

1 *Conference Proceedings Paper*

# 2 **The causal relationship between agricultural** 3 **practices, climate change and greenhouse gas** 4 **recovery**

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6 Published: 14.10.2020

7 Academic Editor: name

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11 **Abstract:** The paper provides an overview of the agricultural economy in terms of agricultural  
12 development, especially in the field of application of agricultural techniques depending on climatic  
13 zones. Environmental protection and sustainable management of natural resources, prioritizing  
14 action behavior in terms of good practice methods in soil treatments, especially vulnerabilities on  
15 the types of fertilizers used, are part of the soil-plant-air-water equation. The change of paradigms  
16 in agriculture with climate change involves the adaptation of agricultural systems the risks of using  
17 fertilizers in soil treatment, the interdependence of plant-soil-water in agricultural practice is also  
18 highlighted in the paper. One of the main objectives in the field of agriculture is to maintain a low  
19 level of greenhouse gas emissions from the agricultural sector without diminishing the importance  
20 of biosphere protection. The role of research and studies has shown an important factor in reducing  
21 the carbon footprint per tonne of food produced from organic farming compared to conventional  
22 farming, mainly due to the abandonment of the use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides. So on  
23 Maslow's motivational scale, looking at the evolution of needs In relation to their satisfaction, we  
24 simulated the relative motivational value of the needs determined on the basis of experience. The  
25 purpose of the following research is to collect data and information on the most effective  
26 management models that will create the premises for agricultural practices applied to the soil by  
27 preventing pollution of groundwater and surface water with nitrates. from agricultural sources and  
28 by promoting the use of good practices farm. The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) supports the  
29 Nitrates Directive by granting direct assistance and through rural development measures. There is  
30 also a growing trend for agro-ecological initiatives for which farmers can receive payments. nutrient  
31 management measures, such as the creation of buffer zones, as an element to stimulate  
32 environmental protection. During the research we tried to highlight aspects that, in our opinion, are  
33 important for the development of the agricultural sector through innovative rural development  
34 measures as part of the economy.

35 **Keywords:** climate change, agricultural practices, greenhouse gas emissions, soil

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## 37 1. Introduction

38 Most agricultural soils contain too little natural nitrogen available to meet growing requirements  
39 during the growing season. As a result, it is necessary to supplement the nitrogen naturally contained  
40 in the soil every year. Applying the right amount of nitrogen at the right time is the basic requirement  
41 for good fertilizer management. Nitrogen requirements vary considerably in different crops and  
42 within the same crop, the level of harvest being possible to be reached in a certain conjuncture of

43 climatic and technological factors. Due to the specific behavior of nitrogen in the soil, fertilization  
44 with this nutrient and also techniques cultivation that influences its dynamics in the soil must be  
45 carried out in a way that minimizes losses with percolating water, thus reducing the risk of nitrate  
46 contamination of groundwater and surface water (Tecimen, 2017; Joshi & Chilwal, 2018; Işık, &  
47 Kırkpınar, 2020).  
48

## 49 2. Experiments

50 The 1991 Nitrates Directive is one of the first EU legislation to control pollution and improve  
51 water quality. Although nitrogen is a vital nutrient that contributes to the growth of plants and crops,  
52 high concentrations of nitrogen are harmful to humans and nature. Agricultural use of nitrates in  
53 organic and chemical fertilizers is a major source of water pollution in Europe. Consumption of  
54 mineral fertilizers first fell sharply in the early 1990 and stabilized over the last four years in the EU-  
55 15, but in all 27 Member States nitrate consumption increased by 6%. In general, animal husbandry  
56 remains the main cause of over 50% of total nitrogen discharges into surface waters activities related  
57 to livestock and fertilizer management release nitrogen oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O) and methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), greenhouse  
58 gases with a global warming potential of 310 and 21 times higher than CO<sub>2</sub>, respectively. If fully  
59 implemented, the Nitrates Directive could reduce, by 2020, for example, N<sub>2</sub>O emissions by 6%  
60 compared to 2000 levels and help combat climate change. The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)  
61 supports the Nitrates Directive through direct assistance and rural development measures. For  
62 example, a number of Member States have included among agri-environmental initiatives for which  
63 farmers can receive payments for nutrient management measures, such as the creation of larger  
64 buffer zones around watercourses.

65 The establishment of the institutional framework for action for the sustainable use of pesticides  
66 in Romania is amended and supplemented by the transposition of Commission Directive (EU)  
67 2019/782 of 15 May 2019 amending Directive 2009/128 / EC of the European Parliament and of the  
68 Council on the establishment of harmonized risk indicators published in the Official Journal of the  
69 European Union on 15 May 2019.

