

The Issue of Livestock Feed in the Uzbek Ssr in the 1950s

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Abstract: The article examines the state of livestock feed provision in the Uzbek SSR during the 1950s, a period marked by intensified agricultural reforms and the consolidation of collective and state farms. Based on archival documents, statistical data, and contemporary periodicals, the study analyzes the structural deficiencies of fodder production, the imbalance between livestock population growth and available feed resources, and the systemic challenges created by centrally planned procurement norms. Special attention is given to the development of forage crops, irrigation-based fodder systems, and the introduction of agrotechnical measures aimed at improving feed yields. The research highlights how climatic conditions, administrative-command approaches, and unrealistic production targets contributed to chronic feed shortages, ultimately shaping the productivity and resilience of the livestock sector. The article provides a nuanced historical assessment of policy decisions, institutional practices, and their impact on the long-term sustainability of livestock farming in the Uzbek SSR.

Keywords: Uzbek SSR; livestock sector; fodder provision; forage crops; agricultural policy; collective farms; 1950s; Soviet agriculture; feed resources; historical analysis.

INTRODUCTION

In 1945, a total of 16 thousand people were killed in the Uzbek SSR. hectare meadow fields there is in the republic total 14,108 sheep and lambs organization did (National archive of Uzbekistan).

The second of 1945 world of war end period economy war to the needs adapted, rural farm and big to losses encountered War in the years many men to the front mobilized that was done because of the village farm mainly women, children and elderly labor on account of continue Livestock farming products (wool, meat, milk) to the army delivery given, as a result goods number decreased and their care difficult was.

By the end of 1945 arrived in Uzbekistan livestock recovery begins. Of the sheep total the number of livestock is 14,108 heads. heavy condition shows, because this indicator previous was lower than in the years. 16 thousand hectare meadow fields limited is effective if not controlled, feed resources fast finished would remain.

Of the sheep number (14,108 heads) for a large area enough. War during livestock goods number to decrease the following reason was: War during livestock products to the front sent. Pastures and feed resources war during good not provided. Climate and epidemics as a result livestock losses was. 16 thousand hectare pasture area there is although, all pastures fertile If a head is not for average 1-2 hectares pasture Assuming that the area required is 14 thousand sheep for 16 thousand hectare relatively enough to be possible was. From the war next recovery policy within the USSR in Uzbekistan livestock farming develop for planned

the system current the state plans through livestock goods number multiplication and pastures expansion issues raised was.

Russia, Ukraine, Kazakhstan with in comparison, in Uzbekistan pastures relatively small was. Kazakhstan is a desert and steppe regions many happened for pastures much wide and livestock good developed Uzbekistan – climate in terms of livestock for comfortable although, pastures less and irrigated lands enough it's not Russia and Ukraine – mainly grain and crop to cultivate specialized although, desert in the regions large livestock farms there is was.

Cattle animals feed with in providing of meadows separately place was. For this reason this issue is the center's permanent attention in the center become arrived. On June 12, 1945, the Ministers of the Uzbek SSR Soviet by for 1946 in the republic meadow fields study and projects formation about decision acceptance made. To the decision appropriate Kyzylkum 1 million in width hectares, Kyzylkum northeast 2 million in width hectare land, Yozyavon 500 thousand in the desert hectare the meadows study task by designating taken was(National archive of Uzbekistan).

This of the decision acceptance to be done second World from the war next recovery period and livestock sector development with related This was of the decision acceptance to be done following factors reason was first, the war in the years Village of the Uzbek SSR farm system serious damage seen. Worker power reduced , village farm technique outdated or shortage in the case of

Secondly, Animal Husbandry of the field stability provide for feed base expansion necessity Thirdly, the Soviet Union general in the strategy Medium Asia village farm and livestock from the centers one as develop plan done It was also the state by large meadow projects done increase planned is, this of lands all aspects study, climate conditions analysis to do and the most effective regions separation important task as placed was. Kyzylkum latitudes, Kyzylkum northeast regions and Writer of the desert to be studied in the country wide on a scale pasture livestock farming development, intensive farming and livestock between balance to keep aimed at. The desert and half desert territories study through mastery processes starting, then irrigation of projects working is also planned to be released.

Also, this decision On the territory of the Uzbek SSR meadows and from the pastures maximum effective use and livestock feed supply stabilization for the purpose acceptance If 1 million hectare the meadow effective use possible if, this large cattle breeder farms organization to grow opportunity Resources planning and distribution through economic efficiency increase planned.

From the war then economic politics main from directions one agrarian sector development, especially livestock and farming balanced on the road to put. State by pasture to farms separated lands through livestock products multiplication and country internal market meat, milk products, wool with provide in sight caught was.

