Dairy cattle breeding and production in small farms in Serbia

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Content:

- Introduction – general data about Serbia
- Cattle breeding and production in Serbia
- Dairy production recording, breeding goals & cattle show
- Influence of dairy plants on the improvement of production at small farms
- Case study
Introduction

- Total surface: 8,800,000 ha
  - Agricultural land: 5,100,000 ha
    - Arable land: 4,250,000 ha
- Rural area: 44% of total population, of which 33% are involved in agriculture production
Share of agricultural production in Serbia

- Livestock production: 43%
- Crop production: 42%
- Fruit & Winegrowing: 12%
- Other: 3%

Introduction (cont.)
Introduction (cont.)

- Livestock production
  - Cattle production: 45%
  - Other productions: 55%

- The main general problems:
  - Small size of farms, and
  - Small number of animals per farms.
Introduction (cont.)

Distribution of farm size in Serbia

- Up to 5 ha: 77%
- From 5 to 10 ha: 17%
- More than 10 ha: 6%
VOJVODINA – flat; Intensive agriculture and livestock production: *milk, pork, poultry*

Central SERBIA – hilly & mountain; Intensive & Semi-intensive agriculture and livestock production: *milk, beef, sheep, pork*
Cattle breeding & production in Serbia

CATTLE BREEDS IN SERBIA:

1. Simmental,
2. Black-White & HF,
3. Autochthonous cattle breeds:
   a. Podolian,
   b. Busa
4. Beef breeds & Various crosses
Cattle breeding & production (cont.)

Cattle breeds distribution in Serbia

- Simmental & Serbian: 80%
- Black-White & HF: 10%
- Autochthonous breeds & Crosses: 10%
## Cattle breeding & production (cont.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>NUMBER OF CATTLE IN SERBIA (000)</th>
<th>Milk production (000 000 lit.)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total number of cattle</td>
<td>Cows &amp; pregnant heifers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1975</td>
<td>2,649</td>
<td>1,370</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td>2,367</td>
<td>1,284</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1985</td>
<td>2,250</td>
<td>1,242</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>1,979</td>
<td>1,145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>1,776</td>
<td>1,082</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>1,272</td>
<td>843</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>1,186</td>
<td>812</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>1,177</td>
<td>801</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>1,162</td>
<td>790</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1975/2003</td>
<td>43,87%</td>
<td>57,66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990/2003</td>
<td>58,72%</td>
<td>68,99%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Dairy production recording, breeding goals & cattle show

- Ministry of Agriculture
- ICAR
- Breeding goals:
  - Simmental
  - HF & Black/White
- Cattle show
Influence of dairy plants on the improvement of production at small farms

- More than 200 dairy plants in Serbia
- Daily capacity: from several hundreds to hundreds of thousands
Case study – Dairy plant „Granice”, Mladenovac, Serbia

- Founded 15 years ago as home dairy workshop
- Small farms with 1-2 cows
Area of “Granice”, 15 years ago
Case study – Dairy plant „Granice”, Mladenovac, Serbia (cont.)

- Support & Investments to prominent farms
  - Cooling systems, better price for larger amount of milk
  - Animals & Facilities
Case study – Dairy plant „Granice”, Mladenovac, Serbia (cont.)

**Dairy plant:**
- Cooling Systems & Better Price

**Farms:**
- Increasing of production
- Attention on genetics

**Farms:**
- Increasing of farm size & production
- Animals & Facilities
- Attention on husbandry

**Farms:**
- from 1-2 cows to 3-5 cows
Area of “Granice”, Today