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Stages of Agricultural Development in Developed Foreign Countries

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Abstract: This paper delves into the stages of agricultural development that have unfolded in developed foreign countries. It analyzes the shift from traditional, labor-intensive agriculture to modern, technology-driven agriculture, emphasizing the pivotal factors that propelled this transformation. The paper further explores the challenges and opportunities confronting agriculture in developed countries today, and contemplates the future trajectory of the sector.

Key words: Stages of agricultural development, Developed foreign countries, Traditional agriculture, Modern agriculture, Productivity, Technology, Globalization, Sustainability, Challenges, Opportunities, Future of agriculture.

The study of agricultural development in developed foreign countries holds significant relevance for multiple reasons, especially in the context of global food security, economic development, and sustainable agricultural practices. Understanding the stages of agricultural development provides valuable insights that can guide policy-making, technology adoption, and economic strategies in both developed and developing nations. Here are several key points highlighting the importance of this topic:

Historical Lessons and Modern Applications. The historical progression of agricultural practices in developed countries offers lessons on how to manage agricultural transformation effectively. By examining these stages, policymakers and agricultural stakeholders can identify best practices and avoid past mistakes. Developed countries have pioneered many agricultural technologies and innovations. Understanding their development trajectories helps in assessing the impact of these technologies on productivity, sustainability, and economic growth. This knowledge is crucial for countries looking to modernize their agricultural sectors. The transition from agrarian to industrial and service-oriented economies in developed countries often starts with significant changes in agriculture. Studying these transitions can provide insights into how agricultural development can drive broader economic growth and structural transformation. Developed countries have faced and addressed various environmental challenges related to agriculture, such as soil degradation, water management, and biodiversity loss. Analyzing how these challenges were met can inform sustainable agricultural practices and policies globally. The evolution of agricultural policies and institutional frameworks in developed countries offers a blueprint for effective governance in agriculture. This includes land reforms, subsidies, trade policies, and research and development initiatives. The role of developed countries in global food supply chains is critical. Understanding the stages of their agricultural development helps in appreciating their contributions to global food security and how they manage agricultural exports and imports. Agricultural development in developed countries has implications for rural development, labor markets, and social equity. Learning from these experiences can help address issues such as rural poverty, labor rights, and income disparities in other regions.

There are many developed countries with different agricultural systems, each of which has different general stages of agricultural development:

- 1. Model agriculture: This is the earliest stage of agriculture where farmers produce only enough food to feed themselves and their families. The focus is on survival and basic needs rather than commercial production of agricultural products.
- 2. Commercial agriculture: In this phase, farmers expand production to meet market demands. They specialize in a certain type of crop or livestock. can use advanced techniques such as mechanization, irrigation and crop cultivation to increase productivity and profit.
- 3. Sustainable agriculture: This phase emphasizes the use of environmentally friendly farming methods that ensure long-term soil fertility, preserve biodiversity, and minimize the use of chemical inputs.
- 4. Industrial agriculture: This is characterized by extensive mechanization, intensive use of chemicals, and a focus on high yields and profits. However, it has been criticized for its negative environmental impacts, such as soil degradation and pollution, as well as contributing to food insecurity and inequality.
- 5. Precision Agriculture: This is a new phase that uses automation, satellite and sensor technology to increase accuracy and precision in agricultural activities such as planting, harvesting and irrigation. Using data analytics, farmers can optimize production and minimize waste.

The stages of agricultural development in developed foreign countries may vary, but generally include the following stages:

- 1. Traditional agriculture. This is agriculture in most countries is the starting point. It is characterized by low productivity, subsistence farming, and the use of simple tools and techniques.
- 2. Mechanized Agriculture: Mechanization of agriculture began in the early 20th century with the advent of tractors, combines and other machinery. This led to increased productivity but increased capital requirements.
- 3. Chemical agriculture In the middle of the 20th century, the use of synthetic fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides became widespread. This has led to further increases in productivity, but has also raised concerns about environmental and health impacts.
- 4. Sustainable Agriculture: In recent decades, sustainable agriculture has emerged as a response to environmental and social challenges facing agriculture. It is characterized by practices such as organic farming, soil conservation and crop rotation.
- 5. Precision Agriculture: Precision agriculture involves the use of advanced technologies such as GPS, sensors and drones to optimize farm management practices and increase efficiency.
- 6. Digital Agriculture: Digital agriculture involves the use of big data, artificial intelligence and other advanced technologies to transform agricultural practices. By increasing productivity, stability and profitability

The agricultural sector is more important in the economy of countries with opportunities for agricultural development. The life of society and the prosperity of the state directly depend on this sector. The development of the agricultural sector is influenced by several interrelated factors. Agricultural development factors:

Step 1. The main factor on which the level of development of agriculture depends is the state support. In almost all countries, this sector of the economy needs subsidies, which allows to eliminate the disproportion of prices of agricultural products in the conditions of a market economy. Funds are needed for the creation of modern production facilities, the adoption of new technologies and the purchase of equipment.

- Step 2. They believe that the main factor of production in this sector of the economy is land resources. The presence of large areas suitable for agriculture and animal husbandry increases the competitiveness of the country's agriculture in the world market. In order for the land to remain fertile, it must be used wisely, while carrying out restoration work.
- Step 3. Another condition of agricultural efficiency is natural and climatic conditions. Human activity on earth is often associated with unfavorable conditions: drought, long-term rains, frosts on earth. The harsh climate can make the region a dangerous farming area. Mild conditions allow the industry to thrive sometimes throughout the year.
- Step 4. Depreciation of fixed assets in the agricultural sector occurs much faster than in many other fields of activity. Agricultural work is dangerous, often dependent on changing external conditions and harmful factors. The risk arises, for example, when using pesticides and mineral fertilizers. Public insurance helps to overcome these problems, which is becoming one of the economic factors that support agriculture.
- Step 5. The state of science and technology has a great influence on the activity of the agroindustry sector. As a rule, innovations in this field are introduced gradually and should take root for a long time. And despite this, the increase in labor productivity in the countryside and the increase in the volume of production depend on scientific and technical progress. Scientific and technical progress is also becoming the main factor in reducing the cost of food products.
- Step 6. The next factor is related to the specific features of the market structure of the economy. A healthy competitive environment is very important for the development of agriculture. In developed countries, this industry is regulated by special anti-monopoly bodies. Their task is to prevent the strengthening of monopolies and to support the comprehensive development of small and medium-sized producers. These measures allow to maintain the prices of agricultural products at an acceptable level.

The agricultural sector has its own place in the economy of every country. Because the agrarian sector is the basis for satisfying the country's population's demand for important food products.

The study of the agricultural sectors of developed countries shows that agriculture in these countries makes up a small share of the total economic sectors, but this does not mean that the role of agriculture in the economy is lost.

Conclusion

Understanding the stages of agricultural development in developed foreign countries provides a comprehensive framework for analyzing the complexities of agricultural progress. It offers valuable lessons and strategies that can be applied globally to enhance agricultural productivity, sustainability, and economic development. This topic is highly relevant for shaping future agricultural policies and practices in both developed and developing nations, ensuring a resilient and sustainable global food system.

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