

ANALYSIS OF WORKING CONDITIONS OF AGRICULTURAL WORKERS

Ivashchenko M.Y.

O.M. Beketov National University of Urban Economy in Kharkiv

Agricultural work has been and remains one of the most labor-intensive and socially significant areas of activity. Workers in this industry ensure the country's food security, but at the same time they themselves often face difficult and sometimes unsafe working conditions.

A brief analysis of these conditions is considered:

1. Physical factors. Agricultural work is often done outdoors, which makes workers dependent on weather conditions. In summer, it can be heat, in winter, on the contrary, hypothermia. Constant physical exertion, carrying heavy objects, working in a bent position, standing for a long time - all this creates a high load on the musculoskeletal system and the cardiovascular system.

2. Mechanization and automation. Despite the development of agricultural machinery, a significant part of the work remains manual, especially in small and medium-sized enterprises. Even where tractors, combines, seeders and other equipment are used, the operator is faced with vibration, noise, exhaust gases and the need to perform work at night or in the morning. In addition, the equipment requires maintenance, which is associated with the risk of injury.

3. Chemical and biological factors. When using fertilizers, pesticides, insecticides and other agrochemicals, workers are exposed to toxic substances. If safety standards are not observed and personal protective equipment is not available, poisoning, allergies, chronic respiratory and skin diseases are possible. Biological risks include contact with pathogens of infectious diseases of animals and plants.

4. Psychophysiological stress. Agricultural work often requires long working hours, especially during the sowing and harvesting seasons. The lack of clear regulations on working hours, high responsibility for the harvest or livestock, and lack of rest lead to overwork and nervous exhaustion. In addition, there are frequent cases of working in isolated conditions, which also affects the psychoemotional state.

5. Sanitary and hygienic factors. Agricultural workers often face unsatisfactory living conditions: lack of hot water, sanitary facilities, places to rest. In addition, the level of wages in agriculture remains below the average for other industries, which reduces the attractiveness of the profession and does not contribute to improving working conditions.

Thus, the analysis of working conditions in agriculture shows that this area requires special attention from the state and employers. To improve the situation, it is necessary to modernize equipment, introduce modern means of protection, automate processes, and develop social infrastructure in rural areas. Without the proper level of control over the working conditions of agricultural workers, sustainable growth of the agricultural sector and food security of the country are impossible.