

SUBSIDIES AND INCENTIVE ASSETS FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT CITY OF NIS¹

Zoran Simonović², Slavomir Miletić³

Abstract

The authors talk about subsidies and incentive funds in livestock and crop production, which gives the Agricultural Development Fund of Nis. Now that pays special attention to agricultural development, local government has an important task. It is the local government becomes the creator and promoter of the development of agriculture. Of adoption of these incentives and subsidies should be the creation of favorable conditions in line with the potential and needs continuity in development activities, human, institutional, business solutions, financial support and everything that can greatly contribute to the rapid development of agriculture and rural areas. The paper is divided into two parts. The first part is a list of incentives related to crop and livestock production which gives the Fund for Agricultural Development. The second part discusses the results of a survey conducted among the farmers who live and work in the City of Nis on incentive funds and subsidies provided by the city.

Keywords: *incentives in agriculture, subsidies, programs of improvement, a survey.*

Introduction

The Agriculture and rural development are regulated by the objectives of agricultural policy of Serbia and the way of its implementation, the types of incentives in agriculture, the conditions for eligibility for subsidies and incentives for users.

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² Zoran Simonović, M.A., research associate, Institute of Agricultural Economics, Volgina street 15, 11060 Belgrade, phone: +381 11 2972 858, E-mail: zoki@medianis.net

³ Slavomir Miletić, PhD, full professor, Faculty of Economics - Pristina/Kosovska Mitrovica.

This law introduces a register of agricultural holdings, recording and reporting in agriculture, an integrated agricultural information system, monitoring the implementation of this law.⁴ Strategy for Agriculture and Rural Development, which was adopted at the national level defines the long-term trends of development of agriculture, such as the establishment of a market economy, increasing the overall profitability of agriculture and rural areas, while the national agricultural program established medium-and short-term objectives of agricultural policies, the order and deadlines for the achievement of these objectives, expected results, and the form, type, purpose and scope of specific incentives.⁵

The local agricultural development documents were presented in the Master Plan, the Strategy for the development of local economy and Schedule for the sustainable development strategy of the city. Department of Economy, Sustainable Development and Environment of the City of Nis in cooperation with other organizations, there are several projects related to agriculture, such as: Reka mleka, Dobra farma, Produktna baza.⁶

Based on all indicators of the City of Niš has great potential for agricultural development. The favorable climatic conditions, characteristics of good agricultural lands and water and natural resources, which are essential for overall rural development.

In the situation of implementation of agrarian development trend of local government is an important task. It must be the creator and promoter of the development of agriculture. Creating favorable conditions in line with the potential and needs continuity in development activities, personnel, institutional, business solutions, financial support, and local government administration can greatly contribute to the rapid development of agriculture and rural areas.

Development Department of the City of Nis and Agriculture adopted a series of subsidies and incentives to improve agricultural production in the City. Based on the approved incentives for this purpose we note that greater attention to animal husbandry and livestock production.

⁴ Закон о пољопривреди и руралном развоју, Службени гласник РС, бр. 41/09.

⁵ Стратегија развоја пољопривреде Србије, 2005, Службени гласник РС, бр. 78/05.

⁶ Ка интегралном развоју, Београд, 2006, 31.

In the first part of our work we have chosen to pay special attention to programs for improvement of livestock and crop production. Programs to improve crop and livestock production were adopted by the city council and Nis is incentives for agricultural producers. The second part dealt with a survey we did (in the period June-August 2013.). The main purpose of doing the survey was to learn about the attitudes and opinions of farmers about the use of subsidies provided by the Agricultural Development Fund of the City of Nis. The survey was conducted on a sample of 0.5%. As is well known in the City of Niš has 10,244 farms. This means that we perform a survey of 51 farms. The survey was conducted in June-July 2013th Year.

