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SOURCE 1952 Jen-min Shou-ts'e (People's Handbook), pp 354-356

SOVIET EXPERTS AID CHINESE AGRICULTURE

Comment and Summary: The first section of this report, originally from a Hsin-hua She news release of 8 November 1951, reveals that Soviet agricultural specialists in China are supplying advice on crop production, animal husbandry, and agricultural machinery designing, as well as assisting in the formulation of government regulations, especially in the field of animal disease prevention.

The second section, cited from the Peiping Jen-min Jih-pao of 14 May 1952, sets forth the ideas of Lysenko, the Soviet agronomist, on the application of scientific ideas in Chinese agriculture and the responsibilities of agricultural scientists.]

Soviet Advice, Assistance

In cotton culture, Ch'u Yao-li, nationally famous Shansi cotton producer, adopted close planting, with 3,160 plants to a mou. Under the direction of the Soviet expert Lysenko, the Shuang-ch'iao State Farm, near Peiping, raised 4,000 cotton plants per mou, with very successful results.

Rotation of grass with cultivated crops is another innovation of Soviet experts. It improves soils and reduces weed growth. A number of state farms are adopting the practice. High production figures such as 1,889 cattles of cotton, 1,350 cattles of wheat, and 1,975 cattles of rice per mou, respectively, have been attained under the direction of Soviet experts.

In the field of veterinary medicine, Bondarenko, a Soviet expert, assisted in the elimination of an outbreak of hoof-and-mouth disease that threatened to become nationwide. He introduced fumigation of raw pelts and methods for long-range prevention of hoof-and-mouth disease. He also aided the government in drawing up animal-disease-prevention regulations, as well as in implementing antirinderpest programs. Soviet experts also have aided in instituting a program of strict pasteurization, isolation of sick animals, and proper disposition of diseased carcasses, instead of the old, blind dependence on injections alone.

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Troitskiy, a Soviet expert, has given valuable advice in the development of livestock stations and promotion of livestock management and feeding programs. In artificial insemination breeding programs the rate of conception in mares has risen to 85 percent at the K'o-shan Hsien Livestock Station in Heilungkiang.

Malakhitonov, Chernikov, and Belov, Soviet experts, gave training lectures in winter 1950 to classes of workers and staff members of state farms. In these lectures they emphasized the close relationship between mechanical knowledge and knowledge of agricultural principles in the successful use of farm machinery to increase production. The Soviet experts have also given much help in the development of farm-machinery factories. Kutsuliyechov, a Soviet expert, aided in designing the four-row seeders now being manufactured at the North China Central Farm Machinery Factory.

Lysenko assisted in developing the aerial insecticide dusting program.

Lysenko Discusses Improved Techniques

Lysenko, a Russian agronomist serving as a specialist with the government of the People's Republic of China, in a lecture to a training class of Chinese state farm cadres, held in Peiping, made certain observations on agricultural techniques in China.

Lysenko stated, in discussing the high cotton [unginned]-production record (912 catties per mou) of Ch'u Yao-li in Shansi, that if Ch'u would increase the number of his cotton plants per mou from 3,163 to 4,000 plants, he could raise his production to 1,500 catties per mou. While the present areas of high production are limited, they can be continuously expanded, and for this, agricultural technicians are responsible. Scientific theories will have to be applied in Chinese agriculture to achieve these results, and with such application there need be no arbitrary limits to production.

Lysenko pointed out shortcomings in the operations of some of the state farms which the workers were inclined to gloss over, attributing the results of their mistakes to natural calamities such as insects and hail. Lysenko said that farmers must master the forces of nature and not permit such calamities to hinder production.

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