



 **Research Article**

## THE STATE OF HORTICULTURE IN THE SAMARKAND REGION IN THE SECOND HALF OF THE 19TH CENTURY – THE BEGINNING OF THE 20TH CENTURY

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### ABSTRACT

During the colonial period, gardening was one of the most important areas of agriculture in the Samarkand region. The article reveals the reforms of the Russian Empire in the second half of the 19th - early 20th centuries in the field of horticulture in the Samarkand region, statistical data on the yield of grapes, the influence of grape varieties and the expansion of horticulture on agriculture. An assessment is also given of the impact of changes and innovations carried out by the Russian administration in this area in the historical period when the region was called the Zeravshan district, and then the Samarkand region. At the same time, statistics on vineyards and yields in the region were compared with neighboring regions.

### KEYWORDS

Horticulture, viticulture, vineyard, tenap, artificial irrigation, dry lands, statistics, cotton, governor.

### INTRODUCTION

After the conquest of the Samarkand region by the Russian Empire, as in all areas, reforms were carried out in the field of agriculture, which began to adapt to

the interests of the empire. In terms of economic importance, horticulture (along with viticulture) is the third largest branch of agriculture in the region after



cotton and grain. Gardening is one of the main branches of the economy, which has long been engaged in by the population of the region, and favorable weather contributed to its development.

Information about the agriculture of the region and important information is given in the works L.N Sobolev, O. Kostenko, N.A. Maev, A. Fedchenko, V. Zaorskaya and K. Alexander, S. Gulishambarov, A. Shakhnazarov, S. Konopka, V. Masalsky, Gubarevich-Radobylsky and others. In addition, a collection of materials for Samarkand regional statistics, published by the Samarkand regional department of statistics in various fields, "Samarkand regional reviews for 1888-1910", 10 editions of the "Samarkand regional reference book" and Samarkand 17 issues of the "Address-Calendar" of the region contain statistics on agriculture. Also in the book "Statistical Review of Samarkand district" by the head of the Samarkand district, Lieutenant Colonel A. Brzezitsky, the history of the district, geography, territorial boundaries, irrigation sources, geology, statistics of communications. However, these statistics should be studied in comparison with other sources, as they reflect the interests of the empire and do not fully reflect the state and status of any direction or sector.

### THE MAIN FINDINGS AND RESULTS

The empire carried out the rational cultivation of horticultural crops in the region, pest control, familiarization with the drying of fruits and grapes. According to archival data, a fruit tree nursery was established in Samarkand to distribute seedlings to the population [1]. The goal of the Russian administration was to satisfy the empire's need for wet and dried fruits. As a result, the planting of fruit trees in the area continued, as in previous periods.

Also at the beginning of 1912, the tsarist administration established the position of a leading specialist in

horticulture at the Department of Land Management and Land Affairs in order to further develop horticulture in three regions of Turkestan (Syrdarya, Ferghana, Samarkand) [2]. For the expansion of horticulture throughout the region, this specialist gave his suggestions and recommendations. At the same time, the empire created agricultural inspectors to develop agriculture in the region and to make suggestions and recommendations to farmers. According to archival data, the following inspectors worked in the region in 1913: Cotton-growing at the Khilkovo station of the Central Asian Railway in the village of Sreten (Armin Petrovich Lokk), in the village of Nau (Mikhail Alexandrovich Yuzenkov), in the village of Nadezhdinskoe (Pavel Dmitrievich Deryabin), at the Golodnaya Step station (Ivan Nikolayevich Salyn), in Jizzakh (Gerasim) in the village of Chelak (Velgelm Augustovich Rittix), in the village of Yangikurgan, Kattakurgan district (Fedor Nikolaevich Galushkin), in the village of Kulbasti, Polvonarik volost, Samarkand district (Fedor Ivanovich Suyatin); On land in Samarkand (Petr Pavlovich Medvedev); In horticulture: Самарқанд шаҳрида Бераццагинский деган жойда (инспектор Nikolai Pavlovich Ilyuxin); Mikhail Ivanovich Bekin in Samarkand on viticulture; Nikolai Efimovich Egorov in silkworm breeding in Alexandrovskaya, Samarkand [1.17]. Recommendations and manuals developed by these specialists were delivered to the regions by the Samarkand regional administration and their implementation was monitored.

Local fertilizers have long been used in the region to produce and maintain a rich harvest of agriculture, horticulture and gardening. After the province was colonized, the empire intervened in this area and agronomic services were established throughout the country. In particular, the sale of fertilizers by the state and the production of agricultural machinery were organized in three places: in the city of Samarkand, in



the villages of Mirzachul and Sreten [1.52]. Fertilizers and agricultural machinery will be produced at these three locations and delivered to the regions.

Personnel of agronomists: regional agronomic department; 7 cotton instructors; consisted of 4 instructors in the dry lands of agriculture, viticulture, horticulture and silkworm breeding. The main task of the personal staff of agronomists was to raise and propagate all types of agriculture. In the process of teaching the population to cultivate the land, specially organized pilot experimental plots played an important role in the rational acquaintance with the culture of farming and horticulture, as well as in propaganda work. In particular, a small experimental farm was established in 1871 in Zarafshan district for the development of land cultivation, horticulture and gardening [3]. The aim of the royal administration was to meet the needs of the empire for all agricultural crops.

Viticulture was one of the most developed types of horticulture. From the first years of the colonization of the empire, the region focused on the establishment of a school for the cultivation of local and foreign varieties of grapes along the orca in order to meet the demand for grape products [3. 5]. This work was to be carried out on the small experimental farm mentioned above.

