

## OPTIMIZATION OF VEGETABLES FOR CONSUME IN FRESH CONDITION PRODUCTION STRUCTURE

Nebojsa NOVKOVIC\*, Tomo KRASNIC, Goran NIKOLIC

University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Agriculture, Serbia

\*(Corresponding author: nesann@polj.uns.ac.rs)

### Abstract

Vegetables production has important role in rural development. The real hypothesis for it, are: Production time of vegetables is relatively short, what give opportunity for 2-4 seeds by year; return of the capital is faster; high economic effectiveness and efficiency; vegetables is very important “healthy food”; there are a 20-30 sorts of vegetables for production in our conditions; vegetables production is very intensive.

In this paper the vegetables production structure was optimizing. Only production of vegetables for consume is optimizing. The method of linear programming is applied, by using the LINDO program. In the model for optimization, 26 of sort of vegetables are planned. Depends of vegetables position in the sowing structure, in model was included 55 independent variables, in total. For objective function, the gross margin is used (difference of total value of production, and direct variable costs (material, and external services).

The standard technologies in irrigation and actual prices of outputs and inputs are used in calculation. In the model are included next grope of constrains: agro-technical, bio-technical constrains, limitations of land capacity (first, second and third sowing), market limitations, while, limitations of manpower and machinery capacity in the months of the intensive works are not included.

The results of optimizing are showed that 41 independent variables are included in optimal structure of production. The index of soil usage is 276 %. Structure of soil usage is next: 100 % in first sowing, 98 % of second sowing, and 78 % of third sowing. Gross margin in that, optimal structure of vegetables production for consume in fresh condition is 37.500 euro per hectare of farm, per year.

**Key words:** vegetables, production, optimization

### Introduction

The main objective of this paper is to define, solve and analyze the general model for optimization sowing structure of vegetable for consume in fresh condition. On the problem of optimal vegetable production structure works Novkovic, Radojevic (2002), and Krasnic (2004), who is defined optimal models of industrial vegetables production, and vegetables for consuming fresh condition, in agricultural enterprises, and farms. Novkovic (1990, 2003), and Novkovic, Somogyi (1991) defined models for multi/criteria optimization of agricultural production.

From the aspects of using operational research methods in vegetable production, Mutavdzic et. al. (2010), and Novkovic et. al. (2009) gave contribution.

The model for optimization of vegetables for consume in fresh condition production structure, is classical model of linear programming. The Objective function is maximal economic effectiveness, as the absolute measure of economic success, expressed in money. Category which is used for express economic effectiveness is gross margin, as a difference of total

value of production, and direct variable costs (material, and external services) in vegetables production.

### Method of Research and Data Source

For optimizing of vegetables production for consume in fresh condition, based on maximal effectiveness, the classical model of linear programming is used. In the concrete model, is included 26 different kinds of vegetables. Some kind of vegetables can be included for a few times in the model, depend of sowing order (first, second, third sowing), so the total number of independent variables in concrete model is 55.

In the model is defined soil capacity on 10 hectares, and limits for second and third sowing. For that limitations the important was earlier crop (vegetable kind), and period of production, and time of sowing. That needs to define large number of agro-technical limitations. Total number of limitations in the model is 58.

The coefficient of objective function criteria is planned gross margin per hectare. Planned coefficient is accounted based on modern agro-technology of production, and actual prices of direct inputs of production, and vegetables for consume in fresh condition. Criteria function is maximal planned gross margin (value of production minus direct variable costs), what means that gross margin consist of: fix cost, indirect cost, farmers labor cost, and profit.

### Result of research

#### Definition of mathematical model of linear programming

The general model for optimizing of vegetables production for consume in fresh condition has a next structure:

#### *Independent variables:*

$$X_{ijk} > 0$$

$X_{ijk}$  – area of vegetables from group „i“, kind „j“ in sowing order „k“ in res.

$$i = 1(1)6; \quad j = 1(1)15; \text{ vegetables king} \quad k = 1(1)3;$$

i=1 root vegetables

k=1 first sowing

i=2 bulb vegetables

k=2 second sowing

i=3 tubers vegetables

k=3 third sowing

i=4 fruit-bearing vegetables

i=5 pulses vegetables

i=6 leafy vegetables

#### *Matrix of limitations:*

1. Limitation of soil capacity in the first sowing (10 hectare, or 1000 acres)
2. Limitations of soil capacity for the second sowing (limitations from 2, to 15)
3. Limitations of soil capacity for the third sowing (limitations from 16, to 26)
4. Biotechnical and agro-technical limitations – limitations of maximal and minimal areas of certain kind of vegetables (limitations from 27 to 58).

