

STUDY REGARDING LIVESTOCK AND MILK PRODUCTION AT NATIONAL LEVEL AND IN TIMIS COUNTY

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Abstract: *By improving production management, increasing the investments in procurement of valuable genetic material, and in exploitation technologies for insuring animal welfare, livestock evolution of milk productions have an upward trend both at national and local level. The reasons for the increase in the number of flocks were numerous but the market was the one that regulated the price of products according to demand, traditional products such as cheese sold at high prices, in the last years subject to analysis, but by species the highest demand for dairy products is at the one obtained from cattle followed by sheep and goats.*

Key words: *milk, market, national and regional level*

INTRODUCTION

The agro-food sector from Romania is undergoing through a period of restructuring and rebuilding of its market components, aiming at increasing of its competitiveness [4,9,12]. In order to achieve the objectives in terms of economic performance, it is advisable to carry out ongoing and ongoing evaluations of the existing situation [3,7], because in Romania:

- ❖ the milk and dairy market is in a slightly growing;
- ❖ a Romanian, consumes about 6 kilograms of yoghurt for a year, which means 5 times less than the European average;
- ❖ a Romanian consumes half of the dairy products compared with the European average [1,5,6].

Romania is a European country with a good historical record the resources it holds, the climate and the relief of our country being favorable to the population's food needs, but there are a number of factors [2,10,13] that influence the consumption and behavior of food consumption, very often to adopt a not healthy lifestyle. The factors that influence the consumption of milk and dairy products are [8, 11]:

- a high price of dairy products;
- consumption of products apparent cheaper and safer in the detriment of milk and dairy products;
- consumption in excessive quantity of products with high content in fat;
- a reduced number of markets with products marketed directly by the producer, domestic and organic products;
- consuming very large quantities of processed food, semi-prepared foods, or vegetable products with a very high content of substances damaging for health.

