

THE THEORETICAL AND LEGAL ASPECTS OF AREA PAYMENTS IN LATVIA

Sanita Kļava, Irina Pilvere

Latvia University of Agriculture

e-mail: *Sanita.Klava@lad.gov.lv, Irina.Pilvere@llu.lv*

Abstract

The study summarises the theoretical and legal aspects of the main types of area payments in Latvia. From the point of view of theoretical and legal arrangements, the area payments may be broken down in two large groups: direct payments and area payments foreseen under Rural Development Programs. The legal package regulating Area Payments consists of the EU regulatory enactments (Council or Commission Regulations) and regulatory enactments of Latvia (Laws and the Cabinet (MK) Regulations). The institutional implementation system of each group of Area Payments is relevant and distinct. The present study analyses 11 different types of Area Payments. Over the period 2004 – 2007, farmers have received LVL 430 million in different Area Payments constituting 58.5% of the total amount of support.

Key words: Area payments, rural development, agriculture.

Introduction

The Accession Agreement foresees common rules for application of the direct support payment schemes in accordance with the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP). Through accession, Latvia has transposed the EU agricultural legislation, its goals and underlying principles. The total costs of the EU CAP are ~ EUR 53 billion per year which in 2007, took up 40 % of the total budgetary outlays (The Impact of..., 2008).

In Latvia, the direct payments are implemented within the Single Area Payment Scheme (SAPS). It means that agriculturalists have access to SAPS, as well as Complementary National Direct Payments (CNDP), a part of which are also Area Payments. Direct Area Payments in Latvia is an essential source of income for agricultural holdings. The EU statutory provisions foresee gradual increase of direct payments in the New Member States, stipulating that the new Member States will reach the level of the "old" Member States in 2013. (Agriculture and Rural..., 2007).

As a type of financial support Area Payments have been designed among other purposes, also to encourage rural development, furthermore having in view the coming CAP changes in the EU. In Latvia, it is a rather recent and scientifically understudied type of support. Separate issues of agriculture and rural development support have been studied at the Latvian State Institute of Agrarian Economy: A. Miglavs, G. Salputra (2008), V. Bratka (2005), D. Saktiņa, W.H. Meyers (2005), as well as at the Latvia University of Agriculture: I. Pilvere (2007), I. Pilvere and A. Rukmanis (2004, 2006), G. Mazūre (2005), V. Buģina and Ģ. Krūmiņš (2005).

Some research has been conducted also in other EU Member States, e.g., Lithuania where it is underlined that "...the role of agriculture in rural policy ...changed from a resource supplier for the industrial sector to an important and competitive sector of the economy" (Vidickiene, 2007), Poland "...the majority of people (particularly farmers) are convinced that the EU budget may endlessly provide funds for compensating chances and development of rural areas" (Kondratowicz-Pozorska and Mickiewicz, 2004). The scientists of Portugal consider that "Agriculture still not only plays an important role for rural communities' standard of living, but it is also responsible for ties of cooperation between members of local communities" (Piecuch, 2006).

Regarding the above, the following **hypothesis** was set forth for this study: in Latvia, relevant legal arrangements and institutional system was put in place for the implementation of Area Payments which constitute a material part of the total amount of the support financing. Thus, the above conditions and considerations suggested the **goal** of this study: study of the theoretical and legal aspects of Direct Payments, as well as the institutional system. The following **assignments** were formulated for the achievement of the identified goal:

- Study the theoretical aspects, types of support and the basic conditions for receiving support under Area Payments;
- Identify the main regulatory enactments governing Area Payments and the institutional system;
- Analyse the main results of the Area Payments' implementation in Latvia.

Materials and Methods

The following **methods** were applied: analysis of the regulatory enactments and findings of other scientists, theoretical discussion and classification. For delivering the assignments set forth in the study, a number of sources were used: EU documents, Republic of Latvia Laws, Cabinet Regulations governing Area Payments in Latvia, information obtained from the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) and the Rural Support Service (RSS), publications and specialized sources.

