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**IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ORGANIC FARMING PRINCIPLES AT  
THE TRAINING GROUND OF THE ECOLOGICAL COLLEGE OF LVIV  
NATIONAL AGRARIAN UNIVERSITY**

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**Problem statement.** The issue concerning the change of priorities from the traditional usage of land resources to the organic one is very important. Our black earth is the possibility of additional welfare for Ukrainians under the condition that they take care of the soil and have efficient intellectual abilities. This issue is particularly significant at the time when the methods of extensive farming are being employed despite the fact that the fundamental laws of nature are neglected and the only aim is to increase the crop yield and generate quick excess profit. The solution to this problem involves the alternative models of farming, launched at the training ground of the Ecological College of Lviv National Agrarian University.

**Discussion.** The most comprehensive definition of ecological (organic) farming is considered to be the system of agricultural management of agroecosystems, which is based on the utmost use of biological factors of the soil fertility increase, the implementation of agrotechnological measures for the protection of plants as well as on the optimal performance of other activities that provide for the ecologically, socially and economically efficient production of agricultural products.

In spring of 2017 during the educational practice and internship, at the training ground the students and teachers of the Ecological College of Lviv National Agrarian University worked on the creation of demonstration sites of various bed types, namely immersed and upper ones, the beds subjected to manual cultivation and those that require the involvement of technology; conducted an experiment on the growth of the rare but potentially productive crops, such as asparagus, earth-nut, pigweed, sorghum, eleusine, green-manweed, etc. on the planned, marked and laid-down 17 metre beds introduced by Rosum; carried out an experiment of unploughed growth of potato using the method of planting under straw; an experiment of the growth of table grape in the open soil in the Western part of Ukraine (3 ares) and an experiment of composting of various types of biodegradable waste aimed at producing quality fertilizers (composted fertilizer and biocompost); planted 5000 of black currant bushes, 1000 bushes of red currant, 700 seedlings of blue spruce; sowed 6 hectares of soy.

In the long run, in the territory of the training ground, it is planned: to draft the establishment of the Demonstration and Educational Centre of Organic

Farming and Permaculture as really functional stable household farming, to create the demonstration sites of organic farming and permaculture; to restore the house taking into account the ecological energy – saving technologies and the efficient system of waste disposal; to exhibit attractiveness and to increase profitability of household farming from the perspective of ecological and agricultural tourism; to conduct an experiment on the food waste disposal and on the production of organic fertilizers from the given waste in the separate area; using various technologies of composting and vermicomposting, to explore the processing speed, the quality of the end products and to evaluate the economic benefit; to establish a consultative centre with the support of the community, which will serve as an example of agricultural management, and to create relations between the local community and the local manufacturers of ecological products.

**Conclusion.** Therefore, considering all the afore – mentioned, one may state that within the framework of agrarian production, agriculture is the practical realization of the main provisions of the sustainability conception. In order to ensure professionalism of future ecologists, the study of “soil health” phenomenon and the technologies of production without pesticides should be introduced in the program of appropriate courses and consolidated into practice.

Thus, such innovations will help to overcome the current “theoretical-practical barrier” between the educational process and the employment market, as well as to create a real opportunity to provide proper competencies and increase the competitiveness of the graduates of educational institutions and educational establishment in particular in our state and abroad in future.

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