

THE VARIETY OF AGRICULTURAL LANDSCAPES FROM MARCULEȘTI PLANE, A METHOD OF SUSTAINABLE ORGANIZATION OF THE SPACE

DIVERSITATEA PEISAJELOR AGRICOLE DIN CÂMPIA MĂRCULEȘTI, UN MOD DE ORGANIZARE DURABILĂ A SPAȚIULUI

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Abstract: This project emphasizes an opportunity of the best revaluation of the agricultural landscapes from the South-East area of Bărăgan Plane, more precisely Mărculești Plane, as Eastern subdivision of Southern Bărăgan. Based on the natural and anthropogenic factors analysis it was noticed the fact that within this subdivision of relief the agricultural landscape of plane, the following subtypes are rendered evident: cultivated fields landscapes, mostly grain fields, vegetable landscape, vine-orchard landscape, natural or cultivated lawns' landscapes. All these subtypes emphasize the opportunity of the best revaluation of this area's fields, contributing to the development of a modern, lasting agriculture.

Rezumat: În această lucrare se prezintă o oportunitate de valorificare optimă a peisajelor agricole în sud-estul Câmpiei Bărăganului și anume Câmpia Mărculești, ca subdiviziune estică a Bărăganului Sudic. Din analiza factorilor naturali și antropici se observă că în această subunitate de relief se evidențiază peisajul agricol de câmpie cu următoarele subtipuri: peisajul câmpurilor cultivate, predominant cerealiere, peisajul legumicol, peisajul vitipomicol, peisajul pajiștilor naturale sau cultivate. Toate aceste subtipuri scot în evidență oportunitatea valorificării optime a terenurilor din această regiune, contribuind la dezvoltarea unei agriculturi moderne, durabile.

Key words: agricultural landscape, optimal revaluation, sustainable organization, Bărăgan
Cuvinte cheie: peisaj agricol, valorificare optimă, organizare durabilă, Bărăgan

INTRODUCTION

Mărculești plane constitutes the Eastern sector of Southern Bărăgan and comprises the following subdivisions: in North side – Ciuniței Field, in the centre and South side – Jegăliei Field, which ends towards Borcea Branch with a terrace – Călărași Field, and in the East – Hagiieni Field, which extends itself with a terrace also towards Borcea Branch – Făcăeni Field.

The analysed sector has a surface of 2022 square km and is situated at the North side of Ialomița river, Borcea Branch at the East and South, while the Western side is represented by a straight imaginary line, on North-South direction, between Ialomița river and the point where Danube splits in two arms, upstream Călărași.

The natural conditions, characterised by a relief predominant in smooth plane, by a climate proper for the agricultural activities, a hydrographical net which might constitute a source useful for irrigations and quasi-dominance of softish soils, make out of this area one with a high agricultural potential.

MATERIALS AND METHOD

In view of settling the usage method of these fields and the identification of the agricultural landscape types field observations were performed, statistic data was gathered, processed and interpreted, but also a map analysis of the studied area units: 20 communes from Ialomița and Călărași counties, Călărași and Fetești municipalities and a part of Southern administrative territory of Slobozia municipality.

From the performed observations and analysed data, at the level of the entire studied

sector it resulted the structure of land area (table 1) and usage method of agricultural fields (table 2).

Table 1

Mărculești Plane. Structure of land area (ha)

Total	Agricultural	Waters	Forests	Constructions	Other
202200	174167	14423	3600	8580	1430

Table 1

Usage methods of agricultural fields from Mărculești Plane (ha)

Agricultural total	Arable	Lawns and hayfields	Orchards	Vineyards
174167	170005	661	827	2674