Program to improve livestock

The issue of improving livestock production provides for the Program for the Development of Agriculture encourages the development of those activities and production segments that were deemed to strategically most important for the maintenance and improvement of livestock production and diversification of economic activities in this area in the rural areas of the city of Nis. This improvement was primarily racial composition of cattle subsidizing the use of top seed bulls, through programs of qualitative breeding bulls from cow's propagation of municipalities which are being controlled by AI system and improving control of reproductive status of breeding cattle modern diagnostic means. Fixing racial composition in sheep and goats will be implemented through the purchase of animals for the formation of basic herd of sheep and goats in order to set the basis for a system of intensive production in these areas.⁷

Improving the racial composition of cattle subsidizing the use of top seed bulls

Improving the racial composition of cattle subsidizing the use of top seed bulls were realized in cooperation of the agriculture and rural development and veterinary stations and clinics that are registered for this service in the city. Management has established a committee to select a

⁷ Симоновић Зоран, Симоновић Драгољуб, Милетић Славомир, (2011). „Неки аспекти програма фонда за развој пољопривреде Града Ниша“ стр. 145-153. International scientific meeting: „SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN TERMS OF THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA STRATEGIC GOALS IMPLEMENTATION WITHIN DANUBE REGION – Local communities development“, *Економика пољопривреде*, Београд, специјални број 1/2011.

group of elite bulls used for artificial insemination is fast improving racial composition and production traits of cattle in the city of Nis. The Committee has selected bulls of Simmental and Holstein breed. Subsidized the first and second insemination with the first insemination subsidize the purchase of seed and handling charges vet, and in the second insemination only purchase seeds. Table 1 provides an overview of subsidies, the number of inseminated animals and spent funds for the period since 2010. By 2012. Year.⁸

Table 1. *Subsidies, the number of inseminated animals and spent funds for the period since 2010. by 2012. year*

Year	Depending on the bull and order insemination on subsidies amounted to	Number of artificially inseminated cows	Indices		Amounts expended for such purposes		Indices	
			Basic	Chain	RSD	Euro	Basic	Chain
2011	400,00-1.400,00	2055	100,2	100,2	2.595.121,00	25.452,00	109,3	109,3
2012	250,00-1.300,00	2554	124,6	124,3	2.155.833,00	19.076,00	90,8	83,1

Source: *Reports on the work of the Development Fund since 2010. By 2012. Year and the author's calculation.*

For the 2013th year is planned to implement Implementation Program for the Improvement of livestock in the part relating to the improvement of the racial composition of cattle in the city of Nis. Anticipated rapid retrieval racial composition of cattle in the city and the rapid increase in milk production of commercial producers, leading to an increase in motivation of farmers to keep animals in a production herd and begin to increase their number. Activities are carried out in cooperation Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Agricultural extension and technical services Nis and veterinary stations and clinics that are registered to provide artificial insemination services in the city. Every year we formed an expert commission to select a group of elite bulls of Simmental and Holstein breed whose seeds are procured and used

⁸ Извештај о раду Фонда за развој пољопривреде града Ниша у 2010., 2011. и 2012. години

for artificial insemination of cows in the city. Part of the funds in the amount of 1.541 million will be used to settle the liabilities transferred from the previous year, and the remaining funds in the amount of 3,400,000 will enable the purchase and use of semen for artificial insemination 2,300.⁹

Subsidizing the purchase of quality breeding cattle

Subsidizing the purchase of quality breeding of calves aged between 3 and 6 months derived from propagation of mothers and bulls whose semen used in AI controlled system is a measure that is implemented in order to increase the number of breeding cattle. Department of Agriculture and Rural Development - a group of cattle breeding has produced the data by which the measure is implemented.

Pass criteria were consistent with the legal framework and the situation on the ground. In constant contact with the veterinary and registry services in the field of controlled system insemination candidates are going through administrative procedures in obtaining the necessary documents (identification cards animal pedigrees). For the implementation of these measures has been spent 60,000.00 dinars.¹⁰

Improving the control of reproductive status of primary main herd of cattle in the city of Nis

Improving the control of reproductive status of primary main herd of cattle in the city of Nis was realized in cooperation with experts of the Veterinary Institute Nis who have the necessary equipment for ultrasound diagnosis of pregnancy and reproductive disorders. During the 2010th the subsidized is that ultrasound of registered farms to 123,037.00 dinars.

The aim of this method is to control the reproductive status of the best cattle and propagation in the city of Nis make as efficient to avoid unnecessary failures in insemination and increased costs through increased feeding days to issue a new calf, which significantly reduces the financial performance and motivation of farmers to continue improve production. Transferred liabilities amounted to 3.120,00 Dinars shall be used for funding.

⁹ Програм фонда за развој пољопривреде града Ниша у 2013. године.

