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**BASIC PRINCIPLES OF ORGANIC AGRICULTURE:
PRINCIPLES OF FAIRNESS AND CARE**

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Introduction. Adherence to the principles (health, ecology, fairness and care) is a top priority in organic agriculture aims not only at growing and producing quality food products, feed and raw materials for food and textile industries, but also at ensuring the balance between the system of agricultural production and natural processes, preserve exhaustible resources and leave one of the most important means of production.

Aim and tasks. The aim of this research is scientific and methodological substantiation of the need for the principles of fairness and care to be taken into account in the activity of the national organic agricultural producers at all stages of implementation and application of organic management practices.

Results. Specifies that economic, ecological and social expediency of organic is laid down in basic organic principles: health, ecology, fairness and care. Retrospective of the formation and improvement of the basic principles of organic agriculture by the International Federation of Organic Agricultural Movements is presented. The essence and main characteristics of four organic principles are considered and emphasis is placed on the principles of fairness and care. It is determined that the principle of fairness is characterized by objectivity in decision-making, respect for nature and society. It is noted that the principle of care, in its turn, implies that the management of organic farming should have preventive and responsible character to protect the health and well-being of both present and future generations and the environment. The structural-logical scheme of the essence and significance of the principles of fairness and care that are no less important than others for the sustainable development of the agrarian sphere is presented. It is emphasized that all principles have extremely close interconnection and interdependence; they complement each other and form a solid basis for the innovative balanced development of agriculture and the economy.

Conclusions. Summing up, it is noted that the basic principles are necessary in order to help to consciously manage the development of organic agriculture and to focus, coordinate organic movements in different countries. The principles of organic agriculture relate to how farming and food production are to be conducted. They should serve directly as guiding principles for practice and development, as well as the basis for developing more detailed principles, decision criteria, standards and rules.

Keywords: principles of organic agriculture, balanced development, fairness and care, organic products.

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ОСНОВОПОЛОЖНІ ПРИНЦИПИ ОРГАНІЧНОГО СІЛЬСЬКОГО ГОСПОДАРСТВА: СПРАВЕДЛИВІСТЬ ТА ТУРБОТА

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Вступ. Дотримання принципів (здоров'я, екологія, справедливість і турбота) є головним пріоритетом в органічному сільському господарстві, що націлене на забезпечення балансу між системою сільськогосподарського виробництва та природними процесами, збереження вичерпних ресурсів і залишення одного з найбільш важливих засобів виробництва.

Мета і завдання. Метою даного дослідження є науково-методичне обґрунтування необхідності врахування принципів справедливості та турботи в діяльності національних виробників органічного сільського господарства на всіх етапах впровадження та застосування методів органічного управління.

Результати. Подано ретроспективу формування та вдосконалення базових принципів органічного сільського господарства Міжнародною Федерацією органічного сільськогосподарського руху. Конкретизовано, що економічна, екологічна та соціальна доцільність органіки закладена у 4 органічних принципах (здоров'я, екології, справедливості та турботи) та акцентовано увагу на принципах справедливості та турботи. Розглянуто сутність та основні характеристики чотирьох органічних принципів. Визначено, що принцип справедливості характеризується об'єктивністю у прийнятті рішень, повагою до природи та суспільства, господарським ставленням. Зазначено, що принцип турботи, у свою чергу, передбачає, що управління органічним агровиробництвом повинне мати попереджувальний і відповідальний характер для захисту здоров'я й добробуту населення, так і довкілля. Наведено структурно-логічну схему сутності та значущості принципів справедливості та турботи, що є не менш важливими ніж інші для сталого розвитку аграрної сфери. Наголошено, що всі принципи мають надзвичайно тісний взаємозв'язок та взаємозалежності; вони доповнюють один одного та формують надійний базис для інноваційного збалансованого розвитку сільського господарства та економіки.

