



Tropentag, September 17-19, 2018, Ghent

“Global food security and food safety:
The role of universities”

The Role of Science-education-production Model for Improvement of Food Security and Food Safety in Agriculture

FARIZ ALAKBAROV

Azerbaijan State Agricultural University, General Farming, Plant Genetic and Selection, Azerbaijan

Abstract

Azerbaijan is one of the agrarian countries. Azerbaijan has 4353808 hectares arable land (for agriculture) and 1684248 hectares (38,7 %) of these areas are under the agricultural crops. Over 85 % of total products are yielded on irrigated lands.

As in all production areas, high quality production such as food security and food safety in agrarian sector is directly linked to the relationship built between science and production. Agriculture is one of the most important sectors of the economy in Azerbaijan. Currently, the agricultural sector employs over 36.3 % of the active labour force of the country. According to the results of our statistical surveys, average 0.24–0.43 hectares of land per capita in the regions is estimated which results in 1–1.5 hectares of land per 1 family.

Earlier (in the former kolkhoz and sovkhoz), the soils were effectively used

by agronomists in each farm via applying proper agrotechnical measures on a scientific basis, high productivity was achieved, domestic market was managed at the expense of local production. However today, these farms are owned by other proprietors, who are incompetent and have low levels of agrarian knowledge and skills. There is a great need for information consulting services intended for the land users in Azerbaijan. Organic relationships, especially between science -education-production in the agrarian sector are not sufficient. Modernisation of agrarian science in accordance with the modern requirements enables raising the quality of scientific research in agrarian science, and the importance of application of scientific and experimental innovations in production.

A science-education-production model should be developed for agricultural and environmental protection throughout the country and relationships among these institutions should be strengthened.

Strengthening the links between Azerbaijan State Agrarian University and NGOs providing information and consulting services in the agrarian sector

Transferring scientific research results and innovations for the improvement food security and food safety paired with successes achieved from Science-Education-Production Association to the farmers via NGOs, organisation of demonstration field days, rendering extension services, conduction of trainings

Keywords: Food, safety, security