¹⁰ Извештај о раду Фонда за развој пољопривреде града Ниша у 2011.

Table 2. *The number and amounts expended for ultra- sound examinations*

Year	Number of subsidized ultra sound examination	Indices		Amounts expended for such purposes		Indices	
		Basic	Chain	RSD	Euro	Basic	Chain
2011	146	146,0	146,0	146.662,00	1.438,00	116,3	116,3
2012	265	265,0	181,5	260.583,67	2,306,00	206,6	177,7

Source: *Reports on the work of the Development Fund since 2010. By 2012. Year and the author's calculation.*

During the 2011th, in the period January - October subsidized 146 ultrasound examinations of registered farms. The aim of this method is to control the reproductive status of the best cattle and propagation in the city of Nis make as efficient to avoid unnecessary failures in insemination and increased costs through increased feeding days to issue a new calf, which significantly reduces the financial performance and motivation of farmers to continue improve production.

The 2013th is planned to control and determine the best and reproductive status of registered animals in the city of Nis make as efficient to avoid unnecessary failures in insemination and increased costs through increased feeding days to issue a new calf.

Of particular importance is that in the fourth year of implementation of these measures establish a representative sample, the average reproductive status of statistical production herds.

It is anticipated that for this purpose engage experts of the Veterinary Institute Nis who have the necessary equipment for ultrasound diagnosis of pregnancy and reproductive disorders, as well as the most reliable of all the methods used for this purpose. The total funds allocated for this measure amounts to 500,000.00 dinars.¹¹

¹¹ Програм фонда за развој пољопривреде града Ниша у 2013. године.

Subsidizing keeping quality breeding female heads (the program of artificial insemination) for year 2012

Subsidizing keeping quality breeding female heads of program of artificial insemination is a measure implemented in the 2012th in order to motivate manufacturers to maintain quality female breeding animals obtained from the program of artificial insemination. Funds in the amount of 820,000.00 dinars will be used to settle the liabilities transferred from the previous year.¹²

Subsidizing specific parameters of milk quality and quality of cattle feed in the productive herd of cows in the city of Nis

In the field, the production gradually include the heads of their own selection, and began the implementation of new technologies feeding of cattle, as well as the standards of hygiene in milk production that farmers are trained in education programs in recent years.

Each individual analysis of concentrated feed is subsidized by the net amount of 5.400,00 dinars, and nutrient - conserving silage in the net amount of 8.400,00 dinars. In collaboration with their agencies from the City (" Agrar servis Team " KK " Nonius " and Veterinary Station "Nis ") began with the analysis of feedstuffs and in the reporting period, there were 36 analyzes. Funding for this measure amounts to 239,400.00 dinars and will be paid as a liability transferred from the funds of the 2013th.¹³

Improvement of sheep and goat

Improvement of sheep and goat breeding is realized by creating the conditions for an intensive engagement by expanding stem sheep's herd of sheep.

In 2010 and 2011th the equipment was purchased quality female and male breeding animals Württemberg sheep breeds to extend the main herd. Established flock will be the basis of improving sheep in the city in the coming years.

¹² Програм фонда за развој пољопривреде града Ниша у 2013. године.

¹³ Извештај о раду Фонда за развој пољопривреде града Ниша у 2012.

Table 3. Amounts expended for the purchase of female and male breeding animals Württemberg sheep breeds

Year	Supply of high-quality female and male breeding animals Württemberg sheep breeds	Amounts expended for such purposes	
		RSD	Euro
2010.	-	616.000,00	5980,00
2011.	-	543.080,00	5326,00
-	-		-

Source: Reports on the work of the Development Fund since 2010. By 2011. Year and the author's calculation.

During the 2012th were not appropriated funds for this category. And in the 2013th year, this measure provides for acquisition of registered male breeding animals in the sheep, goat and pig . Male breeding animals carry half their genes in the population so that through this measure shall improve production traits that are essential for obtaining a new quality offspring. The purchase of the propagation of male breeding animals and their agencies from our territory, much easier to work , and our growers will benefit from it because it will be easier to be eligible for subsidies related to agricultural budget of the Republic of Serbia . In this way we improve the racial composition of sheep, goat and pig in the city of Nis. The allocation for this purpose is 500,000.00 dinars.¹⁴

Subsidizing the purchase Apiguard drug for the treatment bee of Varoa destructor – varoa

Since the disease Varooza one of the most important problems in beekeeping which can use a variety of treatment chemicals that may significantly affect the quality of honey subsidized the purchase of drugs Apiguard - only drug on the market that has the full effectiveness of the agents of these diseases, and meets all criteria for use in organic production. Subsidized the acquisition and packaging of medicines distributed over two associations of beekeepers in the city - Beekeepers Association "Niš" and Beekeepers Society "nut ". In this way, quickly and efficiently help our beekeepers to provide top quality honey which is necessary to be able to achieve the necessary competitiveness to export significant quantities of honey.