Висновки. Базові принципи необхідні для того, щоб допомогти усвідомлено керувати розвитком органічного сільського господарства та зосередити, координувати органічні рухи в різних країнах. Принципи органічного сільського господарства стосуються того, як треба вести сільське господарство та здійснювати виробництво харчових продуктів. Вони повинні слугувати безпосередньо керівними принципами для практики та розробок, а також основою для розробки більш детальних принципів, критеріїв прийняття рішень, стандартів і правил.

Ключові слова: принципи, органічне сільське господарство, збалансований розвиток, справедливість і турбота, органічна продукція.

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Introduction. Organic agriculture aims not only at growing and producing quality food products, feed and raw materials for food and textile industries, but also at ensuring the balance between the system of agricultural production and natural processes, preserve exhaustible resources and leave one of the most important means of production – the soil – just as productive and safe for the generations to come. Organic production methods considerably reduce the use of external inputs through almost full rejection of synthetic chemicals, such as mineral fertilizers, pesticides and veterinary medicinal products. That is, at the core of organic production there is harmonization of agricultural practice and environment with support of the natural potential of plants, animals and landscapes.

Organic farming practices have a number of indisputable advantages over conventional (intensive) management practices, set out by the pioneers of organic movement through the basic principles. Economic, ecological and social viability of the organic has been laid down in four organic principles: health, ecology, fairness and care. Adhering to these principles, while the fully-fledged organic area of the agricultural sector of Ukraine is being established, is top priority in the national business realia.

Analysis recent research and publications. Principles of organic agriculture have been the subject of scientific research by many domestic and foreign scientists. Thus, H. Alroe [1] investigated the needs, types and methods of identifying the principles of organic agriculture in order to find a balance between normative and ethical standards. L. Lutikholt [2], in his turn, considered the history of the formation and development of organic principles of IFOAM, and also brought a number of challenges facing society at the current stage of organic farming development. Scientists C.W. Whitney, K. den Braber, N.T. Tuyet, S.T. Jorgensen in their paper [3] investigated the practical results of the influence of the depth of the implementation of the principles on the effectiveness of organic agricultural production on the example of Vietnamese farms. Scientist V.Y. Urkevych [4] conducted a scientific analysis of the principles of production of organic agricultural products, enshrined in the legislation of Ukraine and disclosed their essence and content.

O.V. Khodakivska [5] substantiated the connection between the principles of organic agriculture and the environmentally sound development of the agrarian sector. T.O. Chaika [6] looked at organic agriculture as a multifunctional agro-ecological model for the production of organic agricultural products with defined goals, principles and methods based on careful management of agro-ecosystems. The team of scientists – O.I. Shkuratov, V.A. Chudovska, A.V. Vdovychenko [7] emphasized the importance of the principles of organic agriculture for the ecological and economic development of the agrarian sector.

In the light of a significant contribution of the scientists and practitioners mentioned above, it is deemed appropriate to consider the principles of fairness and care in more detail with the view to establish strong theoretical and methodological basis for development of multifunctional systems under organic management in the existing conditions for agricultural production in this country.

Aim and tasks. The aim of this research is scientific and methodological substantiation of the need for the principles of fairness and care to be taken into account in the activity of the national organic agricultural producers at all stages of implementation and application of organic management practices.

Results. Trends of organic agriculture and market development in the last twenty years leave no room for doubt as regards potential and progressiveness of organic farming practices for development of the national economies and societies of many countries, including Ukraine. Economic, ecological and social advantages of organic agricultural production every year prove their capability to take the agricultural sector to the due level of equilibrium and harmony with the environment, and to ensure high level of supply of high quality and healthy food products for the society. Commitment to sustainability has been from the very start embedded into organic practices by the pioneers of organic movement. The basic principles of organic production actually reflect the core of organic in terms of improvement and augmentation areas with the view to achieve balance of interests and needs of all leaving creatures on the planet.

Basic principles are needed in large part to counter many current structural and technological solutions that are being promoted by other values and general social arrangements. Demand for principles is especially obvious in relation to numerous new methods and technologies faced by organic agriculture due to advancement of technologies and increase in globalization.