The main grape growing area in the region is Samarkand district, where a total of 24 varieties of grapes are grown [4]. In particular, in 1896 in 26 volosts of Samarkand district a total of 24,320 tanobs (6080 desyatina) were planted with grapes.. The consistent development of viticulture in the county can be assessed by comparing the following data: The area occupied by vineyards in the county in 1872 was 7855 acres according to tax records, and by 1896 - 24320 acres. That is, in the 23-year period from 1872 to 1896, the area under vineyards grew by 320.3 percent, or an average of 14 percent per year [4. 54-55].

The existing irrigated areas in the region are distributed according to the importance of agricultural crops for the population. In particular, the area occupied by vineyards accounted for about 5 percent of the total area of artificially irrigated land in the county. For 10 years 291 rubles 20 coins or 29 rubles 12 coins per year were spent on planting and processing the bushes of a young vine. The gardener and the guard lived in the vineyard from March to November and brought clothes and food along with an average salary of up to 40 rubles for these 8 months of work [4. 63-66]. The harvested crop was used to make raisins (soy and raisins) and wine, as well as for daily consumption. In small local vineyards, fruit picking was usually done by the owners themselves and their families, while in large vineyards, the daily workers took 40 coins per day from the owner. It took 5 laborers to harvest the fruit from a single vineyard.

The vineyards were opened from mid-March to April 15, and closed in late September and October. There was no clear information about the area occupied by the gardens. In 1893, vineyards were estimated to occupy 6,500 acres in the province. Of these: 3,200 desiatins in Samarkand district, 1,116 desiatins in Kattakurgan district, 2,000 desiatins in Khojand district and 184 desiatins in Jizzakh district. Total - 6500 desyatina [6]. The main grape growing area of the region was Samarkand district, where the following types of grapes were grown: 1. Doroi. 2.surhak 3.tana-safidok 4.shuvurgon 5.aq kishmish 6.bakhtiyori 7.qorahusayni 8.charos 9.soxibi 10.maska 11.vasarga 12.oq toifi 13.shakir-angur 14.husayniy-lyunda 15.husayniy -murchamion 16.lyaali-yakdon 17.sultoniy 18.sariangush 19.bixishti 20.qizil category 21.tuyatish 22.husayni kilim barm 23.turxmani 24.chashma-gusalya [4.48].

In the second half of the XIX century - the beginning of the XX century, the area occupied by vineyards, the state of the harvest and prices were given in statistical



materials and archival documents. According to him, the area occupied by vineyards can be seen to have increased. In particular, the vineyards, which in 1890 had 5773 destinations, tripled in 1913 after 23 years to 15,603 desiatins. According to statistical reports, the area occupied by vineyards in different periods in the districts by region: In 1890 Samarkand district 3099, Khojand district 1310, Kattakurgan district 1251, Jizzakh district 149, a total of 5773 ½ desyatina [7], in 1895 Samarkand district 3200, Kattakurgan district 1033, Jizzakh district 314, Khojand district 610 [155 ], In 1897 Samarkand district 4390, Kattakurgan district 997, Jizzakh district 440, Khojand district 2005, a total of 7832 desyatina [9]. In 1910, the total number of vineyards in the province was 34,904, and the area occupied by vineyards was 15,218 desiatins. These statistics show that in different years the largest vineyards in the region were in Samarkand and Khojand districts, and the smallest vineyards were in Jizzakh district. This, in turn, was due to the natural geographical location and irrigation capabilities of the regions, as well as the fact that the population has long been engaged in this field. Both local and new European methods were used to grow grapes in the region. Representatives of the Russian colony noted that the method of growing grapes, which has been formed in the region for centuries, attracted the attention of European winemakers and was recognized as the best method.

Local grapes contain 23 to 25 percent sugar, which is mainly used to make raisins and molasses and is often a sugar substitute. Because of these aspects, the empire focused on the development of viticulture. As a result, the area occupied by vineyards has been expanding from year to year. In particular, the yield of vineyards in the region in different years by regions was as follows: In 1890, 2973898 pounds [7. 2] (Samarkand 1549500, Khojand 655000, Kattakurgan 680680, Jizzakh 82718), 6239000 pud in 1894, 2745000

pud in 1895 [8.12] (Samarkand 1600000, Khojand 750000, Kattakurgan 300000, Jizzakh 95000), in 1897 2347100 pud. 13] (Samarkand 1317000, Kattakurgan 229000, Jizzakh 129600, Khojand 601500), in 1910 2822711 pud (Samarkand district 975545 pud, Kattakurgan district 328170 pud, Jizzakh district 210131 pud, Khojand district 1308865 pud) [10. 20], in 1913 2736085 pud [1. 13]. From these statistics, it can be seen that the main grape-growing region, Samarkand district, has higher yields than other regions, followed by Khojand and Kattakurgan, followed by Jizzakh district. Even in 1910, the highest yield in the region was obtained from Khojand district.

The grapes grown by the people of the province provided for the people of the empire in addition to the locals, and were cheap. According to archival data, grapes were as cheap as all other fruits, and in 1893, despite poor harvests due to bad weather, they sold 40 to 60 coins per pound at the same low prices as in previous years. Outside the region and in European Russia, a pound is sold at a price of 1 to 2 rubles [6. 18].

## CONCLUSION

In short, in the second half of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century, regional horticulture was adapted to the interests of the empire, and a number of related reforms were carried out. The experimental plantations, small experimental farms, and schools set up to expand and develop this area served primarily to satisfy the needs and interests of the empire.

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