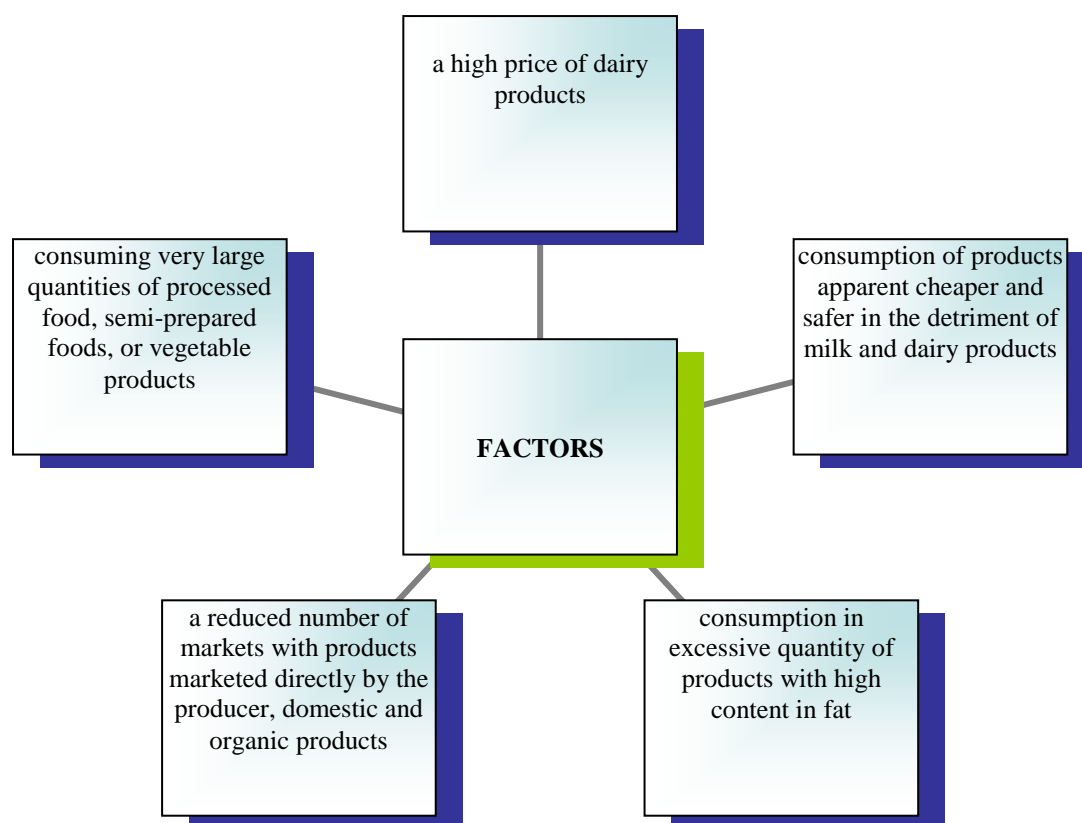


Figure 1. Factors influencing the consumption of milk and dairy products

MATERIALS AND METHODOD

In order to accomplish this scientific approach, we consulted the known sources of information, bulletins, reports, statistics regarding livestock producing of milk at national and local level (Timis County), in order to be able to assess the trend of dairy herds and their production as well as trends regarding the supply on the market of milk and dairy products.

RESEARCH RESULTS

Taking into account the evolution of livestock specialized in milk production at national level in the period 2010-2014, there is a steady increase in the number of sheep and goats, with a slight decrease in the number of flocks in 2012. In in terms of cows' flocks, they have experienced a significant decline until 2012, when their number has started to recover. Livestock continued to grow slightly after 2014, the reasons being:

- support granted by the state;
- development of milk processing units;
- encouraging farmers for procurement of genetically valuable animals;
- specialization of production;
- obtaining production in farms with high capacities and constant production;
- increased requirements on market for milk and dairy products. One of the reasons being the support in the form of subsidies per animal capita, in order to encourage farmers.

At the end of 2016, Romania ranks fourth at the European level, regarding the number of sheep and goats exploited (Table 1, Figure 2).

Table 1
The evolution of livestock specialized in milk production, at national level

Categories of animals							
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Cows and buffaloes	1198088	1170016	1162728	1168858	1188202	1190757	1192542
Sheep	8417436	8533433	8833829	9135677	9518224	11249699	11358600
Goats	1240785	1236142	1265675	1312966	1417175		

Source: statistici.insse.ro

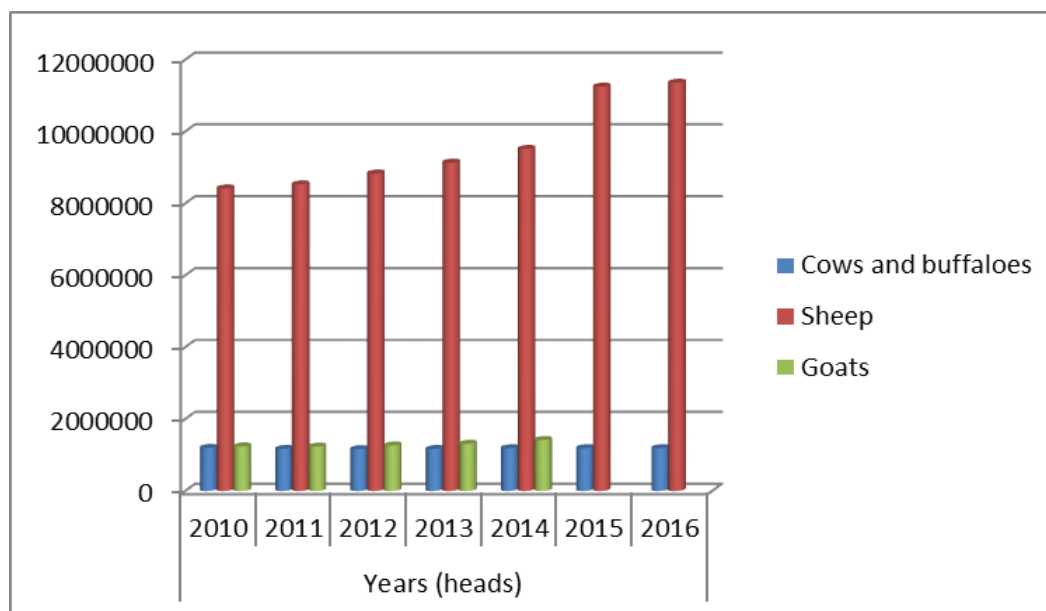


Figure 2. Evolution of livestock specialized in milk production, at national level

Regarding Timis County, the situation of the livestock population exploited for milk production, the situation is shown in Table 2 and Figure 3. During the period 2005-2016, the number of cows and buffaloes decreased with 40%, the sheep has grown with about 45% and goats almost 3 times.