The world around us is developing and changing; organic farming is not an exception and certainly advances along with it. But can all changes be acceptable in organic agricultural production? The principles can be specific reference points showing where, how and why one should control or prevent certain changes. The basic principles of organic agriculture have been established by the International Federation of Organic Agricultural Movements (IFOAM) involving all interested players from the whole world, including Ukraine (represented by the IFOAM member, the Organic Federation of Ukraine). This process was aimed at considering all values, starting from the pioneers of organic agriculture to the modern age of globalization and expansion of organic sector's development. Hence, the principles of health, ecology, fairness and care are viewed worldwide as the foundation from which organic agriculture grows and develops [2, p. 347].

From the end of 2003 to September 2005 IFOAM and its members have had discussions, taking part in definition of the principles of organic agriculture. By the very nature of this organization, which is a democratic federation, the process within IFOAM was carried out with involvement of participants from all levels and not from the top down. The process was finalized at the IFOAM general meeting in September 2005, when the "Principles of organic agriculture" were adopted [2, p. 350].

Having had the privilege to personally participate not only in the discussions but also in the voting at adoption of the above mentioned principles at the IFOAM International Congress in Adelaide (Australia), I would now like to offer you to consider these principles in more detail.

In conducting organic agriculture, the health of the soil, plants, animals, humans and the planet as a single and indivisible whole should be maintained and improved.

The essence of the first principle of health lies in the fact that the health of individuals and society can not be distinguished from the health of ecosystems - healthy soils cultivate healthy crops that will further support the health of animals and humans. Health is the basis for the unity and holistic of living systems. This means not only the absence of illnesses, but also the provision of well-being from the physical, psychological, social and environmental points of view. Organic agriculture in this sense plays the role of enhancer and maintainer of the health of ecosystems and organisms, ranging from simple organisms to humans. In particular, organic matter is a high-quality food product used to prevent diseases and welfare of society as a whole. This principle emphasizes the need to exclude fertilizers, veterinary drugs, pesticides and nutritional supplements from food production technologies that can have a negative impact on the health of all living creatures [8].

Previous studies have already elaborated on the organic principle of health and determined that it is fundamental to organic farming practices, since it is aimed at an extremely important social goal of organic matter - to provide the human body with high quality and safe nutrition and, at the same time, to maintain and improve it. the health of the soil, plants, animals and the planet as a single and indivisible whole [9].

Regarding the following principle, ecology, the International Federation of Organic Agricultural Movements (IFOAM) emphasizes the need to respect the principles of natural ecological systems and cycles on the basis of balance and support. The principle focuses on the dominance of natural processes and environmental processing. Environmentalization of the production environment is a prerequisite for effective support and well-being. For example, for plants – it is a living soil, for animals – the ecosystem of the farm, for fish and marine organisms - is a water environment. Principles of organic crop and livestock farming using natural systems in the wild must exist in a balanced and natural cycle. At the same time, it is necessary to manage organic agriculture with the features of local conditions, environment, culture and scales.

Of particular importance in modern economic conditions are reuse, utilization and efficient management of material resources and energy in order to increase the ecological quality of products and reduce the anthropogenic impact on the environment. All organic farming actors must protect and protect the environment, including landscapes, climate, habitats, biodiversity, air and water [8].

The principle of ecology was considered in a previous study [10] through the study of organic agriculture as a factor in accelerating the environmentalization of agricultural production. As a result, it was concluded that the environmental benefits of organic agriculture have proven their importance for decades of agrarian practice in many countries around the world. The concept of organic production, first of all, is aimed at reproduction of production in natural agroecosystems, relying on the restoration of biological processes, the development of biodiversity through the combination of agricultural traditions and the latest advances in science and technology for the benefit of the environment, harmonious development of rural areas and improving the quality and safety of life population. Only a full and comprehensive support of organic farming in Ukraine by authorities, academia, business and the general public can provide significant improvement in agro-ecological situation in domestic agricultural production realities [10, p. 81].

