



NATIONAL AND EUROPEAN LEGISLATION ON SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE IN ROMANIA

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Abstract

In introduction, we highlighted the need for food compared to demographic growth. The aim and objectives of organic farming are to harmonize scientific discoveries and environmental protection. Agro-ecological systems interfere, including with conventional systems and as such, there are no organic (biological), bio-dynamic or pure natural organic systems in practice, only mixed systems that we will call the general term organic farming systems. The best known organization at the international level is the International Federation of Organic Farming Movements (IFOAM). At governmental level, organic agriculture in Romania is coordinated by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. The European Union supports organic farms through agri-environmental measures, initially through Council Regulation (EEC) 2078/1992 and then by the Council Regulation (EEC) no. 1257/1999. The cultivation of land continues to interest all those spiritually related and agricultural material, and those interested emphasize on the reduction of production costs and the growth of productions.

Key words : Agro-ecosystems, political framework, norms, effects, species.

Introduction

In the past, the vital food, clothing, and shelter requirements of man are largely satisfied with nature. Due to the accelerated numerical growth and the emancipation of the human population and implicitly of its requirements, nature is more and more immune to the fulfillment of these needs. In these circumstances, man has been forced to produce most of his own food and the rest of the materials needed to cohabitate it through a series of activities that have stimulated productivity of the main natural components of agriculture: soil, climate, plants and animals as a result of profit-seeking, agriculture has increasingly begun to change and move away from nature, while developing human inventions-mechanization, chemistry, irrigation, and newer genetic engineering.

In this situation, there are more and more negative effects on nature that will sooner or later develop on humans by intensifying destructive phenomena - floods, landslides, avalanches, sudden climate change, decrease of natural soil feat, pollution, desertification, and the explosion of diseases that affect the plant, animal and human immune system.

These phenomena have once again led to increased efforts to protect the environment, and secondly to the emergence and development of the concept and practical activities of organic farming.

We have proposed that through this paper we should familiarize as many agronomic youth as possible, but also other readers interested in agriculture with a few notions about national and European law, through organic farming. Another intention was to stimulate individual and, above all, collective creativity in the field of cultivation of land and livestock in the organic system and processing of agricultural and livestock and livestock organic products, but also to provide a minimum of knowledge required for the design of a farm environmentally friendly, with respect for quality and environmental standards. The objective of this work is to develop the basics of organic agriculture and the information needed to know the theoretical specificities. Management of the environment farm and all that relates to ecological agriculture. organic farming techniques in the ecosystem.

Materials and Method

The co-ordinator of the team studied a course on environmental legislation, which in turn gave us the curiosity to address a sustainable agriculture theme, and

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by common agreement we chose the theme of the National and European Legislation on Sustainable Agriculture. Being a curious team, we wanted to find out as much information as possible about sustainable agriculture, that in the future they could be passed on to people who are passionate about agriculture.

Achievement of the documentation was team and individual. The information in the documentation was taken from both the library and the Internet, with the intention of comparing past information with the current ones.

The chapters of the theme of the work were chosen with great care in order to raise the curiosity of agronomists to establish an organic farm.

The Basics of Organic Farming

The progress of humanity is generally based on new scientific and technical discoveries. Sometimes, however, the development of human society requires the reactivation of older technological systems, such as organic farming systems, but the only ones effective in solving serious environmental and health problems (Toncea, 2002).

Organic farming seeks to harmonize the dynamic interactions between soil, plants, animals and humans, or, in other words, the ecological, economic and social offer of agroecosystems and the human needs of food, clothing, and housing. As a type of sustainable agriculture, the purpose of organic farming can be expressed by a mini-max function: maximizing yields and minimizing negative side-effects of agricultural activities.

