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DIAGNOSIS OF VITICULTURE POTENTIAL IN ROMANIA

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ABSTRACT

This research investigates Romanian viticulture potential. In pursuing this, statistical data were analyzed, related to the areas occupied by vines and grape production per hectare of the Romanian and European Union vineyard. Romania is among the countries with a millenary tradition in vines. Climatic and soil conditions of our country are favorable for growth and fruiting vines.

Key Words: yield, wine, grape, wine sector

INTRODUCTION

For Romania, EU accession was a major challenge for the whole economy, including wine sector, which was forced to adapt to the realities and rules of the most important market in the world of wine products. The strictness of the Community market has added unprecedented dynamism to the European wine sector, under a common management and offered a very rigorous quality promotion at the expense of quantity. In appearance, the benefits are available to Romania, manifested at low cost inputs (land and labor force) were quickly dismantled once Romania entered the EU, through participation in the European single market, which runs an intense competition.

Despite existing difficulties, Romanian wine sector and wine capital integration in appropriate structures of the EU act as a positive event in activating the revival of Romanian wine industry, plus other economic activities, technical and technological, legislative and institutional, which, have allowed the development of this sectora and the functionallity of the wine market.

Also, the Romanian wine sector must face strong competition from the substitutes for this product, especially beer and spirits, areas that have recently been „injected"

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with important domestic capital investment, especially foreign spirits which have expanded the market, including wine sector.

Undoubtedly, Romania has favorable conditions in order to revive the wine market, holding an important vineyard heritage, consisting of large areas occupied by vineyards grafted on their own roots and direct producing hybrids, building design and construction in the wine sector, plus a strong cognitive heritage, culturally and scientifically linked to the culture of the vine and the art of wine.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In the context of this brief analysis on the potential of Romanian wine sectior, a wine market faces expansion and diversification, including the quality of the product. Grape production continues to grow, ever larger quantities of grapes of wine is for this market sector. (see the Table 1)

Table 1. Grape production (thousand tonnes) and average grape production (tonnes / ha) in the period 2000-2009

Specification	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Grapes production, of which:	1295.3	1121.7	1076.7	1078.0	1230.4	505.8	912.4	873.2	996.0	990.2
• grafted vineyard	769.1	612.8	609.8	546.8	866.6	231.0	502.1	511.3	589.0	587.5
• hybrid vineyard	526.2	508.9	466.9	531.2	363.8	265.1	391.4	361.9	407.0	402.7
Average of grapes production, of which:	5.23	4.59	4.43	4.62	5.99	2.65	4.79	4.65	5.30	5.37
• grafted vineyard	5.99	5.01	5.08	4.72	6.60	2.34	5.19	5.54	6.27	6.26
• hybrid vineyard	4.42	4.17	3.80	4.52	4.91	2.88	4.17	3.80	4.33	4.45

(*Source:* author adaptation from INSSE, available at: www.insse.ro, accessed on: 10.09.2011)

Grape production faced an extremely fluctuant evolution, showing a growth peak in 2004, followed by a sharp decline caused mainly by adverse weather conditions in recent years. Despite the favorable conditions in some years of the culture of the vine, the average production per hectare is low compared with that ones recorded in other EU countries, a situation which leads to the conclusion that such activity reflects dysfunction in major wine business management. (see the Table 2).

Table 2. Average grape production (tonnes / ha) in the period 2005-2009

Nr.crt.	Țara	Anii				
		2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
		Average grape production (tonnes / ha)				
1	Austria	8.37	6.60	6.85	7.93	6.95
2	Belgium	9.80	9.09	9.17	9.08	
3	Denmark	-	-	-	-	-
4	Finland	-	-	-	-	-
5	France	8.88	7.94	7.66	7.26	7.41
6	Germany	12.03	14.65	13.06	14.85	13.33
7	Greece	9.94	8.94	10.13	8.71	6.80
8	Ireland	-	-	-	-	-
9	Italy	11.04	10.79	10.59	9.45	10.28
10	Luxembourg	16.44	14.25	12.21	12.21	12.07
11	United Kingdom	1.60	1.60	1.60	1.43	
12	Netherlands	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	
13	Portugal	4.60	4.45	4.63	3.71	2.19
14	Spain	6.03	5.22	5.81	5.27	4.81
15	Sweden	-	-	-	-	-
UE-15 Total		**8.30**	**7.82**	**7.65**	**7.49**	**5.80**
16	Czech Republic	5.38	4.39	3.71	5.82	4.27
17	Cyprus	6.83	3.30	4.27	3.08	2.17
18	Estonia	-	-	-	-	-
19	Latvia	-	-	-	-	-
20	Lithuania	-	-	-	-	-
21	Malta	3.81	5.27	6.38	4.23	6.03
22	Poland	-	-	-	-	-
23	Slovakia	4.71	4.12	4.42	4.27	4.51
24	Slovenia	8.14	7.36	6.42	7.62	7.02
25	Hungary	8.46	5.54	6.91	7.18	7.24
UE-25 Total		**7.56**	**6.82**	**6.84**	**6.74**	**5.59**
26	Bulgaria	2.71	2.10	2.38	3.13	2.77
27	Romania	5.99	2.65	4.79	5.30	5.37
UE-27 Total		**7.23**	**6.37**	**6.50**	**6.46**	**5.43**

(*Source:* author adaptation from FAO)

In terms of property regime of wine-grape production, the main share belongs to the private-owned sector in the reference period ranged from 81.53% in 2000 and 99.13% in 2009. Another issue which arises from the corresponding data analysis vines bearing surface refers to its reduction since 2004, so in 2009 compared to 2000 it decreased by 25.50%. Therefore one can observe a decrease in area occupied by vineyards and fruit-bearing and the bearing with hybrid vines.