The other two principles, the principle of fairness and the principle of care, are equally important and significant for healthy development of organic agricultural sector in this country and in the whole world.

The principle of fairness is characterized by objectivity in decision-making, respect for nature and society, economic attitude, both between people, and in relations with other living beings. Humanity is also an important part of this principle, which must be observed in organic production processes at all levels and for all involved actors - farmers, workers, processors, sellers and consumers. Organic farming is focused on a high level of well-being and a significant contribution to the country's food security and the fight against poverty [11].

Of great importance is the emphasis on organic farming practices in the production of quality and safe products for society. Organic livestock practices should take into account as closely as possible the natural conditions of maintenance and care that correlate with the physiology of animals and the healthy state of the organism. Sustainable use of natural resources should become the main rule of management to take into account the interests of future generations. This principle, in addition, requires openness, equality and justifiable environmental and social costs in the production, transportation and trade of organic products.

The care principle, in turn, observes that organic farming management must have a preventive and responsible character in order to ensure a minimum level of well-being and environmental friendliness for future generations. Organic farming is aimed at supporting life and dynamics on the planet. Organized farming improves the productivity of agricultural production without compromising the health, well-being and welfare of people and other living creatures. They are open to innovation and are constantly reviewing existing production methods to better understand and take into account the regularities of the functioning of ecosystems and sustainable agriculture.

Caution and responsibility in the focus of this principle, as key components in the choice of methods and production technologies. Scientific research and practical experience at the same time, are objectively necessary for the adoption of effective managerial decisions. Only a set of scientific achievements, accumulated wisdom, traditional and local knowledge will guarantee a healthy, safe and ecological future. Care, in addition, also involves the prevention of risks associated with untested technologies, the consequences of which are difficult to predict, such as genetic engineering. Solutions must take into account the values and needs of all those whose interests may be affected by transparency and joint decision-making [12].

It is considered practical to show the core and significance of the principles of fairness and care as a structural and logical scheme (fig. 1).