Organic (sustainable) organic farming in the EU and in Romania - realities and perspectives

In some developed countries, organic farming is an important segment of the market. Annually, increases in the value of organic products are between 20% and 30%. In the European Union, more than 3.7 million hectares were cultivated using organic technologies in 2001 (2.9% of the agricultural area used). In Denmark, in 2002, 300,000 hectares were cultivated in an organic system (10% of the area); in the UK, 3% of the agricultural area used was cultivated; in Germany, the value of organic products amounted to USD 3.8 billion; in France, the organic product market is growing (\$ 2.5 billion in 2002 in total production). The French government has developed a pluriannual program for the development of organic farming, which aims to become the main European supplier of organic products (Zahia Letitia 2004).

In May 2002, the European Parliament asked the

European Commission to draw up a directive underpinning a program for the re-evaluation and reduction of pesticides used since 2003 and focusing on a new concept, namely 'Sustainable use of pesticides' (EU Directive 41/414 / EEC). According to this directive, all pesticide active substances that were authorized before 1993 will be subject to review, using new test methods on toxicity and environmental impact.

In Romania, the preoccupations for the institutional organization of the organic product market materialize in the legislation and institutions harmonized with those operating in the EU (ZahiaLehija 2004)

National and European institutional framework

The best known organization at the international level is the International Federation of Organic Farming Movements (IFOAM).

Against the backdrop of scandals about dioxin and nitrofen contamination, mad cow disease, avian influenza and swine flu, infection of vegetables with the enterohemorrhagic strain of *Esterichia coli* (EHEC), and fears about the use of genetically modified organisms, the demand for organic agricultural and food products grew very much at the beginning of this millennium. Faced with this demand, many countries (including Romania) are in difficulty as a result of the low share of organic products on the agri-food market. Also, agricultural research in this field has approached with some persuasion some key areas such as genetics and plant and animal breeding, seed production, planting and breeding material and much more to do in increasing economic efficiency, training and education ecological producers, inspection and certification of organic farms and products and the valorisation of agroecological production.

Considering that ecological agriculture can offer realistic solutions for the development and modernization of villages and communes, in particular to solve the problems of the small peasant household (land fragmentation, decrease in the number and physical power of agricultural producers, rudimentary technologies, subsistence production, etc.); even on medium and large farms (profitability and environmental problems), that Romania's agroecological potential is 10-25% of the agricultural area (1 500 000 - 3 750 000 ha) and that the main requirements of the European Union are the protection of the environment, food security and food safety and food quality, we believe that agricultural production and agro products

In practice, organic farming has a number of distinct attributes that I have ordered as follows. The best known

organization at the international level is the International Federation of Organic Farming Movements (IFOAM).

In Romania, organic farming is, as in all other countries, undergoing a process of institutional consolidation and development, in which the most active are producers' associations such as: - AGROECOLOGY, the Bioagriculture Association in Romania - BIOTERRA, the Bio Romania Association, the Romanian Association for Sustainable Agriculture and the National Federation of Agriculture

Ecological. At governmental level, organic agriculture in Romania is coordinated by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development.

Conversion of a farm to organic farming encompasses all activities of rebalancing agricultural ecosystems and improving soil fertility;

All farms and agricultural, agro-industrial and commercial organic farms go through a longer or shorter conversion period that is equal to the time elapsed between starting organic farming and obtaining a farm or organic certificate.

The shift from conventional farming to green is step by step, so that economic structures do not feel the effects of productivity downsizing, and producers get biodiversity and the welfare of animals and humans.

From a technical point of view, conversion is the time when a conventional farm puts the foundation for the correct and profitable application of agro-ecological methods. This period may be called "bureaucratic conversion" because during the conversion period, information is collected about the history of the farm, the farm and the unit of agricultural products processing, and the conversion plan and agronomic conversion are being developed, as one of the objectives of this periods are the optimization of organic farming methods of land cultivation, animal breeding and processing and marketing of organic products.

