POSSIBILITIES AND PROBLEMS FINANCING THE HUNGARIAN AGRICULTURE

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Abstract: The solving and improving the problem of financing agriculture is one of the most important questions. The agriculture has many specialties compare to other sectors of national economy. In case of agriculture, the payback period is longer compare to industrial sector. That is why the capital prefers to flow to industry and commerce. The rate of credit for agricultural sector is varying from 19% to 2% compare to the total amount of outstanding. This rate is very low in every case. The main aims of financing the Hungarian agriculture are the following: Most important the competitiveness and profitability; reservation of agriculture and forestry with the aim of environment protection; advancing and bring to a level of other sectors the income- and social position of farmers.

Keywords: agricultural credit, loan breakdown, multi variable statistical method.

Introduction

The income shortage, which is typical of agriculture from long years, destroying the agriculture’s possibility for competitiveness and market acquisition in long-term. The consolidated income shortage of the primary sector is obviously opposed to the long-range interest of the rural population and the better utilization of the agri-resources.

In view of financing, banks have very difficult position, because the inquiring agricultural enterprises have the following specialties:

- using biological basis (animals, plants) during farmer activity;
- the agriculture is defenseless against weather conditions (mostly in the area of cultivation of plants), infections, epidemics (uncertainty of return);
- the most important mean of production is the ground;
- very typical that each process of production lasts for long time, that’s why the payback period of operating- and fixed assets and investment is longer than in any other branch of industry;
- difference between producing and working period;
- the producing is seasonal, which has influence for exploitation fixed assets and labour force (working peaks). Farmers need to take care for these specifics by planning production;
- the optimal date for each field of work is determinates by climate and weather conditions;
the timing structure of cash flow (spending and income) is different during a producing cycle. While spending appearing continuously during each working stage, the income can be realized mostly in the end of the cycle by selling products. This suppose the need of using external resources (loan, aid, credit);
product-circulation inside farm (connection between cultivation of plants and animal keeping);
some agricultural product (e.g. seed grain, breeding material) goes back to the same producing process as a mean of production;
the differences between means of production, raw materials and auxiliary materials sometimes totally indistinct (e.g. fertilizer);
very important peculiarity the geographical location.

Material and methods
The main methods of the research are statistical and theoretical analyses. The statistical data used for the examination come from the databank of the MNB. We have studied the distribution of the bank credit balance of 2005 according to the main sectors. The results were compared with the facts of the risk Graphic analysis was carried out with the help of Microsoft Excel.

Source: MNB 2006.

Figure 1. Distribution of the bank credit balance (2005.)

According to the evaluation of the credit leaders the (Figure 2.) shows the agricultural credit’s change of the risk.
The figures mean the following:
1: significantly more risky;
3: the risk has not changed;
5: the risk of the credit has significantly decreased.

According to the banks judgment of the agriculture in the studied period turned into a negative direction which can justify the stop of the growing tendency in the agricultural credit balance (Figure 2. ).
Figure 2. Agricultural credit’s change of the risk

The basic data of the following study derives from the annual report of the banks. (Table 1.). The connection between the data has been determined by principal component analysis, the results were provided by so-called “principal components” function of MINITAB program-package (Figure 4.).

Table 1. Loan breakdown by sector in 2003.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Raiffeisen (1)</th>
<th>K&amp;H(2)</th>
<th>OTP(3)</th>
<th>HVB(4)</th>
<th>MKB(5)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Service sector (C2)</td>
<td>195 356</td>
<td>202 799</td>
<td>79 992</td>
<td>260 549</td>
<td>497 535</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture (C3)</td>
<td>127 146</td>
<td>79 937</td>
<td>28 384</td>
<td>10 961</td>
<td>18 549</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction and processing industries (C4)</td>
<td>14 416</td>
<td>144 410</td>
<td>101 926</td>
<td>19 604</td>
<td>22 762</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food industry (C5)</td>
<td>40 192</td>
<td>60 611</td>
<td>36 592</td>
<td>21 249</td>
<td>39 036</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commerce (C6)</td>
<td>104 056</td>
<td>127 299</td>
<td>86 470</td>
<td>54 634</td>
<td>81 586</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy industry(C7)</td>
<td>18 811</td>
<td>51 121</td>
<td>87 089</td>
<td>29 407</td>
<td>63 479</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other(C8)</td>
<td>35 551</td>
<td>69 402</td>
<td>224 647</td>
<td>47 638</td>
<td>38 667</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private individuals (C8)</td>
<td>127 146</td>
<td>243 610</td>
<td>........</td>
<td>22 851</td>
<td>72 281</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>662 674</td>
<td>979 189</td>
<td>645 100</td>
<td>486 893</td>
<td>833 895</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Yearly reports of banks
The goal of the study is the exploration of the interaction between the original features (credit outsourcing) in the grouping completed according to the main factors, the two factors mean latent variants, which do not have a definite meaning. The two factors (Table 2.) were diagrammatized in a C2-C1 rectangular co-ordinate system with the help of the „graph-plot” function of the MINTATAB program package.

### Table 2. „U matrix”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>C1</th>
<th>C2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.77549</td>
<td>1.61760</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>2.88803</td>
<td>-0.11827</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>-0.39987</td>
<td>-2.72007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>-2.21337</td>
<td>0.61766</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>-1.05028</td>
<td>0.60308</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Based on point’s fixing up the similarities can be recognized more easily and those ones, which can be considered coherent, are easy to be marked off. C2 was diagrammatized on the horizontal axis of the chart, while C1 on the vertical one (Figure 5.).

![Figure 4. C matrix](image)

**Results**

Banks help the most favorable investment possibility of capital in exchange for interest. In case of agriculture because of cyclical productivity and long process the payback period is longer compare to industrial sector. That’s why the capital prefers to flow to industry and commerce. In 2005 the agricultural branch shared 6 % in the credits granted for the non – financial enterprises (Figure 1.). According to the banks judgment of the agriculture in the studied period turned into a negative direction which can justify the stop of the growing tendency in the agricultural credit balance (Figure 2.).

Banks help the most favorable investment possibility of capital in exchange for interest. In case of agriculture because of cyclical productivity and long process the payback period is longer compare to industrial sector. That’s why the capital prefers to flow to industry and commerce (Figure 3.). According to the examined banks’ data, Raiffeisen Bank had the biggest portfolio in agriculture sector in 2003. Earlier the K&H Bank had this role – in the time of ABN Amro Bank – but after the accession it lost its leading role. The rate of credit for agricultural sector is varying from 19% to 2% compare to the total amount of outstanding. This rate is very low in every case.

**Conclusion**

The income shortage, which is typical of agriculture from long years, destroying the agriculture’s possibility for competitiveness and market acquisition in long-term. The consolidated income shortage of the primary sector is obviously opposed to the
long-range interest of the rural population and the better utilization of the agri-
resources.

Every country, which made a special point of determination agri-policy, pointed
out the competitiveness, as the main watchword of target- and resource system.

The solution of the financing problems can be seen in the improvement of the
competitiveness, which has an encouraging effect on the banks’ more intensive role,
played in the agriculture through the more assured return of the loans.

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