Other from the side, to study for designated regions mainly desert and half desert to the zones right arrival because of irrigation and land fertility increase problem to the body Desertification process reduce and plant cover restoration livestock for useful although, this big investments and technological required resources. Later this in the regions reclamation works and hydraulic engineer projects done increased.

Brief in other words this decision Soviet of the era hard planned village farm strategy and Uzbekistan of the SSR livestock sector to develop was attention result is economic in terms of far term impact Soviet during done increased planning in the region agrarian sector to develop contribution added although, later economic in terms of various also causing problems issued.

On June 14, 1946, Resolution No. 778 of the Council of Ministers of the Uzbek SSR "On

assistance in moving livestock to pastures in the Bukhara region" was adopted. The decision was made. according to 50 thousand ruble in the form of credit separated, 8 cargo, 5 passenger machine, 6 specialists separated. To the meadows livestock driving exit the process will be complete on June 22nd. completed¹.

As you know, 1946 was the second world war since it ended next first year to be economic recovery started period. Soviet In the Union war in the years livestock heavy to the situation fall left, because many animals war needs for mobilized done or food in supply used. Therefore Bukhara in the province livestock farming again restoration and goods effective feeding for to the meadows to move attention given. Bukhara in the province village economy lands limited is the main feed resources in the meadows was. Above over and over again as noted, the state aims to improve food security through the development of livestock farming. The allocation of a loan of 50 thousand rubles indicates that the state supports livestock farming as a strategic sector. This funding can be used to cover transportation, equipment, and specialist costs, as well as livestock care. The allocation of 8 trucks and 5 cars facilitated the process of transporting goods over long distances. Village economy lands and artificial feed resources limited under the circumstances goods natural to the meadows release economic in terms of useful was. Moles natural in the pastures when fed their weight faster increases, this and economic efficiency increases. By June 22 to the meadows livestock driving process complete completed. This is what shows that the decision fast done and practical to the results take came. Experts attraction to be and livestock processes scientific basically take to go was attempt as evaluation possible.

On July 13, 1948, the Council of Ministers of the Uzbek SSR Soviet " On collective farms of the Uzbek SSR" clover seed production organization to do and grass to plant develop events about " decision acceptance done was(National archive of Uzbekistan).

This decision was one of the important steps towards strengthening the fodder base in the agriculture of the Uzbek SSR. At that time, the country's economy was in the process of recovering from the consequences of World War

¹ O'z MA, R. 837 - fund, 32 - list, 7091 - work, 2 - sheet.

II, and increasing agricultural productivity and improving the supply of fodder for livestock were among the urgent issues.

The issue of fodder production in Uzbekistan's agriculture has been one of the underdeveloped areas for many years. By the end of the 1940s, state policy in this direction began to change. This decision should be seen as part of this process.

Because since the quality and volume of livestock products directly depended on fodder production, such measures were an integral part of agrarian policy. Overall, this decision served to strengthen the connection between crop production and animal husbandry in agriculture. At the same time, in the context of post-war economic recovery, there was also an increase in state control over the agricultural sector.

Archive at the source record It is believed that in 1948, the seed clover plots separation for designated Namangan region plan and Karakalpakstan From the ASSR other any province not done. Separated seed clover plots good care not done, they many on collective farms only officially to links hidden, that's it because of a 1948 how much seed clover perish was or hay for reap taken (National archive of Uzbekistan).

This information can be recognized as part of the problems that arose in the agricultural sector of the Uzbek SSR in 1948. The failure to sow alfalfa seed crops according to plan or the use of the crop as fodder indicates that there were serious shortcomings in the implementation of the tasks set by the state in agriculture.

As has been repeatedly noted above, the Soviet agricultural system was strictly centralized, and each farm was obliged to fulfill the plan given from above. However, in many cases, these plans were adopted without taking into account the natural and climatic conditions of the land, the adequacy of technical and labor resources. As indicated in the resolution, the regional and district executive committees, as well as the local bodies of the agricultural departments, failed to fulfill the assigned tasks on time. As a result, instead of seed alfalfa farms, attention was paid to the cultivation of fodder crops, which contradicted the plan and caused sharp criticism from above. After the war, agriculture was in a state of severe economic crisis. During this period, a shortage of machinery, a lack of qualified labor, and natural disasters hindered the development of agriculture. Instead of storing the designated alfalfa seed, farms were

forced to use it as fodder, as the lack of fodder for livestock was a serious problem.

This information shows the shortcomings of the Soviet-era agrarian policy and systemic problems in agriculture. Since the strict planning practice in agriculture did not take into account local needs and opportunities, the plan was not implemented. Due to the insufficient supply of feed for livestock, farmers tried to satisfy their needs even at the cost of violating the state plan. This indicates an economically incorrect distribution of resources and the unsustainability of the agricultural system.

