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Geographical Commentary on Agricultural Farms Northeastern Montenegro

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Abstract: The paper presents a geographical view of the farms of northeastern Montenegro. At the beginning of the nineties, Montenegro, like other socialist countries entered a period of transition. The beginning of the transition process is associated with a number of negative effects, such as the decline in employment and the decline in production, with a concurrent rise in prices. Agriculture is blocked and moved his are powerlessness logic. According to the census of 2003 in limited geographic space were 7.357 farms and total acreage totaled 67.379 ha. The average farm size is 9.16 ha of agricultural land. However, if one takes into account the arable land (6.772 ha), then the average size of farms decreased to 0.92 ha. In the region of 6.721 or 91.36% of agricultural households is disposed of possession of less than 5.00 ha. In addition, it is a chance for the region of small farms, which are in the conditions of market economy, is gaining in importance. In fact, distinguished by a high degree of flexibility, it is easy to adapt to the changes and demands of the environment in which they are located, secure for themselves not only survival, but also adequate growth and development, quality specialist. They are easier to manage, easier for them to achieve higher revenues, invest faster, easier to export, easier to innovate, they have an offensive entrepreneurial spirit, providing the dynamics of local development, is also better to solve the problem of unemployment. Despite recognition of the importance of rural development projects in the region so far, have not rested on national development programs, but mostly on private initiative of individuals and groups.

Key words: Northeastern Montenegro, farms, development, perspectives.

INTRODUCTION

Northeastern Montenegro is a geographical unit, which comprises 10.8% of the total area of Montenegro (13.812 km²), or living in the territory, 8.12% of the population compared to the total population of Montenegro in 2003 (673.094). In terms of administrative-territorial belonging, territory covers three municipalities of Plav, Andrijevica and Berane. The total area of the considered geographic space is 1.486 km². According to are census of 2003 in three urban areas (Berane, Andrijevica, Plav), small town (Gusinje) and 109 rural settlements lived 54.658 inhabitants or 36.8 in/km ² (Rajović and Bulatović, 2012).

On the northeastern territory of Montenegro, insufficient attentions are to the problems of agricultural development, especially the choice of the optimal structure of production. The current method of forest (small plots, tillage outdated, inconsistent production structure); it is not the function of agricultural development".Development problems and irrational economic system kept all professional and scientific narratives, without being able to get any concrete action to implement. Agriculture was blocked and moved its logic cannot. And then, and seems now, we were not able to rise above the statement" (Grčić, 1991).

Our research evidence based on similar research Jelić and Jovanović (2010) suggests that the transformation of the economy of Montenegro, which began in 1990, and when they adopted a framework program of transition and transformation, giving hope that the stabilization programs restore internal and external economic balance, and everything is supposed to allow the start of structural change. The transition of the agricultural sector, it was one of the main entry points, as regards the economic activity of fundamental importance to the food security of the population. However, to reach the results did not meet expectations, which were resulted from the theoretical predictions, as defined at the beginning of the transition. The production volume reduced and the number of unemployed increased. Differences in income level the expanded and intensified social conflicts and the formation of a new gap between rural and urban areas.... Thus Montenegro

from the early to mid nineties, I found in a blocked transition, and in two thousand, one might say, the now late transition.

The results of this survey were used geographical author of the review of the structure of agricultural holdings in the region. Agriculture northeastern Montenegro is a resource for sustainable development that is under-utilized. Bearing in mind that an effective organization, successfully designed manner of agricultural production and well-defined directions of development of agricultural production, agriculture region to positioned as a priority, and that are realistic expectations for increasing agricultural production, modernization and greater involvement of the population in this economic activity (Rajović and Bulatović, 2013).

METHODOLOGY

Two main groups of data sources used in the study. In are first group, including sources of statistics on the number and structure of agricultural holdings, available by the Federal Statistical Office and the Statistical Office of Montenegro. The second group of data makes the results of previous studies, published in both domestic and international in references. Studied and written sources on the Internet.

The focus of the research based on an analysis of state and perspectives of development of farms in the region. The scientific explanation of concepts, methods applied analysis and synthesis. Method of analysis are considered some of the dimensions of research subjects, and the method of synthesis, the interconnections between research object and proposed measures that derive there from. For recognition, that is farms that are, more complex was necessary and the application of the concept of interdisciplinary study, which based on the methods and results of other scientific disciplines: agriculture, economics, sociology, demographics....

ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

According to the census of 2003 in northeastern Montenegro, there were 7357 farms and total acreage totaled 67.379 ha. Thus, the average size of farms in 2003 amounted to 9.16 ha of agricultural land. However, if one takes into account the arable land (6.772 ha), then the average size of farms decreased to 0.92 ha.

Table 1 Number and percentage of farms in the region according to the size of holdings in 1981 and 2003[1]

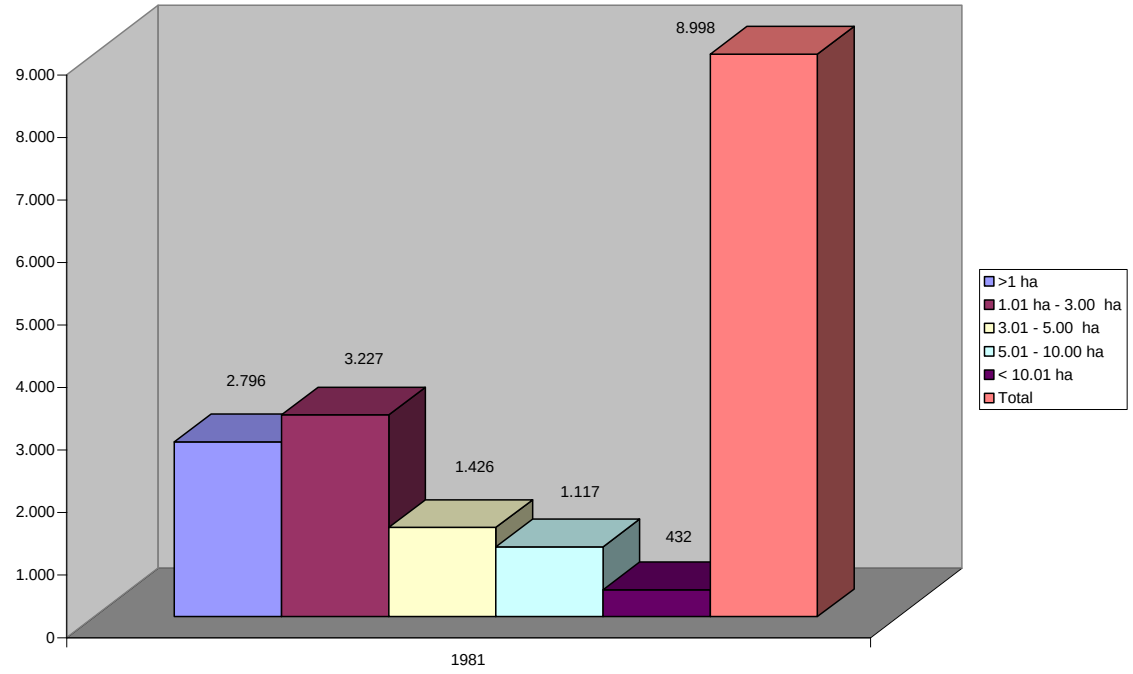
Year	>1 ha	1.01 ha - 3.00 ha	3.01 - 5.00 ha	5.01 - 10.00 ha	< 10.01 ha	Total
1981	2.796	3.227	1.426	1.117	432	8.998
	31.07	35.86	15.85	12.42	4.80	100
2003	3.768	2.321	632	376	142	7.357
	51.22	31.55	8.59	5.11	1.93	100

Source: Federal Statistical Office of Yugoslavia and the Statistical Office of Montenegro, Census of Agriculture (the relevant year), the calculation of data by the author