¹⁴ Програм фонда за развој пољопривреде града Ниша у 2013. године.

Table 4. *Subsidizing the purchase Apiguard drug for the treatment of Varroa destructor – varroa*

Year	Number of drug packaging	Indices		Amounts expended for such purposes		Indices	
		Basic	Chain			Basic	Chain
				RSD	Euro		
2010	5160	100,0	-	980.397,00	9.528,00	100,0	-
2011	4784	92,7	92,7	999.856,00	9.806,00	101,5	102,0
2012	3999	77,5	83,6	999.493,60	8.844,00	101,1	99,0

Source: *Reports on the work of the Development Fund since 2010. by 2012. Year and the author's calculation.*

Programs to improve crop production in 2011 and 2012th it is planned to stimulate the development of those activities and production segments that were deemed to strategically most important for the preservation and promotion of horticulture, viticulture and vegetable production. It is primarily the improvement loans for agricultural products and the production of healthy food security.

Serbian beekeeping in recent years made the first important steps in the organization of export of honey, and especially to the EU market. Export price is very favorable, and the demand is so great that Serbia cannot satisfy her, so it is imperative that the 2013th year continue to support the production of beekeeping in the city and help beekeepers and Nis to be involved in these processes. Bearing in mind the present situation in our beekeeping and the fact that the disease Varoza one of the most important issues to support the development of beekeeping will be realized by improving the health of bees.

This will quickly and efficiently help our beekeepers to provide top quality honey which is necessary to be able to achieve the necessary competitiveness to export significant quantities of honey. The realization of all activities will be conducted in collaboration with associations of beekeepers and experts of the Veterinary Institute Nis. Total funds allocated for this measure amounts to 1,200,000.00 dinars.¹⁵

¹⁵ Програм фонда за развој пољопривреде града Ниша у 2013. године.

Program crop production

A program to improve crop production is anticipated to stimulate the development of those activities and production segments that were deemed to strategically most important for the preservation and promotion of horticulture, viticulture and vegetable production. It is primarily the improvement loans for agricultural products and the production of healthy food security.

Subsidizing agricultural fruits, grapes and vegetables in the 2011th year

Subsidizing analysis of agricultural products - fruits, grapes and vegetables are implemented to support the development of diversification of production in rural households that sell their products in local markets, as well as incentives to support agricultural exports and domestic sales in the chain of retail stores. This measure applies to products 34 farms in the city of the analyzes were conducted on pesticide residues, residues of nitrite and nitrate residues of heavy metals and radioactivity. Type of analysis is determined in accordance with the needs and requirements of users. Expended funds in the amount of 399.000, 00 dinars.

Subsidizing the purchase tomato seedlings for the second harvest in 2012th year

Subsidizing the purchase tomato seedlings for the second harvest is an important component in vegetable production and refers to the purchase of seedlings for planting tomatoes in late autumn harvest, for indoor production. Subsidies to purchase tomato seedlings for the second harvest were carried out for the Association of Niški Povrtar which has 23 members. The subsidy amounted to 50% of the total, and the amount of funds spent 499,910.00 dinars.

Subsidizing agricultural products analysis is carried out in order to support the development of households who sell their products in local markets, as well as incentives to support agricultural exports and domestic sales in chain retail stores. The preliminary analysis of pesticide residues in vegetables (organic flora and organophosphate) and heavy metals (lead, cadmium, mercury and arsenic) in the fruit and the products are covered by members of the "Niš vegetable growers " who sell their products in the green market. During the reporting period were made 52 analyses. Each individual analysis subsidized is the net amount of 4846.15 dinars. During the 2012th year for this measure realized an amount of 299,999.00 dinars.