70 Biodegradation has been shown to be suitable for:

- 71 • petroleum hydrocarbons, such as diesel, light liquid fuel, gasoline, kerosene, mineral oils, benzene,  
72 toluene, xylene, etc.
- 73 • crude oil waste, sludge and oily residues;
- 74 • organic products and residues from the basic chemical industry (alcohols, acetone, phenols,  
75 aldehydes and other solvents);
- 76 • complex compounds such as polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons and pesticides.

77

## 78 3. Results

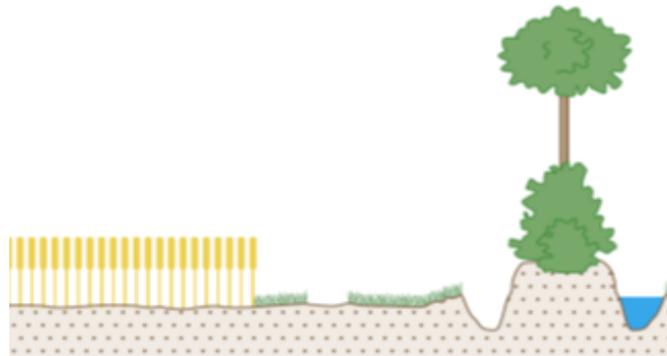
79 The soil can degrade depending on many objects. The pesticides applied must be as specific as  
80 possible to the source objective as they can have side effects on human health, non-target organisms  
81 and the environment. Thus, an important role in the application of fertilizers has multifunctional  
82 protection areas figure [1], which must be recognized as an integral part of agricultural areas,  
83 considering on the one hand that they maintain the ecological balance and contribute to biodiversity  
84 conservation: ensuring corridors for wildlife. , and on the other hand have the effect is to reduce the  
85 risks of pollution with plant protection products of water sources adjacent to agricultural fields, while  
86 avoiding the phenomenon of soil erosion.  
87

88 3.1. Overview of main findings

89 3.1.1. Stormwater management

- 90 1. The climatic changes faced by large commercial agricultural holdings being different from those  
91 of subsistence, of very small dimensions. Climate change is expected to affect farmers in the  
92 south and south-east region of Romania in general and individually. Given that large farms  
93 usually have very specialized production, such as cereals and oilseeds, they are particularly  
94 vulnerable to the impact of frequent and long-term droughts, which affect their production and  
95 profit. But they are well-informed professionals, have the necessary technical and financial  
96 resources and have more options to adapt their agricultural systems to climate change through  
97 new technologies and irrigation systems. Smallholder farms, which practice subsistence  
98 farming, are very socially and economically vulnerable to adverse climatic events, in agriculture  
99 working directly about one third of the population. In some individual cases, farmers are  
100 specialized in the production of specific crops, such as onions or potatoes, thus increasing their  
101 level of vulnerability. In other cases, some intrinsic resistance can be found in smallholder  
102 communities due to the practice of organic farming and resource recycling, low carbon economy,  
103 diversity of production, strong social relations and (in some regions) alternative sources of  
104 income. European countries traded nearly 1.8 million tonnes of pesticides per year during the  
105 period 1990-2018, representing more than 1/3 of the global share (Figure 2).
- 106 2. It should not be neglected that adding fertilizers to improve soil quality can help increase soil  
107 structure performance, balance pH and, in some cases, help bind contaminants and reduce  
108 exposure, providing additional benefits to the property and biosphere of the environment. A  
109 farm through the use of good soil pH management practices can bring alternative benefits such  
110 as improving the environment and stormwater management.