Results and Discussion

1. Theoretical Aspects of Area Payments in Latvia

Area Payments are the annual financial support to agriculturists disbursed for every unit (ha) of the farmed agricultural land (AL). As from 2007, in addition to SAPS and CNDP, farmers are eligible for support for crops with high energy value (CHEV) (The procedure for., 2007).

Area Payments are foreseen also in the Latvian Rural Development Plan for 2004-2006 and the Rural Development Program for 2007 – 2013 (RDP). Specifically:

- Less-favoured area support payment (LFA), accessible to farmers whose farmland is situated within the territory of LFA. The objective of this support payment is underpinning of sustainable agricultural activity making use of environmentally-friendly methods and providing for the income increase in agricultural holdings situated in less favoured areas. LFA cover 74.4 % of the whole territory of Latvia, comprising 1.81 million ha of agricultural land including arable land, meadows, pastures, permanent grassland.
- Support for farming in areas with environmental restrictions (AER). It is accessible if the farmland is situated within territories under special restrictions of the entrepreneurial activity.
- Agro-environment Measures incorporating several sub-measures: Development of Organic Farming (DOF), Maintenance of Biodiversity in Grasslands (BG), setting up of Buffer Zones (BZ) and Containing Erosion (CE) (Latvian Rural Development..., 2004; 2007).

The schematic breakdown by types of Area Payments is reflected in Table 1 below.

Table 1

Types of Area in Latvia in 2008

Direct Payments		RDP measures
Production-coupled payments	CNDP for arable crops	LFA
	CNDP for areas under feed crops	
	CHEV	Natura 2000
Decoupled payments	Decoupled area CNDP	Agri-environment measures
	Decoupled CNDP for young farmers in specific cases	
	SAPS	

Source: authors according to DSS data of 2005-2007.

The coupled payments constitute support related to current activities of the farmers (e.g. support for the cropped areas or the produced product units).

The de-coupled payments constitute support unrelated to agricultural activities: production of specific products, raising of bovine animals or use of specific production factors at the current moment. The payments de-coupled from production are called also historical payments for they constitute support granted for agricultural activities completed over a certain period in history or a reference period, which in Latvia is 2006.

Farmers (irrespective of their legal status), farming

AL, engaged in agricultural activities (production of agricultural products, growing and harvesting crops, etc.) or maintaining land in good agricultural and environmental condition (irrespective of the land tenure - ownership, rent or use) and undertaking all the related business risks, investing assets in land management or production of agricultural products are eligible to receive the Area Payments. (Guidebook on Receiving..., 2007).

The revenue of farmers from Area Payments depends upon the rate and the number of hectares actually farmed in conformity with the respective conditions for receiving support.

Table 2

Rates for Different Types of Area Payments in Latvia, EUR

Type of Support	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009 ¹
CNDP for arable crops, for ha	65.96	68.06	69.54	39.38	28.37	39
CNDP for feed crops, for ha	17.90	15.64	12.75	11.32	9	7
Support for crops with high energy value, for ha	x	x	x	45	45	45
SAPS for ha	20.66	26.44	32.83	37.84	46.14	57
Decoupled Area CNDP, for reference ha	x	x	x	25.53	30.51	~35
Decoupled CNDP for young farmers, for reference ha	x	x	x	26.75	27.61	~27
LFA, for ha	33*/46**/64***				25*/40**/58***	
AER (Natura 2000), for ha	38/33*/30**/26***				44	
Agri-environment, DOF, for ha	139 or 82				108-419	
Agri-environment, BG, for ha	138				123	
Agri-environment, BZ, for ha	0.102 [^] /0.180 ^{^^} /0.256 ^{^^^}					

¹provisional rates for direct payments

LFA category 1* category 2 **, and category 3***

Source: authors according to data of RSS of, 2005-2007.

