Country Report for Romania

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History

The demonstrative activities present in Romania in part have their roots in socialist agriculture. The main actors of the modernization of socialist agriculture were the research institutes and research stations, which also had an activity of popularization of developed varieties and technologies. Some of these institutions are still functioning today.

In the post-communist era big companies producing and distributing conventional agricultural inputs entered Romania. They also introduced new demonstration techniques, namely the system of demonstration lots placed on farms – the later becoming the largest and most frequent demonstration farms. Besides the above commercial farms many smaller family farms experimenting with alternative technologies or with breeds and breeds that are non-existent/rare in the country emerged. These also organize demonstration activities frequently.

In the post-socialist period several demonstrative farms with a background in the associational sphere have emerged. These NGO-based farms are, however, quite rare.

Types of Demonstrations

The most frequently used demonstration methods are the farm-field walks, oral presentations, interactive discussions and field trials.

Access Issues

The main target audience of the demonstrative activities is the young adult farmers. Older farmers and women have relatively lower access to these services.

Major providers of demonstration activities

Commercial farms
Partners of input-firms
Conventional agriculture
Demonstrative plots
Few demo activities, large audiences
Externally initiated demo activities

Research institutes
State financed
Research led
Few demo activities, relatively large audience
Self initiated

Small family farms
Self initiated
Self funded
Many demo activities
Few participants
Ideologically motivated