

## THE ECONOMIC SIGNIFICANCE OF SEED POTATO GROWING IN AGRICULTURE

**Bekdash Tursunkulovich Hasanov**

PhD student at Samarkand branch of Tashkent State University of Economics

### ABSTRACT

This article analyzes the economic indicators of the value chain in the cultivation of seed potatoes, the current state of potato production in the country, problems on the example of state statistics. The analysis showed that the raw material of seed potatoes grown for agriculture in our country is growing from year to year, but we see that the raw material of seed potatoes grown is not enough for the needs of agriculture.

**Keywords:** seed potato production, value chain, food security, entrepreneurship.

### INTRODUCTION

In recent years, our country needs to radically develop the cultivation of seed potatoes, specialize the regions, strengthen the economic and financial system, improve the system of clusters and cooperation in this area, create potato products, storage, deep processing and value chain. Therefore, in order to ensure food security, it is proposed to fully use all the opportunities in the country, as well as to radically reform the industry and encourage the interests of growers. In this regard, the Resolution of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated May 6, 2020 "On measures to expand the cultivation of potatoes and further development of seed production in the Republic." According to the resolution, a number of areas for potato clusters and cooperatives engaged in potato growing, in particular areas related to potato seed, have been identified as the main activities. Including;

- ✓ Consumption and cultivation of seed potatoes in integrated areas and creation of value chain in the field on the basis of innovative and resource-saving technologies;
- ✓ Expanding the cultivation of super elite and elite generations of seed potatoes, seed production and construction of modern potato plantations;
- ✓ Satisfaction of domestic market demand for consumption and seed potatoes, as well as expansion of its exports;



- ✓ Establishment of super elite and (or) elite generations of seed potatoes in at least 50% of the area under potatoes;
  - ✓ Establish storage, sorting, delivery and processing of seed potatoes;
- Introduction of advanced technologies, innovative know-how and scientific achievements in the field of potato growing.

The resolution also lists "areas in the country that specialize in the consumption and cultivation of seed potatoes, including its super-elite, elite generation."

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

An average of 2.9 million tons of potatoes are grown annually in the country, including 2.5 million tons in residential areas and 443,000 tons by farmers and agricultural enterprises. Out of this, 1.8 million tons are used for human consumption, 450,000 tons are stored for seeds, and 700,000 tons are lost naturally and technically. Given the annual demand for 2-2.1 million tons of potatoes for human consumption, there is a shortage of 300,000 tons of potatoes for consumption. In addition, due to the lack of high-quality seeds in the country, 15-20 thousand tons of seed potatoes are imported annually. For information: 285 thousand tons of consumer potatoes were imported in 2019, and 130 thousand tons in January-March 2020. In addition, 22.3 thousand tons in 2017, 34.2 thousand tons in 2018, 12 thousand tons in 2019 from Belarus, Germany, Iran, Ireland, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Netherlands, Pakistan, Russia, Turkey, France and other countries. imported. One of the important links in the value chain in potato growing is the direct supply of raw materials for potato production. In order to provide the industry with quality raw materials, the development of potato seed has recently received a lot of attention in our country. In Samarkand region, Bulungur, Jambay, Taylak, Samarkand and Urgut districts were involved in the production of potato, while Bulungur, Jambay, Taylak and Urgut districts were involved in the production of seed potatoes, including its super elite and elite generations. specialization is emphasized. At the same time, taking into account the soil and climatic conditions of the regions, "F.Yuldash" "X.Olimjon", "Kildon", "Navoi" and "A. Makhsumov" mahalla. This means that our government has created a legal framework for growing seed potatoes.

Good quality seed is a high productivity requirement in almost all potato production systems. Much of the yield that currently limits productivity in low-income countries is due to poor seed quality. Thus, the development of the potato seed sector is a major



concern for governments, researchers, development agencies, and civil society organizations. Potato seed systems are often described as formal or informal, but the informal seed system is complex and the informal seed system can be found in large numbers, especially in low-income countries.

