ETHIOPIAN INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF MULTIDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH

eISSN: 2349-5715 pISSN: 2349-5707

Volume: 11, Issue 12, December-2024 SJIF 2019: 4.702 2020: 4.737 2021: 5.071 2022: 4.919 2023: 6.980 2024: 7,662

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THE PRINCIPLES OF STORING AND PROCESSING AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS IN OUR COUNTRY

Abstract: This article discusses the theories of improving agricultural products as an important part of our country's economy and eliminating the problems associated with it. Also, it aims to explore ways to improve the well-being of the population and pay attention to food safety by effectively using the opportunities provided for improving enterprises for storing and processing agricultural products. In particular, the economic growth of our country has been explained on a large scale by ensuring the export and import of agricultural products with the effective use of the favorable environment created for improving agriculture in our country.

Keywords: Agriculture, agricultural products, storage, export, import, farm, technology, infzrastructure, irrigation system.

Introduction. Today, consumer demand for agricultural products is increasing. It is useful to improve the steps leading to the creation, storage, reprocessing and consumption of products and to improve the well-being of the population. Also, relevant agencies are developing legislation for the growth of the agricultural sector. In particular, the following was considered in the decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On approval of the strategy for the development of agriculture of the Republic of Uzbekistan for 2020-2030"[1]. In the following years, the reform of our country's agriculture, in particular, the improvement of the state management system in the field, the wide introduction of market relations, the strengthening of the legal basis of relations between the entities that grow, process and sell agricultural products, attract investments in the field, resource certain works are being carried out to introduce cost-effective technologies and to provide producers of agricultural products with modern equipment.

Analysis of Literature on the Topic

Scientific works and researches of many scientists were studied on this topic. In particular, in the article titled "Effects of Processing and Storage on Pesticide Residues in Foods" by scholars Y.Nuran and V.Sedat, it is acknowledged that "...various stages used in the food processing process, such as washing with water or other aqueous solutions, cleaning, grinding, salting, heat treatment and drying, canning, production of fruit juices and concentrates, oil production, and storage, have certain effects."[2].

In the article titled "Modern Approaches to Storage and Effective Processing of Agricultural Products for Obtaining High Quality Food Products"[3] by A.Galstyan, L.Aksyonova, A.Lisitsyn, L.Oganesyants, and A.Petrov, the processes of developing highly efficient production technologies and deep processing of agricultural products; implementing algorithms for the logistics, storage, processing, and disposal of food and waste; and increasing the energy efficiency of production

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processes are highlighted. Additionally, the scholars have attempted to justify the strategic importance of technological development and the necessity of establishing cross-border cooperation.

In the manual titled "The Storage of Tropical Agricultural Products"[4], J.Hayma outlined the principles of how to store grain and legume products of agriculture under appropriate conditions. The scholar explained the shortcomings and advantages of storing agricultural products, emphasizing that the export volume of the final products determines the quality of agricultural products.

In the article titled "Producing, Storage and Processing of Melons using Modern Resource-Saving Technologies"[5] by scholars N.Asal, J.Urol, X.Mokhinur, and Z.Kurbonalijon, the results of research conducted in the field of agricultural product storage and processing using modern resource-saving technologies are deeply analyzed. Additionally, the article provides scientific conclusions and recommendations for production sectors.

Analysis and Results

Due to the increase in the population of our country and the growth in their needs, the demand for agricultural products is rising. In order to meet these needs with high quality, numerous opportunities are being created in our country for farms and business entities to continue and expand their activities effectively. The effective use of a favorable environment by farms can be seen in Table 1.

Table 1.

Years (as of January-December of the year)	Volume of agricultural products (billion soums)
2021	302 524,9
2022	347 564,4
2023	404 648,6

Source: State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan on Statistics [6].

In this table, we can observe that the volume of agricultural products has been increasing in recent years. The growth of these quantities is attributed to the development of the following factors: First, the use of modern technologies and innovative methods has led to higher yields from land and the discovery of new land areas; second, genetically improved seeds, effective technologies, and proper irrigation systems enhance productivity; third, the expansion of export opportunities for agricultural products encourages them to meet global standards, while the increase in export potential brings additional income to the country's economy; fourth, the effective use of water, soil, and labor resources in agriculture increases productivity; fifth, improving infrastructure and attracting investments further stimulates development.

At the same time, the diversification of production, effective use of land and water resources, improvement of their relationships, creation of a favorable agribusiness environment and high value-added chains, support for the development of cooperative relations, widespread introduction of market mechanisms and information and communication technologies in the sector, effective use of scientific achievements, and enhancement of human resources potential will lead to an increase in the share of agricultural products in the structure of our national economy.

Table 2.

Years (as of January-December of the year)	Gross Domestic Product (by production method, at current prices, annually) (in national currency, billion soums)	The share of agricultural products in the Gross Domestic Product (in percentage)
2021	734 587,70	41,2

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2022	888 341,70	39,1
2023	1 066 569,00	37,9

In this Table 2, the dynamics of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) volume and the share of agricultural products over the years 2021-2023 are analyzed. Based on the provided statistical data, the following can be emphasized:

The share of agricultural products in the GDP has decreased. This, in turn, can be attributed to the faster growth of other sectors such as industry and services compared to agriculture in the economy. This can be explained by the reasons we discussed earlier in Table 1, where we observed the increasing volume of agricultural products year by year.

Due to the favorable geographic location of our country, its sunny climate, and the sufficient amount of fertile land, agricultural products possess natural, sweet, and delicious qualities, making them exportable commodities. This, in turn, represents another great opportunity for the development of the agricultural sector. By utilizing these opportunities, the export process of fruit and vegetable products is actively carried out, as clearly shown in Table 3.

Table 3.

Years (as of January-December of the year)	Export volume of fruits and vegetables (thousand tons)
2021	1 521,8
2022	1 743,7
2023	1 757,7

Source: State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan on Statistics [6].

In this Table 3, the export volume of fruits and vegetables from 2021 to 2023 is shown: The export volume increased from 1521,8 thousand tons to 1757,7 thousand tons. The growth amount is 1757,7-1521,8 = 235,9 thousand tons. The growth rate is approximately 15,5%.

As seen from the table, the export volume of fruits and vegetables continued to grow from 2021 to 2023. However, while the growth rate was higher in 2022, it slowed down in 2023. The main reasons for this could be market saturation, climate issues, and logistics difficulties. At the same time, it is possible to maintain a stable export volume by diversifying export markets and continuing an effective agricultural policy.

Conclusion and Recommendations.

In conclusion, to increase the efficiency of agriculture, it is essential to implement modern technologies, use water resources efficiently, improve infrastructure, and support small farms. Agriculture is a vital sector for the country's economy, providing benefits such as high productivity, food security, export opportunities, and environmental sustainability. Through modern technologies and effective management, agriculture will continue to develop sustainably. The GDP volume has been steadily increasing year by year, which is a positive indicator of economic growth. At the same time, the volume of agricultural products is also growing.

Based on the above information, suggestions can be made for improving agriculture:

First, to analyze problems in the field of agriculture and find optimal solutions;

Secondly, in the development of innovative technologies, techniques and agrarian systems in the field of agriculture, taking a model from foreign experiences and introducing alternatives;

Thirdly, ensuring socio-economic development in the agricultural sector, finding solutions to problems in the field of market relations, marketing and export-import;

Fourthly, further state support of the agricultural sector and creation and financing of development projects;

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