**Objective function:**

Maximizing of effectiveness (gross margin):

$$\sum_{i=1}^6 \sum_{j=1}^{15} \sum_{k=1}^2 gm_{ijk} X_{ijk} = GM_x$$

 $gm_{ijk}$  = planned gross margin per acres of independent variables  $X_{ijk}$  (RSD/ )

 $GM_x$  = Maximal total gross margin (RSD).

**Solution of the model**

Optimal solution, or defining of optimal sowing structure of vegetables intended for consume in fresh condition was achieved after 37 iterations, and it is presented in **table 1**. From the potential 55 independent variables in optimal solution (optimal sowing structure) is included 41.

In the model are not included limitations of direct man labor in the periods of seasonal works, because it is presumption that it is possible to provide enough good seasonal workers. Also, limitations of certain kinds of machinery are not included, too. The presumption is that, those limitations are not real limitations of production, considering the farm size (1000 acres, or 10 hectares).

In the optimal sowing structure are included: 3.99 ha (14.5%) of root vegetables, 2.51 ha (9.1%) of bulb vegetables, 1 ha (3.6%) of tubers vegetables, 1.99 ha (7.2%) of fruit-bearing vegetables, 4.77 ha (17.3%) of pulses vegetables and 13.34 ha (48.3%) of leafy vegetables.

Optimal sowing structure in sowing order (first, second, third sowing) is presented in **table 2**. Based of table data it is possible to see that for second sowing is 97% of soil and for the third sowing 78% of area of first sowing.

Maximal gross margin in optimal sowing structure of vegetables for consume in fresh conditions 42.8 millions of RSD. Converted in euro it is about 350 thousand. Calculated per hectares of farm size (10 hectare), it is 4.3 million RSD/ha, or 35 thousand euro/ha. The real indicators were obtained when calculate gross margin on hectares of used soil in all three sowing, what is 276 ha. In that case, maximal gross margin per unit of land of the farm, per year is 1.55 million RSD/ha, or 12.900 euro /ha.

**Table 1 Optimal solution of model (optimal sowing structure)**

| Label<br>i j k | Vegetables                          | Area<br>( ) | Label<br>i j k | Vegetables                           | Area<br>( ) |
|----------------|-------------------------------------|-------------|----------------|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| X 1 2 2        | Carrot, after kale                  | 22          | X 4 6 2        | Eggplant, after peas                 | 11          |
| X 1 5 2        | Celery, after radish                | 111         | X 4 7 2        | Pickles after green bean             | 11          |
| X 1 8 1        | Spring radish                       | 133         | X 4 8 2        | Early cucumber, after spring lettuce | 22          |
| 1 9 3          | Winter radish, after early cucumber | 22          | X 4 9 2        | Late cucumber, after spring lettuce  | 22          |
| X 1 10 3       | Winter radish, after eggplant       | 11          |                | <b>Fruit-bearing vegetables</b>      | <b>199</b>  |
| X 1 11 2       | Autumn daikon, after green bean     | 33          | X 5 1 1        | Peas                                 | 377         |
| X 1 12 1       | Early chard                         | 67          | X 5 2 1        | Green bean                           | 33          |

|         |   |            |          |   |              |
|---------|---|------------|----------|---|--------------|
|         | <b>Root vegetables</b>                                  | <b>399</b> | X 5 2 2  | Turnip green bean, after early cabbage                                      | 45           |
| X 2 1 1 | New onion   | 22         | X 5 2 3  | Turnip green bean, after early cucumber                                     | 22           |
| X 2 3 1 | Spring garlic   | 22         |          | <b>Pulses vegetables</b>  | <b>477</b>   |
| X 2 4 3 | Winter garlic, after pepper from seed + celery          | 95         | X 6 1 1  | Spring lettuce  | 67           |
| 2 6 2   | Leek after early chard                                  | 34         | 6 4 3    | Autumn lettuce, after carrot  | 22           |
| X 2 7 2 | Winter leeks, after early cauliflower                   | 45         | X 6 5 3  | Winter lettuce, after pepper from seeds & seedlings + tomato from seedlings | 66           |
| X 2 8 2 | Autumn leek after early potato                          | 33         | X 6 6 1  | Spring spinach  | 67           |
|         | <b>Bulb vegetables</b>                                  | <b>251</b> | X 6 6 3  | , after early tomato from seedlings   | 45           |
| X 3 1 1 | Early potato  | 67         | X 6 7 3  | Winter spinach, after carrot+ cauliflower +kale + turnip green bean         | 500          |
| X 3 2 1 | Potato  | 33         | X 6 8 1  | Early cabbage   | 45           |
|         | <b>Tubers vegetables</b>                                | <b>100</b> | X 6 8 2  | Late cabbage, after spring garlic   | 11           |
| X 4 1 2 | Pepper from seed, after spring radish peppers from seed | 22         | X 6 9 1  | Early Kale  | 22           |
| X 4 2 2 | Pepper from seedlings after spring garlic               | 22         | X 6 10 2 | Late kale, early potato   | 67           |
| X 4 3 2 | Tomato from seed, after spring lettuce                  | 22         | X 6 11 1 | Early cauliflower   | 45           |
| X 4 4 2 | Early tomato from seedlings, after spring spinach       | 45         | 6 11 2   | Late cauliflower, after green bean  | 366          |
| X 4 5 2 | Tomato from seedlings, after spring spinach             | 22         | X 6 12 2 | Late cabbage, after spring garlic   | 11           |
|         |   |            |          | <b>Leafy vegetables</b>   | <b>1.334</b> |