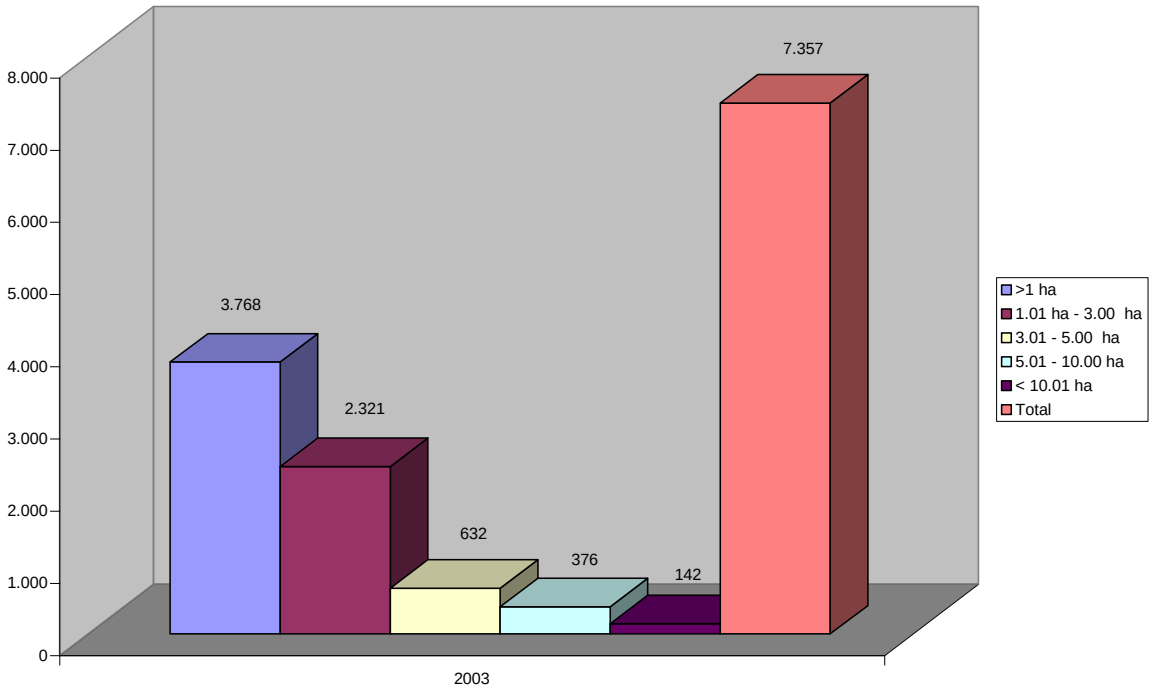
According to the data in Table 1 in 2003 year, 6.721 or 91.36% of agricultural holdings in the region is disposed of possession of less than 5.00 ha. Agricultural holding are greater than 5.01 ha had 518 or 8.64% of agricultural holdings. Because of hereditary divisions: the number of medium-sized (3.01 to 5.00 ha) of large (5.01 to 10.00 ha) and large (> 10.01 hectares) of agricultural holdings decreased from 2.795 to 1981 year to 1.150 in 2003. In addition, increased slightly the number of dwarf (> 1 ha) and small (1.01 to 3.00 ha) farm with, with 6.023 in 1981 to 6.089 in 2003.

[1] In Table 1 are not entering data relating to the total number of farms without land in the region (118 farms without land or 1.60% of the total number of farms).

Graf 1 Architecture of farms in the region according to the size property in 1981



Graf 2 Architecture of farms in the region according to the size property in 2003



Number of medium-sized farms (3.01 to 5.00 ha) in absolute terms decreased from 1.426 in 1981 to 632 farms in 2003, while relatively share in total number of farms in the region has decreased from 15.85% in 1981 to 8.59% in 2003. A similar phenomenon is also observed in farms with large estates (5.01 to 10.00 ha). The percentage share of these farms has declined from 12.42% in 1981 to 5.11% in 2003. In some rural districts of Lima valley are large farms, none. The largest number of (large) farms (> 10.01 hectares) has also been reduced in the period (1981 - 2003), with 432 (4.8% of total farms) to 142 (i.e. 1.93% of total farms). The important characteristics about are total number of farms in the region in the period 1981 - 2003, is to reduce the total number of farms % (from 8.998 in 1981 to 7.357 in 2003). The decline in the total number of farms is the result of the overall reduction: small, medium, large and large farms. The concentration of population has led to fragmentation of holdings and an increase in the number of mixed households in the valley of: Lima, Lješnice, Dapsićke River, Zlorečica, Kraštica... Thus, fragmentation and decline of the total number of farms in the region, is typical of mountainous areas, which characterized by unfavorable natural, and therefore inadequate socio-economic conditions for the development of intensive agricultural production.

