

CURRENT ISSUES IN THE ROMANIAN AGRICULTURAL SECTOR: A CASE STUDY ON THE CHALLENGES FACED BY VEGETAL FARMS IN ROMANIA

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Abstract

In this study, the current issues faced by vegetable agricultural units in Romania were investigated. Interviews with farmers were compared with relevant literature to prioritize the most significant challenges compared to the EU average. Fragmentation of arable agricultural land in Romania was the most addressed key issue within scientific literature which poses various difficulties. The EU encourages consolidating these fragmented areas to increase efficiency, as large units tend to be more productive, while very small units face disadvantages in acquiring resources and selling their products. However, EU regulations could also act as unfair competition, putting Romanian farmers at a disadvantage. The study's results propose a pyramid prioritization of challenges, which effectively represents the most pressing issues faced by Romanian vegetable agricultural units.

Keywords: Romanian farm challenges, unfair competition, EU regulations, agricultural land fragmentation, ownership