heads



Economic Security

- Belarus fully covers the home market demand in milk and meat products by domestic production
- Self-sufficiency level (2013):
milk – 200,9%,
meat – 132,6%

Agricultural Complex 2014

- dynamics of agricultural production +103,1% (95,8% in 2013);
- profitability of sales +6,2% (3,5% in 2013);
- labor productivity +12,7%.

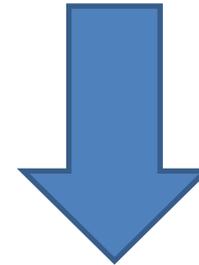
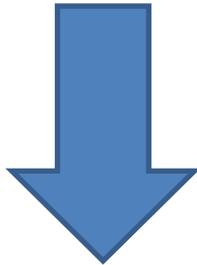
Belarus vs other CIS countries

- per capita production of milk, livestock, poultry, potatoes: 1st place in the CIS (milk – 3 times more than in Russia);
- production of eggs: 2nd place (after Ukraine);
- grain – 3rd place (after Ukraine and Kazakhstan);
- livestock and poultry – 2 times more than in Russia, Ukraine or Kazakhstan.

- market processes demand further sustainable and innovative development of agro-industrial complex
- a new stage is hardly possible without the scientific and technical progress
- there is a need in agriculture consulting support

Rural Advisory Service

bringing achievements of scientific and technical progress to direct producers



Scientific and Practical
Center of National Academy
of Sciences of Belarus
for ARABLE FARMING

<http://izis.by>

Scientific and Practical
Center of National Academy
of Sciences of Belarus
on ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

<http://belniig.by>

Scientific and Practical Center of National Academy of Sciences of Belarus for ARABLE FARMING

- complex elaboration of issues related to cost-effective crop production in compliance with the requirements of environmental protection

- creation of high-yielding varieties and hybrids of agricultural crops;
- improvement of seed production systems;
- ensuring intensification of crop-based farming systems at development zones, adapted to the specific soil and climatic conditions;
- development of high effective technologies of cultivation;
- application of fertilizers and plant protection products

Counterparts

- Institute for Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry;
- Institute of Plant Protection;
- Institute of Land Reclamation;
- Institute of Flax;
- Experimental Sugar Beet Research Station;
- Polesky Institute of Plant Production.

Forms and methods

- seminars;
- field visits.

R&D

- creation and evaluation of source material for selection of cereals and industrial crops, perennial grasses using genetic and biotechnological methods;
- creation of new varieties and hybrids of cereals, legumes, industrial crops with improved economic characteristics, resistance to lodging, diseases and pests, frost and winter hardiness, high responsiveness to soil fertility and resistance to environmental factors;

- development of integrated economically and environmentally sound land use systems based on environment friendly principles and economy of resources to ensure sustainable productivity of arable land, reduction of energy consumption and production costs, reproduction of soil fertility;

- development (on a contract basis) of agro-zoo-economic business plans, including study of commercial products, crop structure, grass fodder and grain balance, solution of the protein deficit problem, optimization of sugar-protein ratio, development technological maps for production of crops.

Scientific and Practical Center of National Academy of Sciences of Belarus on ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

- scientific support in animal husbandry;
- effective methodology of pigs breeding;
- technologies of cattle breeding;
- introduction of effective management programs in the pigs reproduction process;
- systems of pigs feeding;

- development of the optimal structure of feeds for cattle;
- DNA testing;
- development of optimal breeding programs in dairy cattle reproduction process;
- transgenesis and cell engineering;
- research for the selection of milking and other machines.

Centers offer general services and R&D both for a remuneration (paid by the customer) and on a “shareware” basis (mainly from the state budget)

International cooperation

- seminars/conferences;
- meetings of intergovernmental commissions;
- joint R&D projects.

Agriculture needs fundamental and applied science, with a well-developed and accessible information and advisory service

THANK YOU FOR ATTENTION