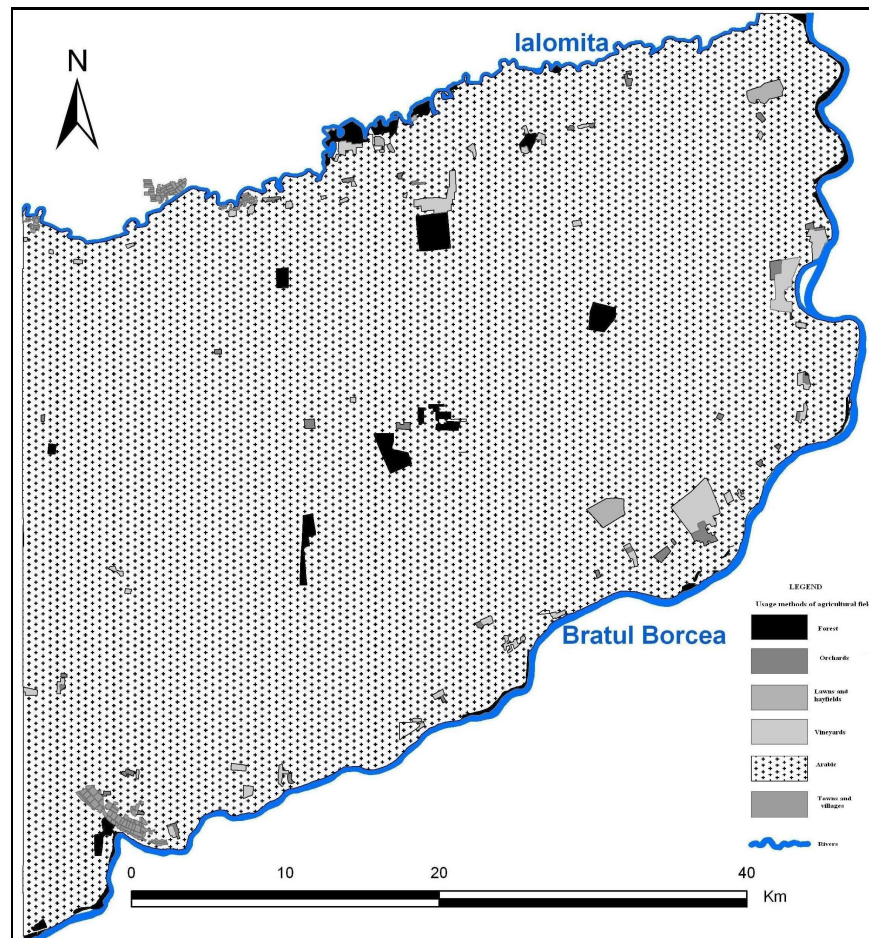


Figure 1. Usage methods of agricultural fields from Mărculești Plane

Mărculești Plane, as well as the entire Bărăgan constitutes almost 87% an agricultural field. Within its structure the arable fields have a value of 97.6%, the rest belonging to the lawns and hayfields – 0.4%, vineyards – 1.5% and orchards – 0.5%.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The usage methods of agricultural fields (figure 1) emphasizes the agricultural field landscape type specific the plane areas from the temperate zone. There can be distinguished the following sub-types:

- cultivated fields landscape;
- vineyard – orchard landscape;
- vegetable landscape;
- natural or cultivated lawns and hayfields landscape.

Generally, the cultivated fields' landscape is definitely the one that occupies the largest surfaces. Grain cultivated fields can be distinguished, which meet special conditions for development. – wheat, corn, barley, adding the ones cultivated with sun flower, soy, rape, but also plants for fodder - lucerne.

This type of agricultural landscape frequently occupies over 90% within the agricultural surfaces situated in the field space, situated in the central part of the Mărculești Plane – Dragalina, Movila, Perișoru, Ștefan cel Mare, Ștefan Vodă.

The vineyard – orchard landscape occupies limited surfaces, the vineyards and orchards having a local importance, these one representing the basis of some agricultural activities non specific to the plane areas. The local conditions as well as the market closeness were decisive factors for the extension of the surfaces dedicated to these cultures, on the terraces close to Ialomița (Sudiți – Săveni – Platonești) or the terraces of Borcea (Bordușani – Stelnica – Fetești – Borcea, Dichiseni – Roseți). The orchards have a secondary importance, the most extended surfaces being in Fetești sector, where there are apricot trees, apple trees, peach trees and plum trees.

The vegetable landscape is characteristic to Northern, Eastern and Southern marginal sectors closer to the water resources from Ialomița and Borcea, because there are optimal pedo-climatic conditions. Small surfaces are seen at the level of each commune. The structure of vegetable cultures comprises tomatoes, peppers, cabbage, onion, watermelons, potatoes, beans, peas. The most extended surfaces which form the vegetable landscape are met within Fetești – Borcea, Țândărei – Săveni – Sudiți, Modelu – Roseți – Dichiseni sectors.

The natural and cultivated lawns and hayfields landscape has a much reduced value and it is specific for the places situated over Borcea Branch. This type of landscape extends more in Ialomita Marsh that does not belong to the studied area. Next to the units producing mixed fodders are also found fodder plants cultivated surfaces (Fetești, Dragalina).

Actually, at the level of each administrative unit from Mărculești Plane, there are all types of the mentioned landscape, the difference being with regard to the occupied surface.

CONCLUSIONS

Within the analysed sector, Mărculești Plane, the favourableness of the environment conditions has allowed the performance of the agricultural activities specific to plane areas.

Due to the fact that the arable fields have the highest value, their methods of usage have determined the appearance of cultivated fields agricultural landscape.

The agriculture within the entire Bărăgan Plane has been through a strong phase of transformation, due to the additional materials brought to the agricultural legislation, but also due to the natural processes of amalgamation of small proprietaries in larger ones, able to face the urban market requests, as well as international competition.

Although it occupies smaller surfaces, the types of vineyard-orchard or vegetable landscapes are complementary and emphasize the optimal revaluation of this area fields, contributing therefore to the development of a modern and lasting agriculture.

The optimal revaluation of these surfaces with an agricultural potential and its method of organization can constitute the basis of a modern and lasting agriculture development, not only in this sector of Bărăgan Plane but also in other similar areas from Romania.

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