FOSTERING RATIONAL USE AND PROTECTION OF AGRICULTURAL LAND BY UKRAINIAN AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS

The issue of impractical agricultural land use carried out by agricultural holdings was explored. The analysis of the holding company’s land bank was carried out. The factors that may contribute to protection and rational land use for agricultural holdings were determined. The state regulatory policy affecting agricultural holdings’ acting in terms of rational use and protection of agricultural land was studied.

*Keywords*: agricultural land, rational use, protection, agricultural holding.

The use of land resources has always been relevant, and today it does not lose its relevance, as agricultural holdings have over-concentrated agricultural land that causes impractical land use.

The rational use has expanded the world wide web due to environmental pollution, thus entailing a need to change the condition of environment, especially in terms of fertile ground.

We used the studies by domestic scholars such as O. Andriiko, I. Dmytrenko, O. Khimich, M. Shulha in our research. The issues of rational agricultural land use by agricultural holdings are still insufficiently studied.

The objective of this article is to explain the issue of rational use and protection of agricultural land by the agricultural holding.

The following research tasks were set:

– define the term “agricultural land” and give insight into the need of its rational use;

– determine reasons why agricultural holdings use land resources impractically.

Years of independence have brought about significant changes in countryside life. The reforms initiated either subsided due to misunderstanding of further actions,
or started again due to new changes. The reforms have provided an opportunity to create a new organizational market structure based on private ownership of land. There is a tendency in agricultural holdings’ activity to increase owned land plots. The problem of significant land concentration, or, especially, the problem of rational agricultural land use may be solved if the maximum size of land plots owned by agricultural holdings and their subsidiaries is established.

Foreign experience attests that the land holder is responsible for its quality. If there is a deterioration in its quality, the land holder is brought to administrative liability or may be put in jail. The legal framework of fostering rational land use and protection is a set of interrelated measures aimed to increase the interest of persons engaged in land use. The Land Code determines provisions for optimal balance of land use, but nowadays, these provisions are non-regulatory by nature.

In carrying out the activities on agricultural land, an agricultural holding can implement the following measures to protect the land: substantiate and ensure achievement of rational land use, protect land against erosion, flooding, secondary salinization, desiccation, chemical and radioactive pollution, and other adverse natural effects.

Studying the state regulatory policy affecting agricultural holdings’ activities in terms of rational use and protection of agricultural land, we want to give a detailed outline of the strategies of pricing, crediting, preferential taxation and allocation of budget funds to ensure rational agricultural land use, provide conditions for agricultural production, preserve and restore soil, and protect people from negative impact. Fostering the rational land use implies that individuals and legal entities carry out the measures envisaged by preferential taxation programs at their own expense, the funds to support citizens and legal entities for restoring a damaged soil surface and a previous soil structure being allocated from the budget.

Payment for land is an element of the stimulating policy for an agricultural holding. The policy’s aim is to accumulate funds to finance measures of rational land use and protection, increase soil fertility, and reimbursement to land owners of the costs spent for agricultural activities and poor quality soil.
Conclusions. The research conducted on the size of the land bank and rational land use pertains that agricultural holdings do not lose interest to increase the land bank. There is a need to promptly determine the maximum size of a land plot, which in turn will determine the industrial structure of an enterprise and thereby ensure protection and efficient land use. Reasonable land sizes may correspond to the peculiarities of a holding's activity, consumers’ requirements and European standards, thus ensuring efficient and rational land use and protection of a land resource. Rational land use may be achieved proceeding from scientific grounds in the first place, and then from practical application.