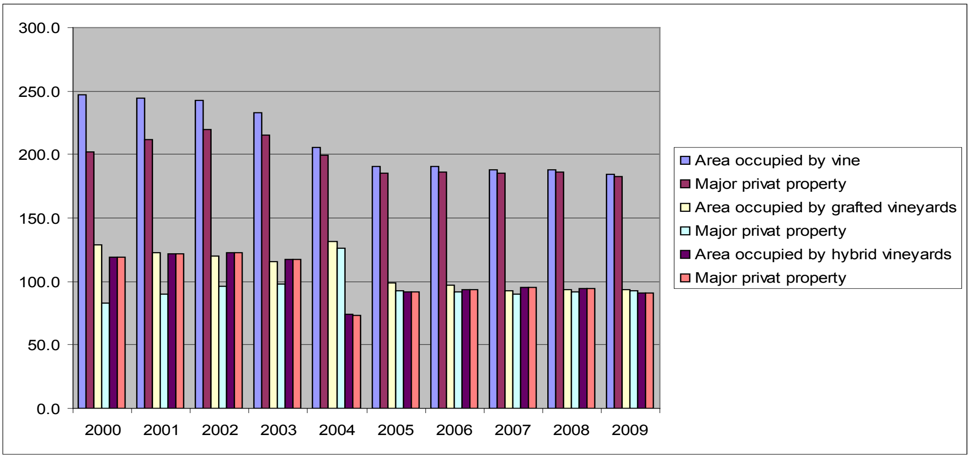
Table 3. The area occupied by vine in Romania in the period 2000-2009

YEARS	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Wineyard surface (thousand of hectars)										
Total	**247.5**	**244.4**	**242.9**	**233.3**	**205.4**	**190.6**	**190.5**	**187.6**	**187.9**	**184.4**
• out of which major privat property:	201.8	212.1	219.3	215.6	199.4	185.0	185.9	185.4	185.9	182.8
Grafted vineyard surface (thousand of hectars)										
Total	128.5	122.3	120.0	115.8	131.3	98.6	96.7	92.3	93.9	93.9
• out of which major privat property:	83.1	90.0	96.5	98.1	125.8	93.0	92.1	90.1	91.9	92.3
Hybrid vineyard surface (thousand of hectars)										
Total	119.0	122.1	122.9	117.5	74.1	92.0	93.8	95.3	94.0	90.5
• out of which major privat property:	118.7	122.1	122.8	117.5	73.6	92.0	93.8	95.3	94.0	90.5

(*Source:* author adaptation from INSSE, available at: www.insse.ro, accessed on: 10.09.2011)

Graphical representation of the structure occupied areas with vines is shown in the figure below:

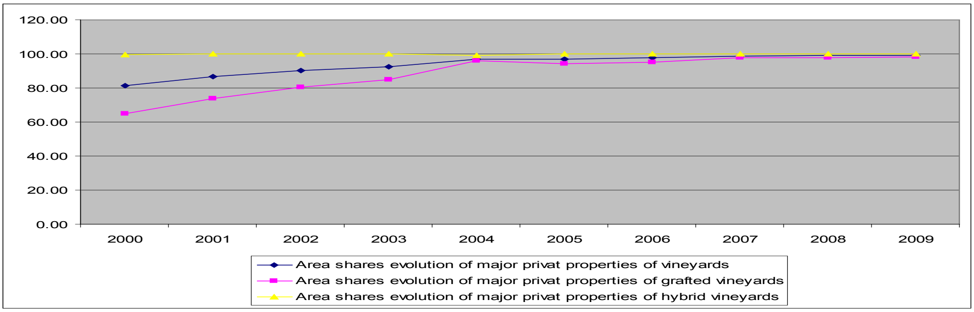
Figure 1. Structure of area occupied by vine in Romania in the period 2000-2009



(Source: author adaptation from INSSE)

If we analyze the dynamics of grafted area occupied by vineyards bearing and bearing with hybrid vines, we see an increasing trend towards private majority ownership.

Figure 2. Area shares evolution of major privat properties of grafted vineyards in the period 2000-2009



(Source: author adaptation from INSSE)

CONCLUSION

Romanian wine potential registers structural changes likely to slow economic development. The divising of property, the dissolution of forms of exploitation, the delay of privatization, de-capitalization of companies, planting and fourgery are just a few of the factors that affect the wine sector development in Romania. On the other hand, the trend of globalization of world economy that requires removal of barriers to trade between states wine market in Romania found unprepared to face stiff competition in a market that tends to restrict the overall quantitative and qualitative diversification.

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