In low-income countries, informal systems produce variable and often poor quality seeds. In areas with high potato yields (e.g., the U.S. and Europe), although some production subsectors (e.g., organic producers) often use uncertified seeds, the role of formal systems with high-quality certified seeds is high. Attempts to introduce a formal seed system in low-income countries have largely failed; therefore, most low-resource potato farmers obtain their seeds through an informal system. Development community networks require alternative solutions, which typically include formal and informal seed systems or semi-formal systems such as quality declared seeds and a policy framework that protects farmers' right to store and sell seeds. Given that seed quality currently affects low potato yields in low-income countries, the focus is primarily on developing the seed sector in resource-poor areas.

There are various references to formal and informal seed systems in the literature. In particular, the informal seed system of potatoes is a system of seed potatoes in which the tubers used for planting are produced and distributed by farmers without any regulation. In the official seed system of potatoes, seed roots are produced by licensed private sector specialists and cooperatives. The concept of a formal seed system is relatively clear, with components regulated by the public sector, a process of verification commonly referred to as "certification," and a variety to ensure that existing seeds are a recognized variety, low in disease. characterized by emission control. The informal system is complex and conceptually less clear because it basically owns everything informal, including self-saving seeds, seeds sold among farmers, and seeds purchased in local markets.

As mentioned above, special attention is paid to the development of seed potatoes in the country, which, of course, aims to increase the yield of potatoes. From the descriptions of the seed system in potato growing, it can be said that at present, both formal and informal seed systems are used by potato growers in agriculture.

If we talk about the production of raw potatoes in the country, Table 1 below shows the situation with the cultivation of raw potatoes in agriculture over the past five years.

**Table 1**



### Dynamics of raw potatoes grown in agriculture of the republic (thousand tons)

Name of regions	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	The differences between 2021 and 2017	
						(+,-)	%
The Republic of Karakalpakstan	61390	70305	83690	85700	123000	61610	2.0 times
Andijon	303399	343904	369141	376108	287932	-15467	94.9%
Bukhara	200989	209352	215598	222724	160995	-39994	80.1%
Jizzax	67275	62221	79267	82378	144334	77059	2.2 times
Qashqadaryo	183485	172632	173638	176752	226694	43209	123.5%
Navoi	76170	77011	79281	80349	56495	-19675	74.2%
Namangan	260977	264341	282924	289019	348131	87154	133.4%
Samarkand	<b>590706</b>	<b>579627</b>	<b>622594</b>	<b>626414</b>	<b>643903</b>	<b>53197</b>	<b>109.0%</b>
Surxondaryo	274251	306128	324157	331456	280805	6554	102.4%
Sirdaryo	52002	56795	59876	61278	79582	27580	153.0%
Tashkent	351636	363511	366692	367142	369839	18203	105.2%
Fergana	255751	290273	310283	318239	389466	133715	152.3%
Khorezm	115658	115833	122517	126235	124395	8737	107.6%
Total	<b>2793689</b>	<b>2911933</b>	<b>3089658</b>	<b>3143794</b>	<b>3235572</b>	<b>441883</b>	<b>115.8%</b>

Table 1 shows that in the last five years, potato production in the Republic of Karakalpakstan and Jizzakh region has doubled, while in Andijan, Bukhara and Nazi regions in 2021, potato production has decreased compared to 2017. This decrease may also have been due to the potato seed industry, which provides farms with quality varieties.

Regarding the situation with potato production in Samarkand region, which is the object of study, according to Table 1, raw potatoes are one of the largest in the country and the leader in comparison with other regions.

Improving the activities of each entity in the value chain in potato growing is a guarantee of timely delivery of cheap and high-quality potato products to consumers. In particular, most of the potato growers we analyzed do not take advantage of the opportunities to increase yields, especially the use of organic fertilizers and crop rotation. It is advisable to use such practices in potato growing.

## CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

Improving the production of seed potatoes in the creation of a mechanism to ensure food security in the Republic of Uzbekistan;

Regulation and development of seed potato production, production of quality seed potatoes in agriculture and increase of capacity in this area;

Introduce domestic and foreign investment in the potato industry, encourage the establishment of free agrarian economic zones, agricultural clusters in the regions of the country, create a favorable business environment for their development;

In the Republic of Uzbekistan, it is expedient to further increase the volume of high-quality potato seeds in agriculture and accelerate their growth, to introduce practical experience of foreign countries in achieving high production efficiency.

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