

Agriculture

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Bibliography **Hiba! A könyvjelző nem létezik.**

Situational Analysis

The agriculture potential in Somogy County is judged to be better than country average.

The proportion was higher in agriculture, forestry and fishing than the national average (Somogy 6.8%, Hungary 3.5%) and accommodation and food service activities (Somogy 8%, Hungary 3.3%). It demonstrates the importance of tourism at Lake Balaton and the agricultural characteristics of Somogy but at the same time the underdevelopment of the innovative, high-tech services and activities.

Crop Cultivation and Livestock Breeding

The importance of the agricultural sector was greatly reduced after economic transition. The agricultural performance has shrunk to two thirds of the pre 1990 period. Animal husbandry's productivity has been reduced to the half of its former potential. The structural rate has been changed and today it is unsuitable to the natural conditions and animal husbandry traditions of the county.

The agriculture potential in Somogy County is judged to be better than country average. It's agro-ecological abilities are diversified. More than the half of the county consists of hills and erosion damage is frequent for significant part of the year. 40% of the hills are strongly articulated by creek and river valleys, these areas are unsuitable for large-scale farming. The other 60% of the county is mainly slopes and plains with good conditions for agriculture. The overall climate is good; it has both Mediterranean and Atlantic influences.

Notwithstanding, the vast majority of the land is used for agricultural activity. The proportion of arable land is high (43.7%), but it is slightly lower than the national average (46.5%). The rate of forest cover is significantly higher than the national average (Somogy: 31.2%, Hungary: 20.7%), and Somogy is the 3rd most forest-covered county in Hungary (after Nógrád and Zala). Therefore, the amount of grassland (Somogy: 5.5%, Hungary: 8.2%) and uncultivated land area (Somogy: 16.4%, Hungary: 20.9%) is lower than in the average of the counties as a whole.

1. table: Arable land by cultivation types, 2013 [thousand acres] (HCSO - Hungarian Central Statistical Office)

Territorial unit	Arable	Vegetable garden	Orchard	Grape	Grass	Forest	Reed	Fishpond	Uncultivated land area	Total
Baranya	225,6	2,5	1,4	4,3	18,6	111,4	0,8	1,6	72,2	438,5
Somogy	250,0	4,0	2,9	3,6	31,7	178,7	5,4	3,3	91,7	571,2
Tolna	214,2	2,8	1,7	5,1	17,3	66,2	1,4	2,1	31,2	342,1
Southern Transdanubia	689,8	9,2	6,1	13,1	67,6	356,3	7,6	7,1	195,1	1 351,8
National total	4 325,7	80,9	92,2	81,6	759,1	1 933,6	65,4	37,0	1 927,9	9 303,4

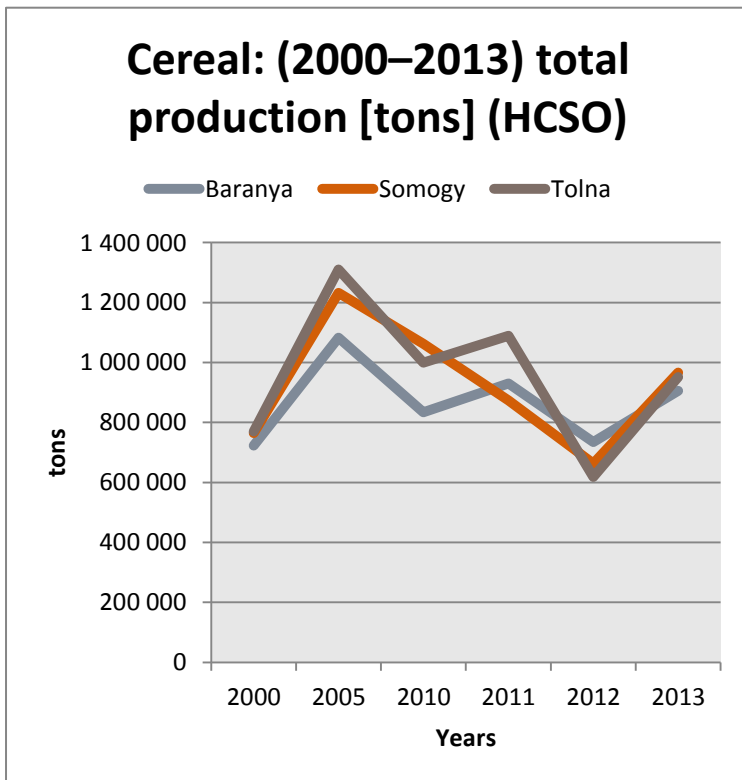
Crop Cultivation

It is typical of crop growing that the amount of cereal plough land area is higher than the national average. Sunflower and colza production is increasing, but the traditional potato,