Table 2
The evolution of livestock specialized in dairy production, at the level of Timis County

Categories of animals								
	2005	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Cows and buffaloes	32513	22652	19467	19968	20164	20042	20671	22228
Sheep	417104	549798	540958	564797	587975	594519	613295	616511
Goats	6538	15631	14928	15683	15103	15378	17308	17331

Source: statistici.insse.ro



Figure 3. The evolution of livestock specialized in dairy production, at the level of Timis County

Along with the increasing at national level of livestock specialized in milk production, it represented a constant quantitative evolution, registering an increasing of 4% in the analyzed period. In the period 2010-2014, the production of cow's milk and buffalo milk increased with 4.10% and that of sheep and goat milk with 3.40% (Table 3, Figure 4.).

Table 3

Evolution of milk production, by species

	UM	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Total milk, of which:	1	44 798	45 871	44 171	44 785	46 614
- cow and buffalo milk	1	38 493	39 744	37 869	38 650	40 095
- the sheep and the goat milk	1	6 304	6 126	6 300	6 134	6 519

Source: statistici.insse.ro

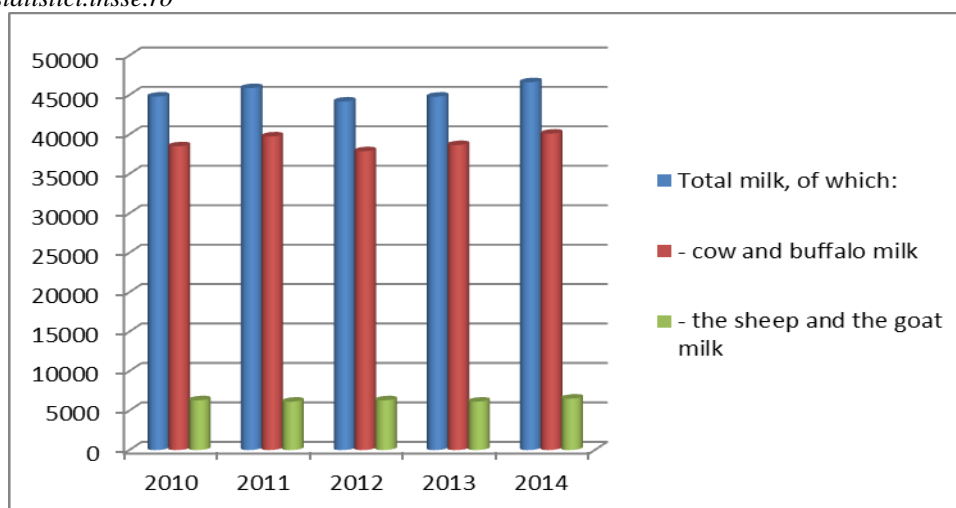


Figure 4. The evolution of milk production, by species

The annual average price per liter of milk did not register a significant increase in the analyzed period, which was only 0.28 lei, but the average price of dairy products (cheese, cow's milk) steadily increased to 15.24 lei per kilogram in 2014, thus registering an increase with 25%. Similarly, the price of sheep cheese increased with a percent of 24.5%, reaching at the end of 2014 to 19.76 lei per kilogram (Table 4. Figure 5).

Table 4.

The evolution of average annual milk prices

Assortment of agricultural products	UM	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
		lei/ litru	lei / kg	lei / kg	lei / kg	lei / kg
Fresh cow's milk	lei/ litru	2,40	2,60	2,70	2,70	2,70
Cow calf	lei / kg	12,20	13,30	14,10	14,90	15,30
Sheep's cheese	lei/ kg	15,90	16,80	18,20	19,50	19,80

