

THE AGRICULTURAL SYSTEM IN THE NÄDLAC LOCALITY PERIMETER, ARAD COUNTY

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Abstract. *The Nădlac locality, a town since 1968, is situated in the West of the country at the Hungarian border, in the Arad county. The town Nădlac is exclusively plain land, being a part of the Great Western Plain, near the Mureș river, an important hydrographical basin. The Nădlac locality is a multicultural, multiconfessional and multiethnic space, with 13315 ha surface of which 12117 ha tillable land, and a 8154 inhabitant population. The geographical situation as well as the soil and human resources create opportunities for the practice of agriculture which should lead to achieving good crops from a quantitative, as well as qualitative point of view. Massing tillable land, as well as producer associations and the use of last generation technologies led to the practice of a modern agriculture with high crop diversity in the Nădlac town perimeter. The increased global food necessity may lead to the agricultural revitalisation of our country, a fact that was understood by the Nădlac agricultural producers, who focused on practicing an exclusively vegetal agricultural system. The only inconvenient in agricultural development seems to be the open market for these agricultural products, but the association in producer organizations may lead to receiving real prices for the agricultural production.*

Key words: *agriculture, system, land, soil, association, Nădlac*

INTRODUCTION

The town of Nădlac is situated in Western Romania at the Hungarian border, being one of the most important customs point. From an administrative point of view, it belongs to the Arad county. The town of Nădlac is situated exclusively on plain land, and is part of the Great Western Plain. From a hydrograph point of view, the town of Nădlac is situated near the river Mures, an important hydrograph basin which crosses the border in Hungary where it flows into the Tisa. The climate is continental-moderate, with sub-Mediterranean influences, with average multiannual temperatures ranging between 10-12°C. The multiannual precipitation average is situated between 560-580 l/m².

The Nădlac town is a multicultural, multiconfessional and multiethnic space, with a total surface of 13315 ha, of which an agricultural surface of 12116 ha, with a population of 8,154 inhabitants. The population is characterized by cultural diversity, various communities inhabiting the area: Romanians (44.50 %), Slovaks (47.64 %), Hungarians (3.55 %), Roma (2.53 %), other nationalities (1.75 %). The first documented mention of this settlement is from 1192, under the name of Noglok. In 1313 it appears in the testament left by Egyed of Monoszlo. In 1474 King Matei bestows the Nădlac estate on the Jaksici family, a Serbian feudal family. In 1555 a long Turkish domination is installed. In 1752, the settlement becomes a town. In 1803 Slovakian colonists come here from Tothklomos (Hungary) and central Slovakia. On the 1st of December 1918, a Nădlac delegation participates in the Great National Assembly from Alba Iulia, Nădlac being united with România.

The Nădlac economy is centred on agriculture, with a low percentage of light industry and commerce. The main activity is agriculture, approximately 91 % of the total

surface, of which approximately 10 % is processed by agricultural associations, the rest by individual households. Light industry branches represented are: the food sector, the textile sector and wood processing. Another economic side is represented by small craftsmen: masons, painters, carpenters etc.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

For the elaboration of the current paper we used data obtained through our own observations, data from the Romanian Statistic Directory, from M.A.D.R. and I.N.S.S.E and the Nădlac mayor hall. One may observe an increase in agricultural land, as well as compacted surfaces, worked in associations, due to its geographic position, as well as the possibility to use irrigations, fully capitalizing the Mureş river waters.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

The main agricultural activities of the Nădlac inhabitants, is land cultivation. The Nădlac locality land fund is dominated by agricultural land occupying a surface of 12116 ha from the 13315 ha total. The great majority of agricultural surfaces are privately owned, and only a small percentage is public property, just 50 ha. The Nădlac locality land fund situation is presented in table 1.

Table 1.

The Nădlac land fund situation

Usage	Surface (ha)
Tillable	11701
Pastures	364
Hay land	39
Vineyards	3
Orchards	9
Agricultural total	12116

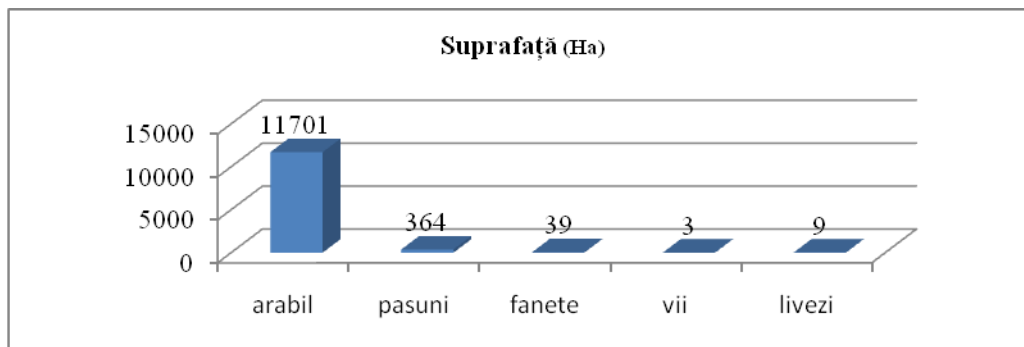


Fig.1. The Nădlac land fund situation

Crop structure

The surface cultivated with grain cereals is predominated by wheat, corn, barley, sunflower, rapeseed, as well as other plants presented in table 2.