tobacco and sugar beet production is decreasing due to more frequent sale and distribution problems. The decrease of fodder production is caused by the dramatic decrease of the number of livestock (cattle, sheep). This tendency applies to grassland management too. There are some city-supplier areas of vegetables developing, but this tendency does not apply to every kind of vegetable.

2. table: Cereal: (2000–2013) total production [tons] (HCSO)

Territorial unit	2000	2005	2010	2011	2012	2013
Baranya	722 898	1 082 980	834 462	930 499	734 298	906 023
Somogy	765 159	1 232 795	1 062 617	873 767	663 578	965 989
Tolna	770 013	1 310 273	999 092	1 089 381	618 927	951 318
Southern Transdanubia	2 258 070	3 626 048	2 896 171	2 893 647	2 016 803	2 823 330
National total	10 036 422	16 212 463	12 261 996	13 678 212	10 372 736	13 526 924



1. figure: Cereal: (2000–2013) total production [tons] (HCSO)

traditional cattle and sheep herding is decreasing against pig farming. While other stock is slowly increasing, the sheep stock is still getting smaller. The chicken livestock started to increase in 2013 after drastically shrinking since 2010.

In 2013 the livestock count of Somogy County consisted of 31.000 cattle and 133.000 pigs, which shows a little increase in the numbers compared to 2012.

Somogy County's crop production has increased in 2013 compared to the crop production of 2012.

Fruit Production

Fruit production uses only a small part of the county's resources. It applies especially to nuts. There are major processing capacities in the Balaton-region. Grape and wine production has been increasing at a faster pace in the last few years due to the strengthening of wine communities and the significance of the Balaton Wine Area and the other wine producing areas is constantly growing.

Livestock

The significance of animal husbandry (almost any kind of livestock) is slowly

increasing as compared to the national average since 2010. The rate of

3. table: Cattle stock (left) és pig stock (right), (2000–2013) [thousand]

Territorial unit	2011	2012	2013	Territorial unit	2011	2012	2013
Baranya	27	27	29	Baranya	267	267	278
Somogy	27	29	31	Somogy	121	121	133
Tolna	23	23	28	Tolna	150	154	139
Southern Transdanubia	77	80	88	Southern Transdanubia	538	542	550
National total	697	760	772	National total	3 044	2 989	2 935

Forestry

The scale of forest areas is outstanding. The forests consist of 90% of deciduous tree species. 9% of the national wood production is from Somogy County. The County has more afforestation options due to the structural change in agriculture.

Soil conditions are excellent for the forests in the county. Forest area will likely increase in the near future. Damaged areas (post quarrying and waste dump areas) are planned to be rehabilitated thus more favourable conditions are expected regarding the amount of forests. With proper usage of agro technical tools the effect of water and wind erosion can be mitigated.

Especially fine lands are located in the county which are well suited to forestry (primarily in Inner-Somogy, in the Western, Southern areas of the county.) After Borsod county Somogy has the largest extent of forests (171.000 acre, 2012) which makes up 34.75% of the area of Somogy. (While Hungary's forest density haven't reached 21%.)

Wildlife management

Wildlife management also has a high economic potential in Somogy. The genetic properties of the deer population are recognized throughout the world. Research on red deer domestication has resulted in a new, environmentally friendly way of livestock herding. It is essential to make wildlife management's multiple utilization (tourism, unique products, level of processing) more organized.

Notable that 10% of the bees living in Hungary are located in Somogy. There are around 19 beehives per acre. Only Zala and Nógrád counties have better such indicators.