The heads of many district organizations were unable to control the activities of special seed farms, which is why in 1948 the farms received a lower yield of seed alfalfa than collective farms that were not engaged in seed production.

The regional and district executive committees and agricultural bodies did not draw the necessary conclusions from government decisions and did not implement the plan for allocating seed alfalfa plots for 1949, and also did not properly organize winter agrotechnical measures, which were of great importance for obtaining a rich harvest from the alfalfa plots allocated for seed (National archive of Uzbekistan).

These data indicate weaknesses in the state planning system in agriculture, the weakness of local governance, and the misallocation of resources in the agrarian economy. This situation can be analyzed from the perspective of institutional, systemic economics, agrarian governance, natural resources and agrotechnology, and socio-economic factors.

From the point of view of institutional economics, the management system in agriculture is centralized, and since a clear monitoring system for the implementation of decisions developed by the government has not been formed, regional and district executive committees have not been able to bridge the gap between planning and implementation.

Also, centralized planning practices were developed without taking into account local resources and capabilities, resulting in decisions not being implemented or being implemented poorly. Although decisions were made, the mechanism for taking practical measures based on their results was weak, and accountability was also poorly controlled.

According to the principles of systemic economics, the efficiency of any economic system depends on the allocation of resources and the efficiency of their use. The fact that specialized seed farms produced lower yields than collective farms that did not engage in seed production indicates that these farms lacked agrotechnical knowledge and experience, as well as management problems. The decline or misuse of seed alfalfa plots has disrupted the link between seed production and livestock production. Although a plan for allocating seed plots was adopted, the necessary economic and technical conditions for its implementation were not created.

From the point of view of agricultural management, the neglect of agrotechnical measures caused the failure to fulfill the yield plans for 1949. Measures to protect winter crops, tillage and irrigation practices, which are important for maintaining soil fertility and seed production, were neglected. This as a result seed the harvest was low, and for 1949 seed clover cultivation plan not done. At that time, agricultural machinery was in short supply, and due to the lack of tractors and other mechanization tools, agrotechnical measures were not fully implemented. The climatic conditions observed in 1948-1949 also affected productivity. This factor was given little attention in the Soviet economy, and local leaders were held responsible for the failure to implement the plan.

When assessing changes in agriculture from the point of view of the standard of living of the population and labor resources, the issue of personnel shortage also comes to the fore. In the years after World War II, there was a shortage of qualified agronomists and engineers. In turn, the lack of knowledge and experience of local agricultural leaders led to the incorrect implementation of decisions. The level of economic interest of farmers was low, and collective farmers who worked according to the plan did not receive personal income from increased productivity or the development of seed production. Therefore, based on their own needs, they preferred to grow fodder instead of seed production. In the conditions of forced planning during the Soviet era, if production discipline was not established, local leaders could be held criminally liable if the plan was not implemented. Therefore, in many places, the truth began to be hidden through official reports.

Due to the above problems, on February 3, 1949, the Council of Ministers of the Uzbek SSR issued

a resolution setting a number of tasks to solve the problems of alfalfa. In particular, the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Karakalpakstan ASSR, the heads of the committees and district committees were charged with discussing the situation in the field of alfalfa seed production and formulating a specific action plan for each district and each collective farm in order to ensure a sharp increase in the alfalfa seed yield in 1949. In particular, by April 10, 1949, the approval of alfalfa fields in all collective farms was carried out, the readiness of seed alfalfa plots in all collective farms was checked, the best plots were allocated for planting seed alfalfa, not contaminated with harmful weeds, harrowing of alfalfa fields in early spring, application of mineral fertilizers to varietal alfalfa, strict control of the appearance of leaf beetles in alfalfa fields, ensuring the planting of seed alfalfa no later than April 5, 1949, and carrying out artificial pollination during the flowering period of alfalfa (National archive of Uzbekistan).

CONCLUSION

Livestock farming develop for land and resources shortage economic imbalance strengthened. Cattle for pastures shrinking, dependency decreased, this and meat, milk and wool products working release size to decrease take came Thus, economic in terms of decision short within the period cotton export at the expense of benefit brought although, long within the period agrarian in the sector to imbalance reason was.

Logical point from the point of view decision cotton to cultivate multiplication through of the country industry needs to satisfy aimed at Because the USSR was economically in politics village farm networks inside the most many income causing to the sectors attention given. However, logically than, one the network develop in return another one slowdown far term economic to stability damage delivers.

Livestock of products decrease population for food in supply problems brought Soviet planning system within this problem speed with solution not done and as a result, livestock farming in the 1950s and 1960s again restoration measures see started was.

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