Table 2 Number and percentage of farms by size of property by municipalities in 2003

Municipalities	< 1 ha	1.01 ha - 3,00 ha	3.01 - 5 .00 ha	5.01 - 10.00 ha	> 10.01 ha	Total
Andrijevica	440	392	132	73	28	1.094
	40.22	35.83	12.07	6.67	2.56	100
Berane	2.273	1.303	320	202	63	4.202
	54.09	31.01	7.64	4.81	1.50	100

Plav	1.055	626	180	101	51	2.061
	51.19	30.37	8.73	4.90	2.47	100

Source: Statistical Office of Montenegro, Census of Agriculture (relevant years), the calculation of data by the author

Number and percentage of farms in the region, according to the farm size per municipality in 2003, it looks like this. In Andrijevica municipality in relation to the total number of farms (1.094), the dwarf farms with lands (< 1 ha) account for 440 or 40.22%. Lower (from 1.01 hectares to 3.00 hectares) of waste 392 or 35.83%, the medium (from 3,01 to 5.00 ha) of waste 132 or 12.07%, at large (from 5.01 to 10.00 ha) account for 73 or 6.67%, and the big (ha > 10,01) waste 28 or 2.56%. In Berane municipality in relation to the total number of farms (4.202), the dwarf farms with lands (< 1 ha) account for 2.273 or 54.09%. Lower (from 1.01 hectares to 3.00 hectares) of waste 1.303 or 31.01%, the medium (from 3.01 to 5.00 ha) of waste 320 or 7.64%, at large (from 5.01 to 10.00 ha) account for 202 or 4.81 %, and the big (ha > 10,01) waste 63 or 1,50%. In Plav municipality in relation to the total number of farms (2.061), the dwarf farms with lands (< 1 ha) account for 1.055 or 51.19%. Lower (from 1.01 hectares to 3.00 hectares) of waste 626 or 30.37%, the medium (from 3.01 to 5.00 ha) of waste 180 or 8.73%, at large (from 5.01 to 10.00 ha) account for 101 or 4.90 %, and the big (ha > 10:01) waste 51 or 2.47%.

In the period 1981-2003, it is characteristic of entire abandonment and alienation of agricultural lands. In addition, unfavorable age structure of the agricultural population in the region, forcing it to treated better, and leaves the more remote and poorer quality arable land and land with greater needs.

The question is what to do with small farms in the region? In our literature, it argued that it is necessary in Montenegro, farms increase, respectively, to eliminate as inefficient small farms. Tošić (2013) provides an example, those fifty years ago, a prominent German professor Denker asked to delete from the membership

Academies Sciences Berlin. What is the reason? Did not agree with are policy of the former government's DDR (East Germany), the family farm into cooperative and state farms ("kolkhozes" and "sovkhoz" as in the former SSSR). Then he has claimed, without family farms, without proper hospitality, labor and employment, cannot be successful in agriculture! The evidence for this, but it came after ten years: the GDR government had to impose strict restrictions on the consumption of meat, butter... Beauty and rural planning - creating Farming. The general concept of the future world of agriculture (including Montenegro) is the same: to maintain a healthy and fertile soils produce healthy (controlled) food! The whole world has long accepted a simple score: a rich farmer - a rich country! It proves very large number of states in Europe, from Austria, via Germany, France, Belgium, to the Netherlands and Denmark!

Karolić (2012 a) with the right notes, that statement is not true that only big farms and large estates, making the required product quality and profits. According to data from Euro stat (Karolić, 2012) for a group of EU -25 countries (excluding Romania and Bulgaria, which have more small farms), almost half (46%) of agricultural holdings in the European Union is the size of five acres or, otherwise, nearly two-thirds of households (64%) is up to ten acres. In Italy, which has one of our most developed European agriculture 69% of farms, up to five acres? What makes their sustainability, not only the size of land holding and yield levels, but the fact that in the old member states of the European Union, except for the high state subsidies and growing more profitable crops, farmers also own most of the processing facilities (slaughterhouses, refrigerator, mills .... which supplement income from primary agriculture)!

In the "Report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations' (UN FAO) from 2012 -" Investing in agriculture for a better future ", emphasizes: "Investments in agriculture are essential to reduce hunger and promote sustainable agriculture. Those parts of is world where capital investment per worker and public investment in agriculture stagnated, today are epicenters of poverty and hunger...

Governments have a special responsibility to help small farmers to overcome the

limitations faced in expanding the means of production, and to ensure that large-scale investments in agriculture, bring social benefits and that are sustainable in relation to the environment ... " (www.fao.org/publications/sofa/en).