Form of ownership	acre	percentage
National property:	130 729	26,4
Agricultural cooperatives:	1754	0,4
Companies:	20 747	4,2
Self-governments:	4276	0,9
Individuals:	335 671	67,9
Other:	1236	0,2

1. table: The ownership structure of the land properties. (Somogy County Land registry)

Property Structure and the Arable Lands

It can be determined that the fields of the county are average for crop cultivation. Sizeable parts of the arable land are owned by individuals. Companies had 4,2% of the land before the regulation that prohibited non-individuals to own

land.

70% of the property are undivided common ownership. A section of the land has 4 owners in average. It is notable that property sizes are fragmented. The average size of a land owned by individuals is 1 acre. Fragmented land ownership is a county and nationwide issue which needs to be changed in a favourable way. This is a primary task.

Fine arable lands are mostly located in the Eastern part of the county (Siófok area, region neighbouring Tolna County). Among arable crops wheat and corn have the better yields in average than the other counties in the country.

Large-scale cultivation is specific to Somogy. Most of the land are cultivated by companies, which work on larger than 400 acre fields, which are 80 acre bigger than the national average. In contrast the individual farms only cultivate 4% of the land. The average size is 3.2 acre which is slightly smaller than the 4.6 acre national average. However in comparison to 2000 the average land size of private farms increased by 80%.

Agro-food Industry Including Timber Industry

Processing industry based on agricultural production has a long tradition in Somogy. Output and sales were stagnating in the food processing, beverage, tobacco industries as well as in the textile, clothes, leather and leather products industries despite that the latter sector were able to expand its exports in comparison to 2012.

Sector	Production	Internal	Export-	Total	Employed	Production	Internal	Export-	Total	Employed
		sales					sales			
	million HUF					in comparison of the previous year = 100				
Processing industry	478 306	64 809	413 265	478 074	16 424	90,6	93,3	90,3	90,7	91,1
of which:										
food, beverage, tobacco production	45 710	35 493	9 990	45 483	1 870	100,0	95,9	113,3	99,3	98,6
textiles, clothes, leather and leather products production	7 151	685	6 550	7 236	889	96,7	93,7	100,5	99,8	96,8
food processing, paper products production and printing	3 349	951	2 502	3 453	363	73,6	62,0	84,9	77,1	73,9

5. table Productivity of the industrial sectors of Somogy (KSH, 2013)

If we examine the processing industry of Somogy we can conclude that in 2013 among the smaller industrial sectors the most notable were the food processing industry with 7% in production and volume index increase of the total manufacturing sector.

There is only one sugar factory left in the country and it is located in Somogy, which influences the sugar beet production. There are huge processing capacities in the milk and meat processing industry too. Besides agro-food other notable capacities are among the timber industry all within the county.

Stakeholder Analysis

Governmental institutions, authorities

Ministry of Agriculture

The Ministry of Agriculture is the essential authority regarding agricultural policy on county and national level.

Prime Minister's Office

The rural development area has been placed to the responsibilities of the Prime Minister Office by the government in 2014.

Government Office of Somogy County

Several administrative of the regional government office departments are concerned in regional development.

The agricultural departments of the Government Office of Somogy County are: Food Chain Safety and Animal Health Directorate, Directorate of Forestry, Land Registry, Board of Agriculture and Plant Protection and Soil Conservation Directorate.

Southern Transdanubian Regional Development Agency

In recent years, the Agency acting as the intermediary body of Operational Program of Transdanubia was responsible for implementing regional development programmes financed by EU Funds. In the period of 2007-2013, the organisation helped to implement 904 projects financed by 241.7 billion Ft support. According to the latest information, in the next period of 2014-2020 the responsibility of the Agency will be confined to county level. The experience the organisation gained between 2007-2013 is a great asset to be built upon and the use of it for cross-border cooperation is highly recommended.

National Chamber of Agriculture and Chamber of Commerce of Somogy

Local chamber of industry, commerce and the national chamber are important players in the agriculture of the county. They provide useful services to chamber members, help farmers and entrepreneurs in their activities and services (e.g. application monitoring, information).

Companies

SEFAG Forestry and Timber Industry Company

The company is managing a forest area of eighty thousand hectares, the half of the forests in Somogy County. These forests are owned by the state. It has a determining role of the county's forestry, wildlife management and nature protection. The company has 500 employees.