From the above information presented in Table 2, it follows that over the period of 2004-2009:

1. The SAPS rate has grown considerably: more than 2.7 times due to the outcome of the accession negotiations for Latvia needs to reach the direct payment level of the old Member States in 2013.
2. The Decoupled Area CNDP rate has also increased: by 37% in 2009 in comparison with 2007 and the Decoupled CNDP for young farmers has grown by 1%.
3. CNDP rates for arable crops have substantially decreased: by 41%, due to the introduction of decoupled payments from 2007 and areas under feed crops: from 17.90 EUR ha⁻¹ to 7 EUR ha⁻¹.
4. The support for crops with high energy value has been introduced anew in 2007 applying a flat support rate.
5. LFA support payments are subdivided in 3 categories. LFA rates are substantially decreasing starting from 2008. The rate for LFA category 1 is dropping by 25%, for category 2: by 14% and for category 3: by 10%.
6. The support for farming in areas with environmental restrictions has also been subject to changes. Up to 2007, this payment was disbursed depending on the region in which the particular area was situated: if, the area did not lie in LFA territory, the rate per ha was 38 EUR, whereas, if, it was situated in LFA territory Category 1 the AER support rate was 33 EUR ha⁻¹ etc. Starting from 2008, this Measure was renamed Natura 2000 applying a flat rate of 44 EUR ha⁻¹.
7. The least changes affect the support under sub-

measure BZ of Agri-environment. There are three types of BZ support: 0.102 EUR m⁻¹, for setting up a bufferzone of collecting ditches[^], 0.180 EUR m⁻¹, setting up a field bufferzone^{^^} and 0.256 EUR m⁻¹ for setting up a waterbody bufferzone^{^^^}.

8. Ample changes are introduced in support to organic farming. The beneficiaries continuing their commitments undertaken under RDP of 2004-2006 may continue to receive support under the same scheme, i.e., receive 82 EUR ha⁻¹ for transition fields and 139 EUR ha⁻¹ for fields approved for DOF. At the same time, pursuant to RDP for 2007-2013 it is possible to transform the commitments undertaken into new ones; in this case not only the support conditions but also the support rates are changed further depending upon the crops raised by the particular farm. The new DOF support rates vary from crop to crop constituting 108-419 EUR ha⁻¹ (Latvian Rural Development., 2007).

The maximum support rate provided for by the European Commission may deviate from the rate actually applied if the area registered for support by the beneficiary is actually larger than the reference rate. Therefore, it is important to know the reference rates for the total support funding has been calculated for the reference area, so, in case it is exceeded, the fixed support rate for ha is accordingly reduced. In Latvia, the reference rates have been fixed as on the moment of accession to the EU and are constant:

- SAPS 1 475 000 ha (pursuant to Annex XXI of the EC Regulation 1973/2004);

- CNDP for arable crops 443 580 ha;
- CNDP for feed crops 395 200 ha (paragraph 1 of EC Decision 06/VII/2004 C (2004) 2316).
- Areas registered for CHEV support totally in the EU - 2 000 000 ha (Laying down detailed..., 2004a).

Funding sources of Area Payments and eligibility conditions vary:

1. In the period 2004-2006 – Guarantee Section of European Agriculture Guidance and Guarantee Fund (EAGGF). However, the apportionment differs: direct payments are 100% funded from the Guarantee Section of EAGGF and constitute 100% subsidy to beneficiaries while 80% of the Measures under RDP are funded from Guarantee Section of EAGGF and 20% of the government budget of Latvia, the latter constituting 100% of compensations to beneficiaries (Pilvere, 2007).

2. In the period 2007-2013:

- Direct payments: from European Agricultural Guarantee Fund, funded 100% from this fund as a 100% subsidy to beneficiaries.