The Program for Agricultural Development Fund for 2013th and the decision of the Board of Directors of the Fund for the Development of Agriculture on the provision of funds for the implementation of the Program for the improvement of life and diversification of economic activities in rural areas of the 2013th City of Niš year invited tenders for subsidies in agriculture for 2013th year in September this year. The competition is planned to be financed seven programs. These are the following programs:

Program 1. Supply and installation of irrigation equipment.

Program 2. Perennial crops (supply proper health , quality of fruit and vine planting material , supply restraint perennial plants and procurement and installation of anti-hail protection) .

Program 3. Purchase of new machinery and specialized equipment (fruit and wine, vegetable and crop production).

Program 4. Purchase of specialized equipment for the collection, storage and processing of milk and dairy products.

Program 5. Purchase of specialized equipment for beekeeping production and packaging of honey and nuts and swarms of quality

Program 6. Support to agricultural holdings for the initial investment in agricultural production.

Program 7. Improvement and development of other activities in rural areas.¹⁶

The second part

Survey

The first of the questions that were asked in the survey was “What factors according to you is the biggest constraint to agricultural production in the City of Niš, but also in the whole territory of Serbia.” To this question, almost 60 % of those surveyed responded that it is marketing of agricultural products. Slightly less than 20 % said that a lack of affordable and long term financing. 15.7% as a reason for limiting agricultural production indicated low support from the agricultural budget , and a little less than 8 % of the respondents cited as a reason for not belonging to the association or cooperative (Table 5) .

¹⁶ <http://www.niskoselo.com/?p=2488>

Table 5. *Factors that limit agricultural production*

Ordinal	Description of factors	share in%
1.	Placement (the risk of collection / payment dispute claims, monopolized market and low bargaining power of farmers, price volatility and demand)	56,9
2.	The lack of affordable and long term financing (loans)	19,6
3.	Not belonging to the association or cooperative (farmers fragmentation)	7,8
4.	Low support from the agricultural budget	15,7
	total n = 51	100,0

Source: *Author's calculations based on survey.*

The second question was, "How you know that the Ministry of Agriculture and the agricultural city of Nis give incentive funding for the development and improvement of agricultural production." On the basis of answers to this question may give the impression that the farmers solidly informed that gives the city of Nis incentives (Table 6). Slightly more than 37% said that secondary familiar and almost 20% is a lot known, few are aware of 35.3% and only 7.8% do not know.

Table 6. *Informing farmers about the stimulus funds, the Ministry of Agriculture of Serbia and the Development Fund of the City of Niš*

Ordinal	Description reviews	Number of surveyed	share in%
1.	many known	10	19,6
2.	medium	19	37,3
3.	little is known	18	35,3
4.	not known	4	7,8
	total n = 51		100,0

Source: *Author's calculations based on survey.*

The third question was about the use of incentives and reads: 'Did you, in 2010, 2011 and 2012. The incentives used by the Fund for the City of Nis agriculture?' "This question was answered positively 17.6% and negative 82.4% of farmers (Table 7). The most common reasons cited for not using

financial incentives are not registered farm, lack of awareness of the fact that the Fund provides incentives, complicated procedure of applying.

Table 7. *The use of incentives since 2010. By 2012. The Agricultural Development Fund of the City of Niš*

	Number of surveyed	share in%
yes	9	17,6
no	42	82,4
total n = 51		100,0

Source: *Author's calculations based on survey.*

Relations between the state (city) in agriculture in the opinion of 35.3 % of poor farmers, and not enough on the development of agriculture. Nearly 30% believe that this relationship is neither good nor bad. Slightly more than 25% believe that the relationship between the state and capital in agriculture is an obstacle to its faster development. Only less than 2% believe that the state (city) takes care of agriculture and about 10% say that the relationship meets and could be better (Table 8).

Table 8. *Review of state (city) in agriculture*

Mark	Description reviews	Number of surveyed	share in%
1	Very bad	13	25,5
2	Bad	18	35,3
3	Neither good nor bad	14	27,5
4	Satisfactory, and it could be better	5	9,8
5	Good	1	1,9
	total n = 51		100,0

Source: *Author's calculations based on survey.*

Have you used the technical assistance and information services to the fund for the development of the City of Nis? It was the next question. Based on the responses we received from of surveyed farmers, we can conclude that a large number of farmers are not familiar with the work of the Agricultural Development Fund of the City of Nis almost 75%. On the other hand the work of city services has been introduced to only 25%.