Source: statistici.insse.ro

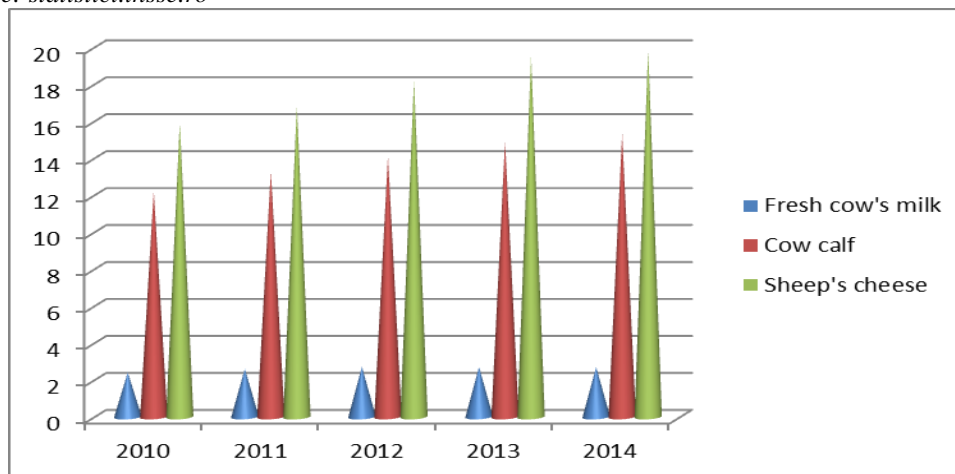


Figure 5. The evolution of average annual milk prices

During the analyzed period, was highlighted an increase in the purchase price of milk, both cow and sheep, by 0.27 lei per liter, thus reaching, at the end of 2014, to 1.48 lei per liter (Table 5, Figure 6).

Table 5

The evolution of average milk purchase prices

Assortment of agricultural products	UM	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
		lei/ litru	lei / litru	lei / litru	lei / litru	lei / litru
Fresh cow's milk	lei/ litru	0,95	1,10	1,15	1,20	1,30
Fresh sheep milk	lei / litru	1,50	1,90	1,90	1,60	1,80

Source: statistici.insse.ro

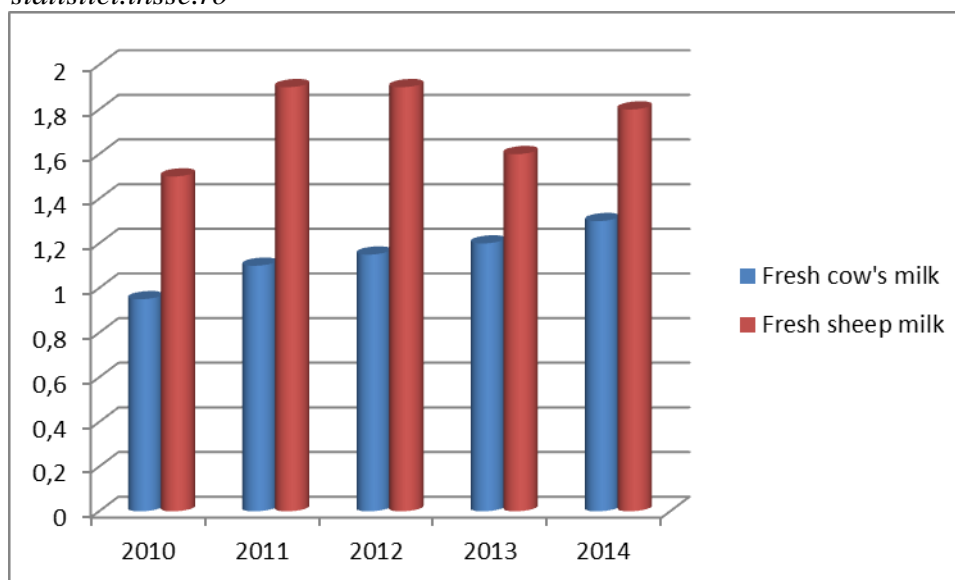


Figure 6. The evolution of average milk purchase prices

CONCLUSIONS

From the analysis of the trend of livestock producing milk, especially taurines and sheeps, it is found that after 2014 the flocks have increased the livestock production as well, due to the growing demand existent on the market for products from processed milk. There is an increase in the purchase price of cow's and sheep's milk, but also of the traditional cow's and sheep's traditional products in Timis County, maintaining the same trend as in the whole country.

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