- RDP measures: from European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development which is the sole EU funding source currently available for rural development programs (The Impact of..., 2008). However, the co-financing from the national budget is mandatory (Migļavs and Salputra, 2008), of different size depending upon the measure. The support is disbursed to agriculturists as 100% compensation.

To qualify for the Area Payments, agriculturists need to prove compliance with a number of conditions explained both, in the EU and Latvian regulatory enactments analysed in the next chapter.

2. Legal background of Area Payments in Latvia

The regulatory enactments governing CAP support instruments can be divided in two parts according to their origin:

1. European Union Regulatory Enactments.
2. Latvian National Regulatory Enactments.

European Council and Commission Regulations form multi-level, cross-referenced packages of legal documents the most important of which are the following:

Council Regulation (EC) No. 1782/2003 is the main document providing for support payments to agriculturists. It establishes common rules for direct support schemes under the common agricultural policy and establishes certain support schemes for farmers.

Commission Regulation (EC) No. 796/2004 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of cross-compliance, modulation and the integrated administration and control system.

Commission Regulation (EC) No.1973/2004 laying down detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 as regards the support schemes provided for in Titles IV and IVa of that Regulation and the use of land set aside for the production of raw materials.

Council Regulation (EC) No. 1257/1999 on support for rural development from the EAGGF.

Commission Regulation (EC) No. 817/2004 laying down detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EC) No 1257/1999 on support for rural development from the EAGGF.

Commission Regulation (EC) No. 27/2004 laying down transitional detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EC) No 1257/1999 as regards the financing by the EAGGF Guarantee Section of rural development measures in the new Member States. The Regulation foresees detailed rules for the adjustment of the euro agri-monetary regime in the new Member States.

Commission Regulation (EC) No. 141/2004 lays down provisions for application of the Council Regulation (EC) No. 1257/1999 in relation to rural development transition measures in the New Member States as well as planning and evaluation of the rural development measures.

For implementation of the Direct Support and RDP payments in Latvia, a number of regulatory enactments had to be drafted and put in place which as to their hierarchy can be classified as follows:

1. Laws.
2. Cabinet Regulations.
3. Documents adopted by Ministry of Agriculture and RSS required for implementation of specific measures.

Laws of Republic of Latvia or comparable documents thereof are:

Accession Agreement (1993) lays down provisions on rights and duties of the Member States including Latvia, as well as provisions on the mandate and competency of the EU bodies in the field of agriculture.

Law on Rural Support Service (2000). Its objective is to ensure a unified implementation of the agricultural and rural support policy, as well as a national administration system of the EU support.

Republic of Latvia Law On Especially Protected Nature Territories (1993) lays down the underlying principles of the system of especially protected nature territories, the procedure for establishment of such territories and their safeguarding.

Regulatory enactments adopted by the Cabinet are summarised in Figure 1.