According Karolić (2012 b) in the report "International Assessment of Agricultural Science and Technology for Development", requires a revolution in agriculture, in order to avoid a major world food crisis. Sixty countries around the world with the World Bank and most UN bodies, said he supported the "Report" seeking radical changes in world agricultural production, to avoid increasing regional food shortages, rising food prices and growing problems with the environment. "Report" just highlights the importance of small farms and organic production methods, as the right way to go to avoid the current food crisis and meet the needs of the population. The report on which employed over 400 experts "IAASTD" for a period of four years, concludes that the current system of food production, unsustainable and climate change, increased demand for food from a number of countries, as well as increasing production of bio-fuels, and water scarcity and increasingly expensive fossil fuels, demand urgent changes in the way food production. As soon as they conclude:

1. The current progress in agriculture has brought uneven benefits to the very high social and environmental cost, "report" is that industrial agriculture (including fertilizers, pesticides, and agglomeration), has become untenable,
2. Food production needs to use "natural processes" like crop rotation (rotation) and the use of organic fertilizers; need is sustainable and environmentally friendly method of food production, as well as a comprehensive view of farming, not just the production of food and cash crops, but also as an environmental service, so you need to end subsidies that encourage unsustainable production practices (excessive depletion of soil organic pollution and large),
3. The distance between the food and the consumer should reduce because of rising transportation costs (local food supply). Synthesis "Report" covers a range of topics: bio-energy, biotechnology, climate change, human health,

natural resource management, trade and markets, traditional and indigenous knowledge and innovation based on knowledge of local communities and the status of women in agriculture (Karolić, 2012 b).

Our research records, based on similar studies Adžić (2008), points out that the project economically viable farms (family farms) in the region, must proceed from the experience of other countries. In doing so, it is necessary to consider two basic models of the application. In fact, in Canada, the USA, Australia, New Zealand, Brazil, Argentina and many other Latin American countries, the establishment of economically viable farm left to the "invisible hand", market and, with the assistance of agricultural extension services, which mainly tasked to meet actors with new technologies and economic results of application of certain processes, production and business best manufacturing units. In this way, the farmer's production, largely self-regulated, under current economic optimum. On the other hand, in the densely populated countries of the modern market economy, the state, mostly initiates and supports the transition of the traditional (rural) to modern agricultural farm economically viable.

For a country as Montenegro is yet out of periods of severe economic and social crisis, the development of small farms in the region, such as the northeastern region of Montenegro, should be the primary factor in the intensification of agriculture. The development of small farms should be based on the raw material base, advantages, identified market opportunities and identified options in the field of agriculture with manufacturing orientation programs that will be economically efficient and profitable, assuming that the necessary investments in quality, innovation and marketing ....

Our research evidence based on similar research Ilić et al (2006) show that it was an opportunity for the development of small farms in the region, located in the area: processing of agricultural products, processing of vegetable products, fruit products processing, processing of animal products, as well as in special programs. In the field of processing of agricultural products (production of special types of bread, rolls, pasta, biscuits and confectionery products, manufacture of traditional culinary

specialties; production of food additives and yeast; ecological packaging of crop residues; mills for grinding cereals processing of by-products from food industries - alcohol and other products for the chemical industry; mini mixers, feeders. In the field of processing vegetables (vegetable processing - storage, freezing, packaging, hot processing, manufacture of soft drinks - pumpkin, beetroot, carrot, tomato, manufacture ketchup, potato chips, mashed potatoes; production of spices and dried vegetables, mushrooms processing, production of organic foods, manufacture of spices and flavorings. In the area of fruit (fruit processing plants - sweet, stewed fruit, pasteurized fruit, fruit brandy, liqueurs, vinegars, juices and syrups, manufacture of fruit teas, dried fruit production, manufacture of emulsions and bases for juice. In the field of processing of livestock products (mini abattoir; plants for poultry meat and eggs - hot dogs, salami, pate, mayonnaise, concentrated soups, processing, freezing, smoking and packing fish, pet food. Exploitation of by-products in the meat industry; honey production and processing bee products - royal jelly, wax; dairy plants and dairy products - cheese, cream cheese, sour cream, yogurt, sour cream - sweet, sour, with pepper ... The special programs, stress (cultivation, processing and packaging of medicinal and aromatic plants, manufacture of herbal teas and essential oils; cultivation and processing of animals, snails ..... Processing of forest products-mushrooms, hawthorn, blueberry, blackberry, strawberry greenhouses and greenhouses for the production of early fruit, vegetables and flowers, plants for packaging grain, viscous and particulate products, plants for the production of healthy food; plants for the production of medicines and nutritional products based on herbs. In building and uses, these facilities should be ratchet on the sustainable use of space and agricultural preservation ecological capacity of the basic elements of the environment (land, water, air, flora and fauna).