Community rules governing organic farming require that a farm wishing to adopt organic methods should have a conversion period of at least two years from seeding, to annual crops and to 3 years for pasture, meadow and forage crops. The inspection body may extend or shorten this period, depending on the history of the farm, supported by supporting documents. Under no circumstances can conversion of crops be made in less than one year.

In accordance with Article 14 (1) (a) Regulation (EC) No. No 834/2007, livestock products may be considered organic only if simultaneous conversion of the entire production site, including grassland, grassland and / or

any area used for the production of feeding stuffs, and livestock is carried out. The total conversion period for all existing animals and their descendants for pasture and / or for any land used for the production of feed may be reduced to a maximum of 24 months and only if the animals are fed with products from the agricultural unit in who are raised.

Results and discussion

Organic Farm Management European and national logos

The organic farming logo in the EU provides consumers with confidence in the origin and quality of food and beverages produced in accordance with EU regulations. In order to label a product as environmentally friendly, it is necessary to fully comply with the Cosii Regulation no. 834/2007 and Commission Regulation no. (EC) No 889/2008 containing a minimum of rules on the production, processing and import of organic products, including inspection, labeling and marketing procedures for the European Union (EU) as a whole. The first organic farming logo was launched at the end of 1990 and has been used voluntarily in the EU only by producers whose production systems and products have been inspected by inspection bodies and inspection reports that have been found to meet the requirements of EU Regulation 2092 / 91.

In Romania, together with the Community logo, the national logo "ae. The SAA logo, owned by the MAFRD, ensures that the product so labeled comes from organic farming and is certified by a control body. The rules for the use of the "ae" logo are set out in Annex 1 to the Common Order amending and supplementing the Annex to the Order of the Minister of Agriculture, Forests and Rural Development no. 317/2006 and the president of the National Authority for Consumer Protection no. 190 / 2006 approving the Specific Rules on the labeling of organic food products. The right to use the "ae" logo on products, labels and packaging of organic products is provided by producers, processors and importers who are registered with the MAFRD and have a contract with a control body approved by the MAFRD. Throughout the entire organic product chain, operators must always comply with the rules laid down in Community and national legislation. They must undergo inspections, carried out by inspection and certification bodies, to check compliance with the legislation in force on organic production.

IFOAM, NOP and JAS standards

The International Federation of Organic Farming Movements (IFOAM) has developed the "Basic

Standards” to determine how organic products must be obtained, processed and distributed.

IFOAM standards provide the framework for the development of national and regional standards and inspection and certification bodies’ programs and standardization organizations around the world, and prevent the use of national standards as trade barriers. National and regional standards can only be used after approval by IFOAM.

The FAO & WHO Guidelines are a useful source for setting the set of rules for public suppliers and manufacturers who want to develop regulations in this area. In particular, the Codex Alimentarius, a combination of the FAO Food Standards Program and the WHO.

The requirements of this Codex are in line with the IFOAM base standards and the U.E. for organic food. Guidance on organic food trade addresses and values ??some existing rules and rules operating in several countries.

This Codex constitutes a relevant basis for the harmonization of international rules, in order to increase consumer confidence.

Some new rules have been introduced at the last revision, which mainly affects consumers, except those who consume farm and organic food. In several countries in the European Union national regulations for organic products have been developed. It is not unusual that this kind of regulation on organic production, which arose long before the European Union regulation, came back to the present. In several European countries, such as England, Italy, Denmark, Austria, Hungary, Sweden and Switzerland, farmers’ associations have already formulated their own standards and labeling schemes long before European and national rules go back on track. These labels and brands are usually trustworthy for consumers and as such are also admitted by national and European authorities. For private labels for organic products to be accepted, it is necessary for all operators (producers, processors and traders) to meet the requirements of EU or national regulations, but also to comply with private labeling standards.

We also mention that international oversight for organic certification is done by the International Environmental Accreditation Service (IOAS), an independent, non-profit organization, registered in Delaware, USA. IOAS (<http://www.ioas.org>) implements the IFOAM accreditation program through a mechanism that guarantees environmental integrity and is not burdened by national barriers. The IOAS accreditation process is voluntary and is done through certification

bodies active in the organic farming sector and with no other interests.

