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Examination of the Areas of the Cellar Cooperatives in Hungary, in Particular their Production Technology Péter SZABÓ, Mihály VESZELKA

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Abstract

Cooperation can be justified based on its economic and social benefits. Lower input costs make the production more economical, since cooperative cellars are able to obtain inputs and tools necessary for production in a greater volume for a lower price. The cooperation can provide such benefits for the grape growers which they otherwise could not enjoy.

In my survey, I examined the geographical location and operation of cooperative cellars in Hungary, in particular the production technology. In my study, I intended to find an answer to the question whether geographical locations and production technologies are related. I consider another important objective of my research to determine the regions and wine-districts in Hungary where the most effective collective cellars can be found.

The geographical locations of the cooperative cellars, the numbers of the operating vineyards and their various sizes are indicative of the planning of tasks to which we have to pay greater attention in the future; as the Hungarian grape and wine industry can not fall behind in the competition the pace of which is set by the European Union and the world. Increasing competitiveness and farm sizes, integrations, the establishment of cooperative cellars are all essential for the success.

One of the most important findings of my research is that the cooperative cellars of the Southern Great Plain region are operating in the most effective way today, so these cooperative cellars are able to lay the foundations of new, successful integrations in the future. It is important to create a legal framework in Hungary that recognizes the usefulness of cooperatives for the society. After all, the cooperatives can reduce the extent of the black economy, contribute to the expansion of legal employment and improve economic transparency and tax morale.

Keywords: cellar cooperatives, production technology, grape, wine, grape varieties, geographical locations, wine region

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