Love of nature in the estimation of environmental situations that will always be in favor of nature. Knowledge of nature, are foundation of environmental awareness. Respect for nature and natural law is the basis of ecological behavior and attitude towards nature. Understanding is evolving nature of the beauty that stimulates positive feelings proper behavior in ecological situations (Rajović and Bulatović,

2008). Of environmental culture is not an easy task, especially when considering that the social behavior for decades dominated the principle of treating nature that had a utilitarian character (Rajović, 2007). Ecological culture stems from the ecological worldview that based on ecological knowledge and critical evaluation of the relationship to the environment (Rajović and Bulatović, 2009).

In any case, the key to successful policy development of economically viable farms by model family farm is a appropriate regional agricultural bank with a team of experts trained in cooperation with the local (rural) authorities and all available scientific research potential equity investment to ensure the rational of different maturity in capital-intensive agriculture.

Survival and rehabilitation of small agriculture is crucial for the sustainable development of northeastern Montenegro. According to Milošević-Đorđević and Milovanović (2012) the agricultural production, provides environmental services ... and of enormous value for the conservation of biodiversity, and is an important area for job creation and poverty eradication... The small farm, you should keep and cherish their specialty (agro-diversity, traditional restaurants, small systems of agriculture investments and Para-agricultural and collection practices), high quality agricultural and non-agricultural products and their traditional sustainable relationship with the environment, through activities on the farm and off-farm. This is not only necessary to maintain production…. but also for the survival of the attractive rural environment - consistent with its cultural heritage and important for attracting tourists, as well as laying the groundwork for the welfare of the rural people. .....It is not necessary to diversify each farm, to obtain all possible activities in the region, but combined economic diversification of occupations, various farm and off-farm diversification can bring benefit / or savings (which in times of economic crisis, as in "normal times" also revenue). Simultaneously with the preservation of local agro-diversity, traditional products and traditional cuisine, it is desirable to introduce organic and other certifications and registrations, which indicate better quality or fashionable brands and private labels in order to ensure

quality, value added, and standards for food safety, in order to respect strict rules and sophisticated demand in the contemporary market".

Bogdanov (2007) points out that one of the central questions of European policy in the field of Agriculture and Regional Development refers to the vitality of rural areas and farms. Aging and devastation, not only more peripheral rural areas, the degradation of their natural resources and the environment overall, significantly affect the overall change in the economic structure of European countries and imply a specific social distortions. Transition countries, whose economic system was based for decades exploited for agriculture, and rural areas, which was passed and Montenegro, faced with the same problem, this is how to ensure long-term sustainability of rural areas and provide favorable conditions for their participation in economic development. Hence, as one of the priority tasks in northeastern Montenegro, can considered as defining appropriate policies (not just agricultural) that would stop the negative demographic and economic trends and to ensure the preservation of natural and cultural heritage of rural areas.

A large number of farms in the region "will be transformed into a commercial farm, as at modest potentials, the current vitality of the workforce and the overall resources available to them. On the other hand, experience does not give enough arguments in favor of the thesis that these farms, by nature of the development process, extinguished. Although the process of extinction of small farms consequence of the overall economic development of the country... The question is existence of small farms ... very complex. New development concepts, especially multifunctional agriculture and rural development, promote residential function of rural areas, the importance of preserving the natural environment and biodiversity, ethno-ambient... all of which makes a small farm operators to significant development of rural areas, regardless of the possibility of commercialization of their products and services "(Bogdanov, 2007).

Agricultural producers are working and earning from agriculture, and their earnings depend on many factors, some of which are beyond their control, but there are three key factors for which they are responsible and which may affect:

1. Yield and quality that are achieved, depending on the technical efficiency of (and access to appropriate inputs and post harvest management),
2. Price, exercised for their products, which depends on the skills of sales (as well as the legal environment and the efficiency of the distribution chain, and manufacturing sector) and
3. For farm management decisions that determine what to produce where to sell. To inputs used to manage, risk and how it all fits together (www.glassrbije.org).

