

Counties performance evaluation of cereal production in Albania

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Abstract

Agriculture is one of the most important sectors of the Albanian economy. Agricultural production occupies for about 1/5 of the country's GDP. Agricultural production includes all realized production in all counties of the country. Cereal constitutes a significant part in agricultural production, which are grown all over the country. The main cereals cultivated in the country are wheat, maize, rye, barley and oats. The highest level of cereal production in Albania is reached in low and coastal counties and the lowest levels of cereal production are reached in mountainous counties. The production potentials of the agricultural sector are bigger than that. For this purpose there is a need of finding ways and manners to increase agricultural production in general, which affects the growth of employment and welfare, economic growth and poverty alleviation in rural areas. In this context, the counties performance evaluation related to cereal production and the identification of their productive opportunities in these agricultural cultures has a big interest. In this paper, the productive performance of the counties has been evaluated by using the Data Envelopment Analysis (DEA) method as a method for performance evaluation and benchmarking.

Keywords: performance, counties, Data Envelopment Analysis (DEA).

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