The reason why so many large percentages of respondents were not familiar with the work of the Fund should be sought in the lack of interest of the farmers surveyed for the Fund. Advisory panels and other meetings organized by experts of the Fund have a response mainly in young farmers.

Table 9. *Knowledge with the professional assistance of the Development Fund of the City of Niš*

	Number of surveyed	share in%
yes	13	25,5
no	38	74,5
total n = 51		100,0

Source: *Author's calculations based on survey.*

The last question was: "Are you a member or subcontractor of farmers' associations or cooperatives?" Based on the survey we can conclude that the numbers of respondents slightly more than 47% of the respondents belong to membership of cooperatives or associations of farmers and nearly 53% do not belong to any association (Table 10). In the explanation to why do not belong to an association were surveyed responded to their rural settlement has farmers' or inters have to be members of the Association wks.

Table 10. *Belonging to a cooperative or an association of farmers*

	Number of surveyed	share in%
yes	24	47,1
no	27	52,9
total n = 51		100,0

Source: *Author's calculations based on survey.*

Surveyed farmers who are members of associations or cooperatives we asked which belong to an association or cooperative. We list a large number of associations. One gets the impression that all these associations and cooperatives have a small number of members. It probably is their main problem when enter the market.

Table 11. *List of associations, cooperatives of farmers of surveyed*

Name of associations and cooperatives	Place	Number of
Udruženje „Stočar“	Čokot	1
Udruženje „Agro proizvod“	Donje Međurovo	1
Udruženje „Stočar“	Lalinac	1
Udruženje voćara i vinogradara	Gabrovac	1
Zemljoradnička zadruga	Gabrovac	1
Zemljoradnička zadruga „Čegar“	Donji Matejevac	1
Voćarsko udruženje Čegar	Gornji Matejevac	2
Udruženje kozara „Mlečni put“	Gabrovac	1
Udruženje voćara	Gornji Matejevac	2
Udruženje stočara i vinogradara	Oreovac	1
Udruženje voćara, vinara i vinogradara „Pantalej“	Donji Matejevac	3
Udruženje odgajivača svinja „Tri praseta“	Hum	1
Udruženje niški ratari i semenari	Hum	2
Udruženje stočara „Ada“	Sečanica	2
Udruženje „105 +“	Sečanica	1
Pužarska zadruga „Heliks“	Supovac	1
Grupe žena poljoprivrednika	Gornja Trnava	1
Udruženje „Budućnost“	Leskovik	1
Udruženje „Euromilk“	Hum	1
Udruženje „Napredak“	Trupale	1

Source: *List is determined on the basis of the survey.*

Conclusion

City of Nis, through its Agricultural Development Fund provides financial incentives and subsidies. Incentives that are given are determined by type of production and relate to livestock and crop production. Assets held for livestock production mainly include the following categories of subsidies: to improve the racial composition of cattle subsidizing the use of top seed bulls, for the procurement of quality breeding cattle, improved control of reproductive status of the primary main herd cattle, to keep quality breeding female heads (the program of artificial insemination) for the analysis of basic parameters of milk quality and quality of cattle feed in the productive herd of cows in the city of Nis, for improve sheep and goat farming, procurement Apiguard drug for the treatment of Varroa destructor - mites. The aim of subsidizing these is to increase the number of stem herds of cattle, sheep and goats. Also, special attention was paid to the development of beekeeping subsidizing a drug to treat Varroa destructor.

Resources devoted to crop production are primarily designated for the following purposes: subsidizing agricultural fruits, grapes and vegetables, subsidizing purchase tomato seedlings for the second harvest. From all the above presented, we conclude that the Agricultural Development Fund of Nis provides incentives and as much as it is able. Funds that the Fund chose to subsidize allow certain categories of farmers to improve their production. We believe that in a situation where the uptrend support of rural development and agriculture continues to be in the future zoom funds intended for the Program Fund for Agricultural Development. A survey was conducted in the City of Nis acknowledged the dissatisfaction of farmers amounts of aid they receive the name of incentives and subsidies from the Fund. In addition to the amounts that are small complaints are addressed and complicated procedures for obtaining funds and delays in payment thereof.

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