Forms of support for organic farming

The European Union supports organic farms through agri-environmental measures, initially through Council Regulation (EEC) 2078/1992 and then by the Council Regulation (EEC) no. 1257/1999.

The Regulation provides that, in order to benefit from Community support, farms must undertake to practice organic farming for 5 years and this support is made annually, depending on the area and type of crop. The maximum amount of funds that can be received from the European Union (EU) varies from 600 € / ha to annual crops, 900 € / ha for specialized perennial crops and 450 € / ha for other uses provided by Regulation no. 1257/1999 and are significantly higher than those provided for in Regulation no. 2078/1992.

Also, U.E. prefers financial support to agricultural producer organizations because:

1. The organic sector is growing rapidly and the receipt of information / training of agricultural producers is only assured in the case of the associative structures of agricultural producers;
2. Many market channels are accessible only to producer organizations;
3. Many processors of agricultural products cooperate with specialized producer associations;
4. Producer organizations represent the interests of organic farmers in the public sphere; According to the Farmers and Farmers Guide, in Romania organic farming is a sub-measure within the agri-environment measure and is financially supported by the European Union payments either for conversion to certified organic production or for the maintenance of certified organic production for crops on arable land, pastures permanent crops, vegetable crops, aromatic and medicinal plants and perennial crops (live and orchards). The European Union has also been supporting since 2008 financially and two other agri-environmental sub-measures - “Water and Soil Protection”, through payments for the establishment of green crops and “Conservation of biodiversity and extensive grassland management” through payments for: meadows with high natural value, traditional work practices and important meadows for birds.

Human activities have significantly contributed to the gradual disappearance of original natural environments.

Organic farming restores the complexity of ecosystems. The systemic pathway is considered optimal

when the farm combines: the diversity of plants grown with rotation and production levels with territorial rules, animal husbandry, natural elements and good land management. These combinations of production provide the optimal profit from available natural resources and regulatory processes. organic farming is a system and not a simple action to replace chemical fertilizers and other chemicals with natural substances.

Ecological farming technologies

Cultivation of land continues to interest all those spiritually and material agriculture. Interested or not, are those who practice, study, and / or promote models of land exploration, the focus of which is almost exclusively on reducing production costs and production increases, as well as households, farmers, researchers and agro-ecological experts / consultants whose efforts are directed towards the overall settlement of the environmental, economic and social problems specific to the cultivation of land.

Choice of species and varieties Species and varieties grown on organic farms are adapted to local climate and soil conditions, tolerant to diseases and pests and competitive in weed control.

Organic farms can cultivate all genetically improved species and varieties of genetically engineered plants, whose products are required by consumers, except those created or produced by genetic engineering.

The organic farm cultivates, almost exclusively, species and varieties resistant to abiotic factors (frost, drought, heat, excess water) and biotic (diseases and pests), have a high potential for the use of nutrients in the soil, are competitive in the struggle with weeds and delivers preferred consumer products, and are not transgenic.

The contamination, including accidental, of crops and, implicitly, organic products with GMOs leads to the loss of ecological and ecological product quality respectively. Species adapted to local soil and climate conditions are preferred.

In organic agricultural plants with parallel, ecological and conventional, or organic and conversion, different varieties will be cultivated, some only on certified organic parcels, others on conversion and other conventional ones.

Slides and rotations

Soils and rotation of crops are the most cost-effective and less expensive means of combating weeds, plant diseases and pests, to produce large crops and to protect the soil and the environment.

As a general rule, cultivating the same plant on the

same plot for many years or even monoculture will increase the potential for attack by pathogens, pests, to increase the amount of weed seeds and vegetative material capable of reducing weeds, but also the diminishing of soil resources in plant nutrients, soil humus, pH changes and hence the decline in crop production.