Magyar Cukor Corporation

Magyar Cukor Ltd. is currently the only - Kaposvár - working sugar refinery company in Hungary, with a quota of 105000 tonnes per year. In November 2007 a biogas plant started its operation next to the factory in the name of environment protection which is a unique initiative in Europe. The company is the member of the Austrian AGRANA Group.

‘Aranykalász’ Agricultural Cooperative

The activities of ‘Aranykalász’ Agricultural Cooperative: cultivation of cereals and other arable crops, breeding of dairy cattle. The cooperative cultivates 1.700 hectares of leased land.

SIÓ-ECKES Ltd.

SIÓ-ECKES Ltd. is the leading juice manufacturer in Hungary, a major player in the industry. The company's headquarters are located at the border of Siófok, next to a hundreds of acres large plantation of peach and apricot.

Balatonboglár Winery Corporation

Balatonboglár Winery Corporation has a history of decades. It is one of the largest producers of wine and champagne of Hungary.

Kométa 99 Corporation

Kométa 99 Corp. is the country's largest pork processor. Meat products are exported. Nearly half of their revenues come from exports.

Szent István Winery

Szent István Winery is an important wine producer of the Balatonboglár Wine Region. It is operating as a family business and offers hospitality services as well.

Non-governmental organisations

- Association for the Agro-Food Development of Southern Transdanubia
- Zselic Non-profit Association for Rural Development
- Koppányvölgyi Non-profit Association for Rural Development
- Rinya-Dráva Association
- Our Region is Our Future Association
- Balatonyöngye Association for Rural Development
- Wide Road Community and Association for Rural Development
- Partners of North-Kapos Association for Rural Development
- Lanterns of Zselic Association for Rural Development
- Foki-Hill Association

Kaposvár University

Kaposvár University is the only higher education institution in the county; Agricultural and Environmental Sciences faculty is one of its four faculties. It serves the higher agricultural education of the region. The master degree program and postgraduate courses offered by the faculty cover the entire agricultural industry. The university is an important centre of research and development programs in the county. The university is the main innovation base of the county's interest.

SWOT Analysis

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➔ The overall climate is good; it has both Mediterranean and Atlantic influences. ➔ The significance of animal husbandry (almost any kind of livestock) is slowly increasing as compared to the national average since 2010. ➔ Grape and wine production has been increasing at a faster pace in the last few years due to the strengthening of wine communities and the significance of the Balaton Wine Area and the other wine producing areas is constantly growing. ➔ The scale of forest areas is outstanding. ➔ Wildlife management also has a high economic potential in Somogy. ➔ Kaposvár University has different agricultural BA and MA programmes, also it is the R&D base of the industry in the county. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➔ Erosion damage is frequent for significant part of the year. ➔ Fruit production uses only a small part of the county's resources. ➔ It is essential to make wildlife management's multiple utilization (tourism, unique products, level of processing) more organized. ➔ It is notable that property sizes are fragmented. ➔ Utilization of energy-crops is sparse. Only a few biogas or bioethanol plants are found in the county.
Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➔ There are some city-supplier areas of vegetables developing, but this tendency does not apply to every kind of vegetable – yet. ➔ Fruit production uses only a small part of the county's resources. It applies especially to nuts. There are major processing capacities in the Balaton-region to be utilized. ➔ Wildlife management is a possible developing field of the county's agriculture. ➔ Further development of the agro-R&D is necessary on the basis of Kaposvár University. ➔ Damaged areas (post quarrying and waste dump areas) are planned to be rehabilitated thus more favourable conditions are expected regarding the amount of forests. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➔ Sunflower and canola production is increasing, but the traditional potato, tobacco and sugar beet production is decreasing due to more frequent sale and distribution problems. ➔ Extreme weather conditions can seriously influence agricultural production. Such of these already caused overthrow in yields. ➔ Unfavourable economy can easily push the livestock, meat and mil based production into another decrease. ➔ The lack of capital is seriously hindering the development of the agro-food industry, as well of agriculture itself. ➔ Fragmented property sizes are a major obstacle for investments in agriculture. The

Identification of Key Challenges

Fragmented land ownership is a county and nationwide issue which needs to be changed in a favourable way. This is primary task.

This influences the amount of investments small farmers can attract for necessary developments. However major change in the property structure is not likely on the foreseeable future, so this means the industry has to conform itself to the current structure.

Further development is possible for the agro-food industry. Based on local crop production.