Each farmer is the question of what to produce; I had to find an answer too many questions, bearing in mind the following facts:

1. Farmer should take into account their interests, abilities and experience, as well as a willingness to invest some time, your effort and hard work in the development of their family farms. Also, the farmer should take into account the willingness to explore, learn new skills and assume the risk for new situation in production and operations,
2. The farmer must look at their farm. Potential that the state, region, local governments, machinery, buildings, livestock and people. It must take into account, the capital that is available, as well as the ability to increase it with loans. When answering these questions, it is necessary to help the state and to the agricultural extension service, which is supposed to help farmers in his analysis,
3. The farmer must know and where his market, what consumers want to buy, how much they are willing to pay for it, what quality they are looking for? Price is the most important barometer; it is a signal of what is happening in the market... To lead a successful business, the farmer needs to know to interpret the barometer, at least as successful as it can interpret the announcement of the time because its success depends on two things (www.glassrbije.org).

In this situation, the agricultural producers, there are three possible choices:

1. To continue to work in agriculture in the traditional way, while the household budget supplement wages in another role. This is option fairly represented and is experiencing growth in the community of European farmers,
2. Can intensify production and to market on a request for more expensive products such as fruits and vegetables and to earn a lot more income on the same surface,
3. It can increase its land surface area, thus, to obtain an acceptable income producing basic products such as corn, milk, meat, eggs …(www.glassrbije.org)

Montenegro "has decided to join the developed countries of Europe and to try to incorporate into their development processes, but its effort in this, it has a huge backlog in terms of technological, administrative and human resources, as well as most of the former socialist countries. On the other side, the European Union is in its development is becoming more fragmented rural markets offer agric-food products, fruit, wood products, as well as places of rest, tourism and life"(Mirković ,2010).

CONCLUSION

Our research evidence, pointed to the fore several important conclusions:

1. The survival of small farms in the northeastern Montenegro seems to be due to problems in the sector today, there seems to be an impossible mission. Rural development and rural tourism, this should help survival, facing in the region on a number of obstacles and problems. Observed geographic space needs money, but also understanding, commitment and love. He needs and professional, as is the broad social support. Region does not need pity or verbal support, especially those who are easily cry over the fate of the villages from which they originate, but he is reluctant to return, even if the position of

the profession and how you can help. On the other hand, no matter how foreign aid was honest and good, it still requires local decision making of decisions, actions and results (Milošević-Đorđević and Milovanović,2012).

2. Natural (climatic-hydrologic-soil) conditions, their distribution and the qualitative characteristics are favorable for the development of agriculture in the region. However, agriculture is not in conformity with all the existing natural conditions. Disagreement between the available natural resources and modern agricultural production is determined: global economic policy, tradition, demographics, economic structure, market, underdeveloped technology... The above factors have affected, that despite the significant natural resources, achieved the volume and structure of agriculture is not adequately available facilities (see Rajović, 2013).
3. In agriculture northeast of Montenegro, dominated by agricultural holdings have possession of less than 5.00 ha and 91.36% of them in relation to the total number. Most of these farms, it is usually fragmented into several smaller individual plots. The average lot size is approximately 44 acres. Agricultural products, these farms mainly produce for their own use, and marketed only a small part of their production (" farmers who produce for their own needs"). Therefore, many families in the agricultural holdings are very dependent on sources of income and employment outside the farm.
4. Estates larger than 5.01 ha in the region, are had 8.64% farms in respect to the total number. Among these manufacturers, distinguish two separate groups: the first group consists of those farmers who have large farms and are primarily oriented towards the extensive agricultural production, and the second group consists of those who have fewer acres utilized for the production of fruits and vegetables with high quality (intensive farming).
5. The question of existence of small farms is very complex. New development concepts, especially multifunctional agriculture and rural development, promote residential function of rural areas, the importance of preserving the natural environment and biodiversity, ethno-ambient, all of which makes

small farms and significant development entities in rural areas, regardless of the possibility of commercialization of their products and services.

In conclusion, the European experience should be a lesson in agricultural policy northeastern Montenegro, which must be adapted to local resources and initiatives. Despite recognition of the importance of rural development projects in the region so far, have not rested on national development programs, but mostly on private initiative of individuals and groups. On agricultural issues, northeastern Montenegro should look realistic, without excessive optimism and pessimism even less. The process of general and qualitative transformation of the observed geographic space, it will be relatively slow and time consuming. So be on it, work patiently but persistently and continuously.

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