**Table 1 Optimal sowing structure of vegetables for consume in fresh condition, in sowing order**

| Label | Vegetables  | Area<br>( ) | Label | Vegetables   | Area<br>( ) |
|-------|---|-------------|-------|--|-------------|
| X181  | Spring radish   | 133         | X462  | Eggplant, after peas   | 11          |
| X1121 | Early chard   | 67          | X472  | Pickles after green bean   | 11          |
| X211  | New onion   | 22          | X482  | Early cucumber, after<br>spring lettuce  | 22          |
| X231  | Spring garlic   | 22          | X492  | Late cucumber, after<br>spring lettuce   | 22          |
| X311  | Early potato  | 67          | X272  | Winter leeks, after early<br>cauliflower   | 45          |
| X321  | Potato  | 33          | X522  | Turnip green bean, after<br>early cabbage  | 45          |
| X511  | Peas  | 377         | X682  | Late cabbage, after<br>spring garlic   | 11          |
| X521  | Green bean  | 33          | X1112 | Autumn daikon, after<br>green bean   | 33          |
| X611  | Spring lettuce  | 67          | X6102 | Late kale, early potato  | 67          |
| X661  | Spring spinach  | 67          | 6112  | Late cauliflower, after<br>green bean  | 366         |
| X681  | Early cabbage   | 45          | X6122 | Late cabbage, after<br>spring garlic   | 11          |
| X691  | Early Kale  | 22          | X282  | Autumn leek after early<br>potato  | 33          |
| X6111 | Early cauliflower   | 45          |       | <b>Second sowing</b>   | <b>977</b>  |
|       | <b>First sowing</b>   | <b>1000</b> | 193   | Winter radish, after early<br>cucumber   | 22          |
| X122  | Carrot, after kale  | 22          | X1103 | Winter radish, after<br>eggplant   | 11          |
| X152  | Celery, after radish  | 111         | X243  | Winter garlic, after<br>pepper from seed + celery                                      | 95          |
| 262   | Leek after early chard  | 34          | 643   | Autumn lettuce, after<br>carrot  | 22          |
| X412  | Pepper from seed, after<br>spring radish peppers<br>from seed | 22          | X523  | Turnip green bean, after<br>early cucumber   | 22          |
| X422  | Pepper from seedlings<br>after spring garlic                  | 22          | X653  | Winter lettuce, after<br>pepper from seeds &<br>seedlings + tomato from<br>seedlings   | 66          |
| X432  | Tomato from seed, after<br>spring lettuce                     | 22          | X663  | , after<br>early tomato from<br>seedlings  | 45          |
| X442  | Early tomato from<br>seedlings, after spring<br>spinach       | 45          | X673  | Winter spinach, after<br>carrot + late cauliflower+<br>late kale+ turnip green<br>bean | 500         |
| X452  | Tomato from seedlings,<br>after spring spinach                | 22          |       | <b>Third sowing</b>  | <b>783</b>  |

## Conclusion

The model for optimization production structure of vegetables for consume in fresh condition is showed the next:

- From potential 55 independent variables in first, second and third sowing in optimal sowing structure are included 41 variables from each group of vegetables: root vegetables 7, bulb vegetables 6, tubers vegetables 2, fruit-bearing vegetables 9, pulses vegetables 4, and leafy vegetables 13 variables;
- Optimal structure of production provide from ten hectares of land gross margin of 42.8 millions RSD, or 350 thousand euro.
- Optimal sowing structure of production of vegetables for consume in fresh condition provide 276 % of land usage, the most important factor of production on the farm;
- Usage of land with 276 % in intensive production, provide to farmers gross margin of 12.900 euro//ha of used land in tree sowing, per year.

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