There are unused capacities in forestry which can be taken advantage of. Wood and timber is currently shipped out of the county. In the future local processing industry could be set up based on these capacities.

Besides the agro-food industry the processing of energy-plants is an additional breakout possibility for the county. Which would be a profitable sector based on the favourable yields of the Somogy agriculture.

It is essential to make wildlife management's multiple utilization (tourism, unique products, level of processing) more organized.

1. **Fragmented land ownership**
2. **Lack of investment and capital**
3. **It is essential to make wildlife management's multiple utilization**
4. **Further development is possible for the agro-food industry. Based on local crop production.**
5. **There are unused capacities in forestry which can be taken advantage of.**
6. **Besides the agro-food industry the processing of energy-plants is an additional breakout possibility for the county.**

Cross-sectoral Linkages

Regional Development

A megyében 794 db (2010) társas vállalkozást regisztráltak a mezőgazdaság, erdőgazdálkodás, halászati ágazatban és 16 792 egyéni vállalkozást, mindkét érték a legmagasabb a dunántúli megyék között.

Environmental Protection and Water Management

Az erdőterületek várható növekedése még javítja a levegőminőséget és a klímavédelmet is szolgálja.

Transportation

A közlekedési infrastruktúra alapvető a mezőgazdaság számára az áruszállítás okán. A megyei közúthálózat jelenlegi kapacitási elégnék bizonyulnak az agrárium kiszolgálására, de a főutak települési elkerülő szakaszai javítanak a megközelíthetőséget és esetleg csökkentenék a szállítási költségeket. Tehát bármilyen közútfejlesztésből csak profitálni tudna a helyi mezőgazdaság. Ez különösen érvényes az olyan termelési ágakra, ahol

termény feldolgozására hamar kell sort keríteni, pl. cukoripar (az ország egyetlen cukorgyára a megyében található). A fejlesztések pozitív hatásai igazak a vasútra is.

Az ömlesztett áruk szállítására időszakosan jobban igénybe lehetne venni a Drávát.

A közösségi közlekedés járműveit hosszú távon át lehetne állítani biogáz vagy bioetanol fogyasztására. Célszerűen a helyben előállított bio-üzemanyagok használata növelhetné a helyi együttműködést a mezőgazdasági termelők és a helyi személyszállítók között.

Energy Sector

A mezőgazdasági növénytermesztés melléktermékein alapuló megújuló energiaforrásokkal elsősorban a nagy hozamú, magas aranykorona értékű termőterületekkel rendelkező térségekben lehet számolni, így elsősorban Marcali-Balatonszentgyörgy térségében, a Balaton parti településeken, különösen Siófok, Fonyód és Lengyeltóti térségében, valamint a Kaposvárt észak- észak-kelet felől övező településeken és kisebb területeken Iharosberény-Csurgó térségében. A fentiekkel ellentétben energiaültetvények telepítésére a mezőgazdasági növénytermesztés céljára kevésbé alkalmas, alacsonyabb Aranykorona értékű területek javasoltak, úgymint a Belső-somogyi homokhátság, valamint a Zselicben Kadarkút-Bószénfa térsége.

A megye területére térségenként energetikai hasznosítási tanulmányt érdemes készíteni, amely feltárja a biomassa alapanyagot, az erőművek telepítési helyét, a helyi hasznosítás lehetőségét és a geotermikus energia felhasználásának lehetőségeit. Az alternatív energiák mezőgazdasági hasznosításában is sok lehetőség rejlik.

Tourism

There are common areas between the two sectors, wildlife management and forestry offers expansions of tourist destinations and gastrotourism can be built on the wineries.

List of publications used:

KSH Statisztikai tájékoztató – Somogy megye, 2013/4 (KSH, 2014)

Somogy Megye Területfejlesztési Konceptiója (Somogy Megyei Önkormányzat, 2014)

Somogy Megye Területrendezési Terve (Somogy Megyei Közgyűlés 15/2004. (XII. 27.) önkormányzati rendelete)

Joint Cross-border Enterprise Development Strategy for Somogy and Virovitica-Podravina Counties 2013-2020 (SOVISEC Project, 2012)

TEIR Országos Területfejlesztési és Területrendezési Információs Rendszer adatbázisa (www.teir.hu)