Table 2.

Agricultural crops in Nădlac (ha)

Crop	ha
Wheat	4758
Corn	4718
Barley	598
Sunflower	1050
Rape	87
Soy	44
Sugar beet	120
Fodder	180

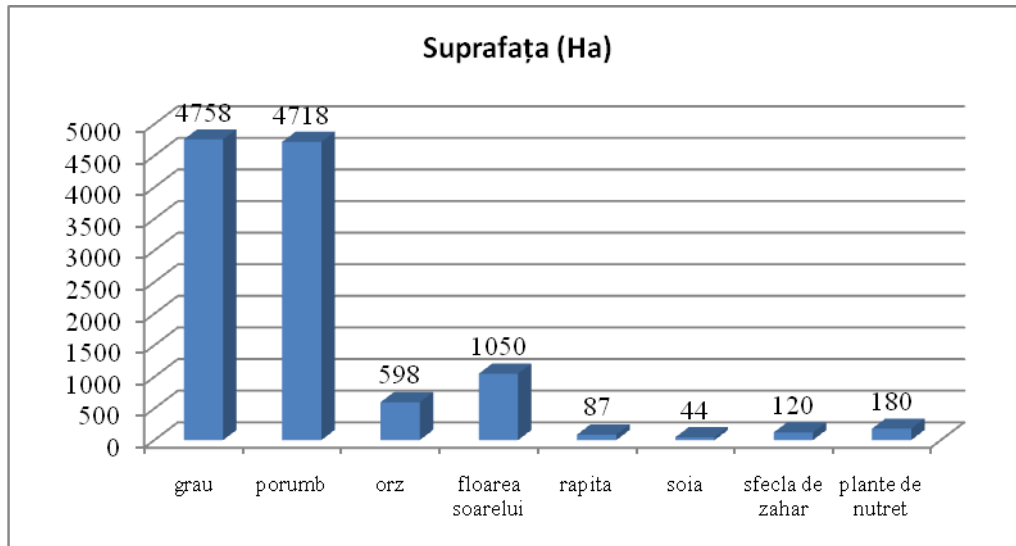


Fig.2. Agricultural crops in Nădlac (ha)

One can easily observe the crop diversity, where the grain cereals predominate, as well as the presence of oleaginous, technical and fodder plants.

The zootechnical sector

Although the pastures and hay land represent a low percentage, the zootechnical sector is still well represented in the Nădlac locality, encompassing a large variety of animal and poultry species as well as bee families. The animal livestock registered in the locality range is represented in table 3

Table 3.

Animal categories in Nădlac	
Species	Heads/number
Bovine	580
Ovine	6000
Equine	40
Porcine	4000
Poultry	12000
Bee families	1050

The technologic park

Regarding the Nădlac locality technologic park, one may observe that it is varied and of relatively new generation, covering all demands of obtaining qualitatively and quantitatively high crops. Simultaneously, the locality hosts the headquarter of the Zetor Tractor company, which commercializes not only tractors, but other agricultural equipment, such as attachments, semi-attachments, semi-automated and automated seeders.

Agricultural societies

The most important agricultural societies activating on the Nădlac locality range are:

- ✓ The Agrosavia Agricultural Society, working approximately 1270 ha,
- ✓ Agoistria with approximately 932 ha,
- ✓ West Graiu with 810 ha,
- ✓ SC Agroromar with 124 ha,
- ✓ SC KJK Agroservice with 187 ha,
- ✓ SC Agropalata 2007 with 138 ha

Aside from those enumerated above, there are other societies, as well as self-employed persons, activating and cultivating land in Nădlac. These societies are strongly supported by the Nădlăc Peasant Association, in their relationship with authorities, as well as for the marketing of agricultural products. Another commercial society processing a part of the agricultural production is SC Moara Capricornilor SRL.

CONCLUSIONS

- ✓ The town of Nădlac is situated in the Great Western Plain, at a 42 km distance from Arad city, on the shore of the Mureş river.
- ✓ As far as its location in Europe is concerned, the town is situated in Romania, Eastern Europe, and represents a combination of cultures, forming a multiethnic community.
- ✓ The locality fully beneficiates from the soil resources, obtaining high qualitative and quantitative crops, a large part of the active population working in agriculture.
- ✓ The agricultural profile societies in the area offer working places.
- ✓ The agricultural system in the Nădlac locality area is an agricultural one, with weak agro-zootechnical influences, due to the reduced animal number.
- ✓ The way in which technologies are used and the interest in cultivating the land show the way towards a revival of the Romanian agriculture.

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