Crop rotation is a technological link that can not be missed. From an agronomic point of view, once a crop has been harvested, it has to be reflected on the plant that it will take place in rotation so that the soil can be prepared in the best conditions so that the next crop can express its full potential.

The principles underpinning crop rotation take into account the farmer's production objectives but also take into account a number of other factors such as:

- Pedo-climatic conditions;
- Adaptability of soybeans and hybrids to organic areas;
- Risks for the transmission of diseases, pests or weeds;
- Cultural practices;
- The effect of the precursor plant on soil fertility;
- Humic balance and intake of organic matter through organic fertilization.

It is possible in rotation to alternate crops belonging to different families, such as cereals, legumes, oilseeds, etc. It is also possible to alternate, from one year to another, the species that look like autumn with the ones that look like spring.

Soil works

There are interventions, most often mechanical, for the purpose of altering its attributes from the desire to ensure the living conditions required by crop plants.

Soil works are one of the main cultivation technologies, in the desire to get more and more productions, man has developed soil work to exaggeration, leading in some cases to the deterioration of some of its features (destruction of the strata, reduction of the humus content etc.).

The correct execution of the soil works and the efficient use of the vegetation factors lead to the achievement of stable productions, while ensuring favorable conditions in the evolution of soil fertility and its preservation, being the main means of production in agriculture.

Seed and sowing The seed and other planting material used on organic farms are double certified, both as multiplying material and as an organic product. Organic farms will cultivate the species and varieties

recommended for organic farming.

Seed and planting material is certified as organic after one generation in the case of annual crops and after two growing periods or 12 months for perennial crops. In the situation

Fertilization Agro-ecological technologies increase and / or maintain soil fertility. Sources of nutrients, including those in the soil, will be used in a responsible and sustainable manner that will optimize their effect. Also, the loss of nutrients in the environment will be reduced and the accumulation of heavy metals and other polluting substances in the soil will be prevented.

The basis of the fertilization program is biodegradable materials of microbial, vegetal or animal origin resulting from agroecological practices and methods of stimulating the activity of (micro) organisms in the soil. Also, the fertilization program also includes mineral fertilizers, with the exception of synthetic fertilizers, especially nitrogen (ammonium nitrate, urea, etc.), which are banned.

Irrigation is a set of works and operations that artificially bring and administer water on a vegetation land (usually) either to help increase crop yields or to restore vegetation to lands modified by construction works, or to mitigating the effects of late frosts. Irrigation is the main measure to combat the effects of drought on cultivated plaques. It is sometimes used in combination with drainage to improve salinated soils or to avoid salinisation of irrigated and / or decayed soils.

Irrigation process Irrigation is carried out through a system of economic, organizational, technical and agro-technical measures. Rational irrigation creates favorable conditions for plant growth and development, ensuring better and stable harvests of agricultural crops, independent of the amount of atmospheric precipitation. Irrigation can be carried out on a regular basis (at certain deadlines and set standards) or once (by submersion, by the snow melting waters, and by flooding when the water covers the irrigable surface only during the overflow). Rivers, lakes, ground waters and other natural water sources can be used as irrigation water sources. The water is brought to the irrigation area with an irrigation system to be maintained, which involves financial expenses.

Conclusion

In Romania, organic farming is in the first phase compared to European countries, as many young farmers in the country who want to set up a small ecological farm funded by European funds tend to abandon the project because the state does not support these young people very much financially, as well as the foundation of the dossier. The European Union supports organic farms through agri-environment measures with Council Regulation (EEC). This support has the obligation for the farms to practice organic farming for a period of 5 years.

In developed countries, organic farming is currently an important market support, as there have been increases in the sale of organic products.

Due to the intensive work, the soil is suffering more and more, reaching the lowest fertility. With the help of organic farming, the quality of the soil is restored.

In conclusion, it is essential to practice organic farming to protect plant biodiversity and the natural resources of the environment.

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