



THE DEVELOPMENT OF KARAKUL BREEDING CLUSTERS: INNOVATIVE APPROACHES AND ECONOMIC EFFICIENCY ANALYSIS

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Abstract

This article analyzes the development prospects of Karakul sheep breeding clusters in Uzbekistan. It examines the key factors necessary for the effective functioning of these clusters, including pasture utilization, the introduction of innovative technologies, and economic efficiency. A SWOT analysis is conducted to assess the strengths and weaknesses of the cluster model, as well as its opportunities and threats. Based on the research findings, recommendations are proposed for further development of Karakul sheep breeding.

Keywords: Karakul sheep breeding, cluster, pasture, innovation, economic efficiency, SWOT analysis, investment.

Introduction

Karakul farming is one of the important sectors of Uzbekistan's agriculture, which is developing in accordance with the natural and climatic conditions of the republic. Karakul products, in particular, are in great demand in the domestic and foreign markets through the production of high-quality skins and meat. In order to further develop the Karakul farming sector in our country, increase its



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economic efficiency and ensure its international competitiveness, a cluster system is being introduced.

Karakul farming clusters are organized as a single system of production, processing and product sales and are being developed on the basis of modern management principles. The effective functioning of this system depends on the use of innovative technologies, rational use of pastures and improvement of economic mechanisms.

Literature Review

Taking into account the specific characteristics of the Karakul sheep breeding sector, various prominent foreign and local scholars have conducted scientific research on improving its economic efficiency through modern requirements such as livestock management, feeding, and care in pasture and desert regions. Notable foreign researchers include M.A. Vinogradova, Sh.R. Kherremov, O. Annageldiyev, O. Annamukhammedov, Kh. Ukibayev, T.J. Nurumbetov, and N.Z. Shamsutdinov.

In Uzbekistan, leading agricultural economists such as T.S. Mallaboyev, R.Kh. Khusanov, F.K. Qayumov, F.J. Jo‘rayev, T.Kh. Farmanov, and others have significantly contributed to the study of Karakul breeding management and its economic development.

Furthermore, since the 1990s, scholars like T.Y. Nurimbetov, Kh. Quvnoqov, J.Y. Nurillayev, A.R. Bazarov, H.N. Bahronov, and others have carried out research focused on deepening economic reforms in the Karakul breeding sector.

Analysis and Results

To ensure the effectiveness of the Karakul cluster system, it is important to conduct a thorough analysis of its main components. According to the results of the study, the main factors affecting the sustainable development of Karakul clusters are:

- **Economic efficiency:** The cluster system allows for cost reduction and increased product competitiveness by optimizing the production and processing processes of Karakul products.



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- Introduction of innovative technologies: The use of modern technologies in the processing and production of Karakul products helps to improve product quality. SWOT analysis results:

Strengths: The presence of legal and regulatory frameworks by the state, the operation of clusters based on a business plan, high demand for products in the domestic market.

Weaknesses: Irregular use of pasture lands, lack of qualified specialists.

Opportunities: Provision of loans by commercial banks, the use of incentives for innovative technologies, the possibility of attracting foreign investment.

Threats: Climate change, drought, pasture degradation and water shortage.

According to the results of the analysis, the following measures should be taken to further develop karakul clusters:

1. Develop a strategy for the effective use of pastures - measures should be taken to increase productivity and prevent land degradation.
2. Widespread introduction of innovative technologies - develop programs aimed at improving product quality and automating production processes.
3. Training qualified personnel - develop a system for training specialists specializing in karakul farming in cooperation with scientific research institutes and higher educational institutions.

The results show that by properly establishing karakul clusters, it is possible to increase the overall economic efficiency of the industry, strengthen export potential, and create new jobs.

Conclusions and recommendations

The results of this study show that the development of karakul clusters has the potential to increase the efficiency of the agricultural sector and have a positive impact on the country's economy. As a result of integrating production, processing and product sales into a single system based on the cluster model, the competitiveness of karakul products has increased, and the opportunity to produce products that are in high demand in domestic and foreign markets is expanding.

Based on the results of the analysis, the following recommendations can be put forward:



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Protection and increase the productivity of pastures - It is necessary to prevent the destruction of the pasture ecosystem, strengthen land reclamation measures and increase the volume of feed production.

Widespread introduction of innovative technologies - It is necessary to use advanced technologies in the processing of karakul products, as well as increase production efficiency by using resource-saving methods.

Development of a system for training qualified personnel – It is necessary to improve the system for training specialists in the field of karakul farming by establishing cooperation with higher educational institutions and research institutes.

Expansion of domestic and foreign markets – It is necessary to develop a certification system in accordance with international standards for the export of karakul products and develop product marketing strategies.

In conclusion, the development of karakul farming clusters will serve to modernize the industry, create new jobs, and ensure sustainable growth of the national economy. Through effective management and innovative approaches, this industry can reach a higher level.

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