111 3.2. Figures, Tables and Schemes



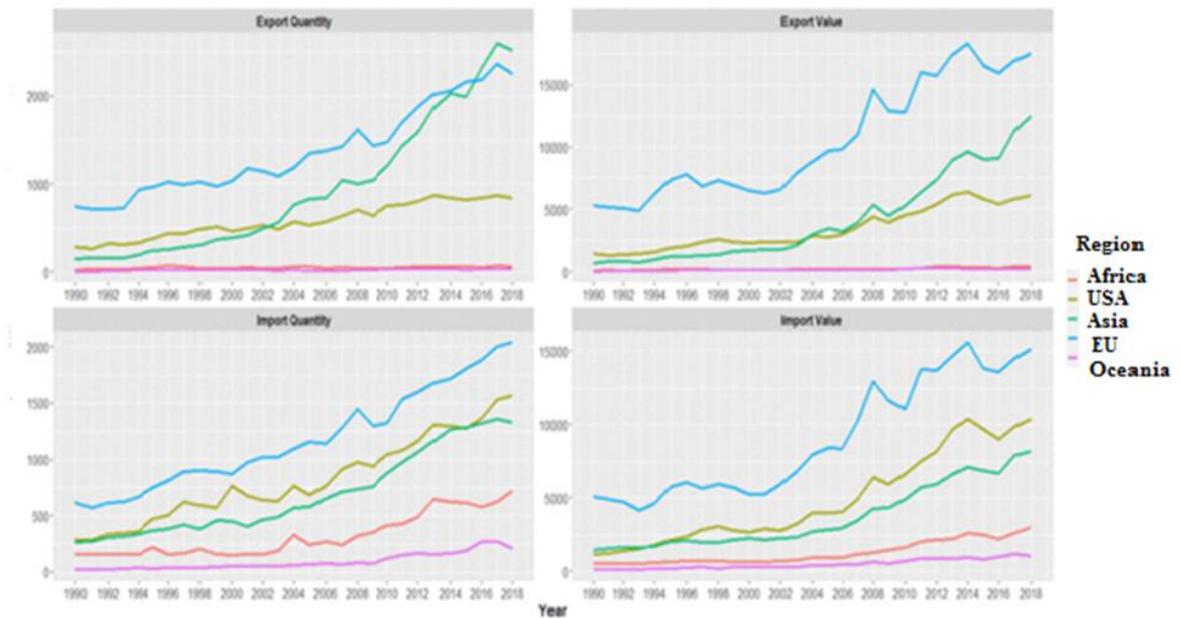
112

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**Figure 1.** Multifunctional protection zones

114

Source MADR



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 116  
 117  
 118  
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Figure 2. Regional Imports and Exports of Pesticides. Total amounts, 1990-2018  
 Source Rome, Jun 11 2020 FAQSTAT Pesticide Trade

Table 1 Standards for the maximum amounts of nitrogen fertilizer

Index <sup>1</sup>	Standards for the maximum amounts of nitrogen fertilizer that can be applied on lands with slopes less than 12%	Standards for the maximum amounts of nitrogen fertilizer that can be applied on lands with slopes greater than equal to 12%
	pastures	100
Corn grain	130	80
Sugar beet	170	120
sunflower	100	80
wheat	120	90

120  
 121  
 122  
 123

3.3. Formatting of Mathematical Components

In our country, the Martonne Index or aridity index:

$$\sum W = \frac{P}{T + 10} \tag{1}$$

124  
 125  
 126  
 127  
 128

The climate has a great influence on the processes of wind and water erosion of the soils through its main components wind and water.

And

*P* - average multiannual precipitation

*T* - multiannual average temperatures

129 *The aridity index shows the following values in the climatic conditions in our country: around of 17*  
130 *in the steppe area, 50 in the forest area and over 80 in the mountain area.*  
131

#### 132 **4. Discussion**

133 The expectations regarding the sustainability of the agricultural system have a long concern,  
134 what we propose is that, at the same time, we must not produce imbalances in the soil-water-plant  
135 equation. The balance of the biosphere beyond the establishment of the nutritional regime of plants  
136 is a prerogative, so we need to analyze the application of agricultural practices according to climatic  
137 characteristics and texture, soil topography. Not infrequently we tend to analyze statistical indicators  
138 to ensure the growth and development of cultivated plants according to optimal production. In the  
139 research we analyzed some of the vulnerabilities, in the sense that if the agricultural practices and  
140 tradition must have a common denominator when we talk about fertilizers depending on the four  
141 elements, the properties of the soil, the nutrients needed for the analyzed production of culture,  
142 climate but also the tradition of the place. Together, these elements can be sources of environmental  
143 protection.

#### 144 **5. Conclusions**

145 The International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (2004) and the  
146 Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (2011–2020) adopted by the Convention on Biological  
147 Diversity in 2002 emphasize the need for efficient conservation of plant genetic resources for food  
148 and agriculture as a means of counteracting the current rate of biodiversity loss at global, regional,  
149 national and local levels.

150 That is why scientific research, whenever it will add a plus to the scientific equation, we will  
151 only be able to exclude any element that could not omit the right to give more information. It is good  
152 to know that research and innovation activities and services complement scientific information,  
153 traditionally born agricultural practices, which can help farmers to adopt production systems that  
154 best meet local characteristics. In our opinion, the agricultural lands in general and especially those in  
155 Romania have considerable potential for carbon capture and storage. It is vital to have improved agricultural  
156 systems that efficiently utilize nutrient resources, increasing not only the amount of carbon in the soil, but also  
157 the biodiversity and resistance of agriculture even to climate change. As a rule, carbon stocks in agricultural  
158 soils can be increased by adapting certain agricultural activities. Research also shows that carbon absorbers are  
159 just as important as reducing emissions. Maintaining and further improving the natural absorbents represented  
160 by soils, agricultural land and coastal wetlands are essential. The consumption of pesticides according to recent  
161 data provided by Eurostat is worrying and therefore our guidance must also include alternative methods to  
162 reduce the consumption of pesticides by switching to organic fertilizers, and here we are talking about  
163 grasslands that should not be neglected.  
164

165 **Conflicts of Interest:** "The authors declare no conflict of interest."

#### 166 **Abbreviations**

167 PAC: Common Agricultural Policy  
168 FAO: Food and Agriculture Organization

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