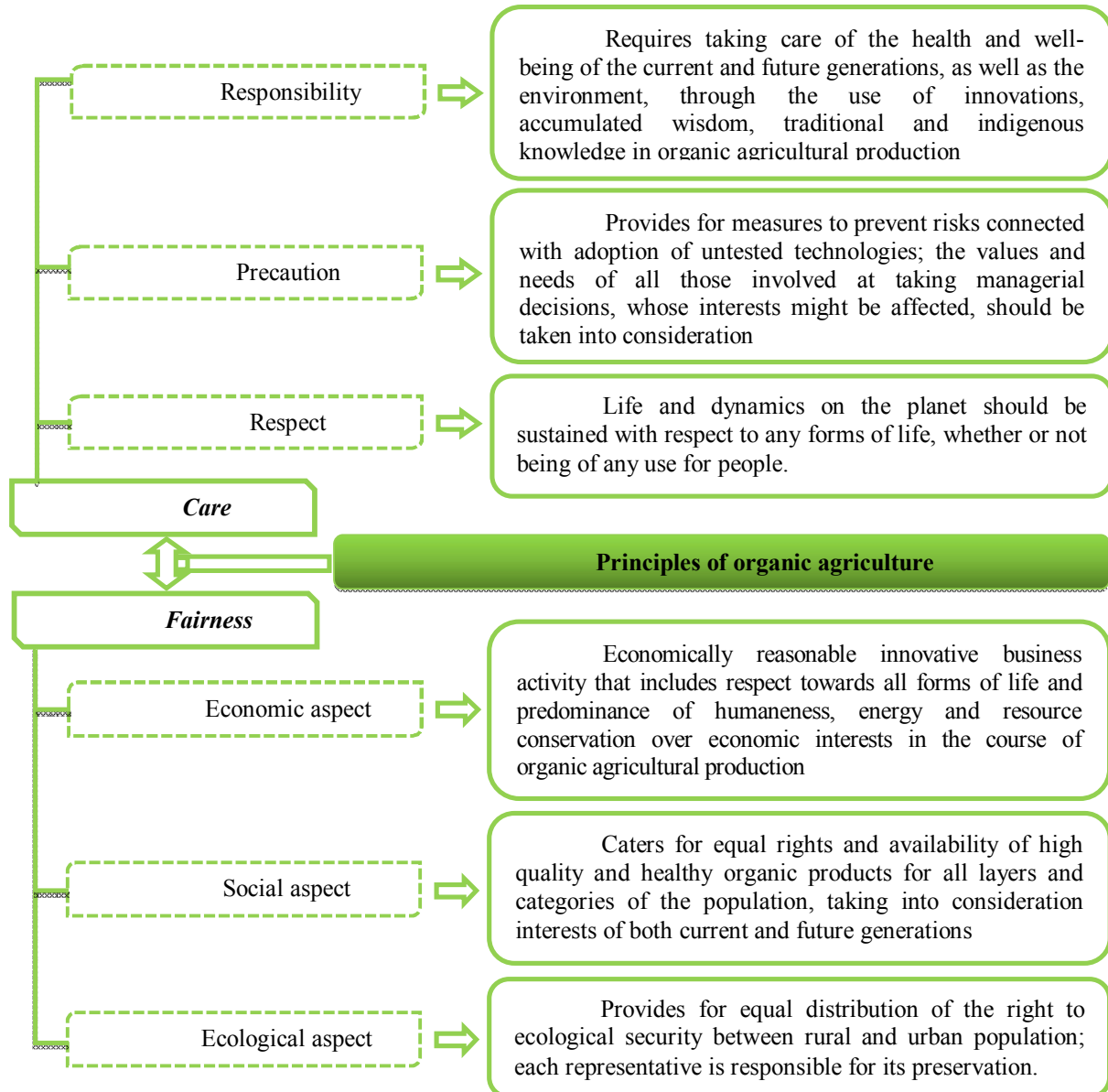


Fig. 1. Structural and logical scheme of the core of the organic principles of fairness and care
 Source: author's original development.

That is to say that the principles of fairness and care are no less important than the principles of ecology and health for sustainable growth of any state. Besides, all four principles are very closely connected with and depend on each other; they complement one another and form a reliable basis for the innovative and balanced development of agriculture and economy. Thus, the core organic principles can help: confront the risks and dangers to sustainability and equilibrium of agriculture in our country; promote growth and expansion of organic agriculture to new spheres; plan scientific research and development of organic rules and norms of economic management; and serve as guidelines for practice and taking efficient and time-tested managerial solutions.

Conclusion. Summing up the research, it should be noted that the basic principles are necessary to help manage the development of organic agriculture and coordinate, focus organic movements in different regions and countries. They should serve directly as guidelines for practice and developments, as well as the basis for elaborating more detailed principles, criteria for taking decisions, adopting standards and rules.

Principles of organic agriculture deal with the way to carry out agricultural production and manufacture food products. Therefore they should be both regulatory and ethical principles with sufficient correlation and guiding forces.

They concern only some aspects of our life and activity, focusing on our attitude towards natural systems and cycles in production of food, as well as on closely related aspects, such as our ability to affect nature (technologies) and our connections in the networks of entities where food is produced and consumed. Prospects for further research lie in the fact that globalization in trade influences and challenges organic agriculture, since it can lead to conventionalization of organic agriculture with the negative impact on the environment, animal wellbeing and development of rural territories, and thus on the image of “organic” as a whole. Principles of organic agriculture framed by IFOAM are based on the global participatory process and have

been recognized worldwide. They should be the core of organic practices, both certified and non-formalized. Besides, they function as the basis and growth area for organic agriculture in the modern globalized world. Elaboration of more rigid and detailed standards can actually be unfair towards the principles, since the former can undermine fair competition and access to markets. Nevertheless, some standards will always be necessary, even if they are minimum base lines/requirements. But standards have enabled globalization of organic agriculture. Therefore, the important area for further research is elaboration of solutions that make it possible to reach the balance between the principles and standards.

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