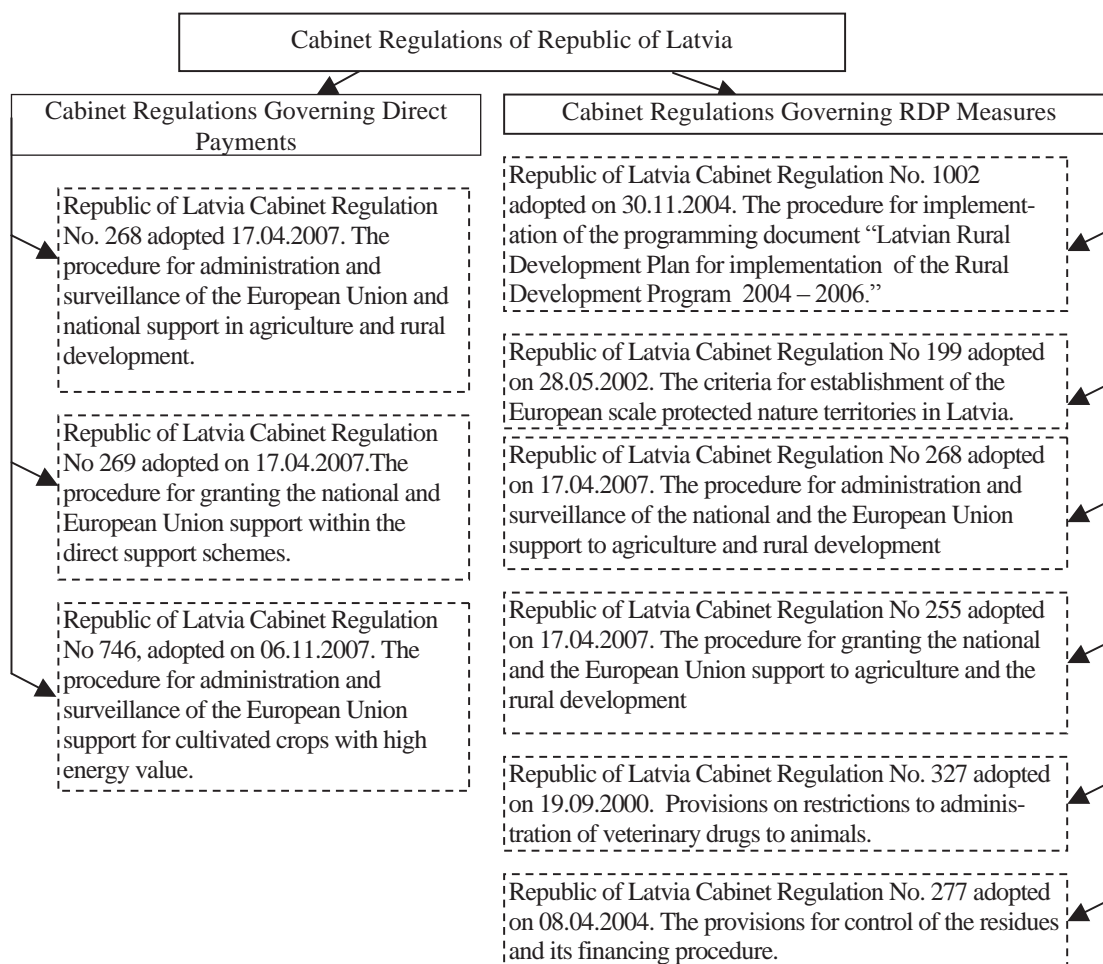


Figure1. Republic of Latvia Cabinet Regulations in 2008.

Source: drafted by authors according to regulatory enactments.

Republic of Latvia Cabinet Regulation No. 268 adopted on 17.04.2007 lays down the procedure for administration and surveillance of the European Union and national support in agriculture and rural development measures from the Guarantee Section of the EAGGF. The Regulation governs the following support schemes: SAPS and CNDP for arable crops and feed crops, LFA and support under sub-measures of Agri-environment (DOF, BG, BZ).

Republic of Latvia Cabinet Regulation No 269 adopted on 17.04.2007 lays down the procedure for granting the national and European Union support within the direct support schemes. And identify the types of national and the EU support as well as the eligibility conditions for potential beneficiaries.

Republic of Latvia Cabinet Regulation No 746 adopted on 06.11.2007 lays down the procedure for administration and surveillance of the European Union support for cultivated crops with high energy value.

Republic of Latvia Cabinet Regulation No. 1002 adopted on 30.11.2004. lays down the procedure for implementation

of the programming document “Latvian Rural Development Plan for implementation of the Rural Development Program 2004 – 2006.

Republic of Latvia Cabinet Regulation No. 327 adopted on 19.09.2000 lays down certain restrictions for administration of veterinary drugs to animals. Republic of Latvia Cabinet Regulation No. 277 adopted on 08.04.2004 provides a list of residual substances included in the residue control program the presence of which is monitored in animals, animal feed, products, potable water and surface water. The regulations are related to eligibility of receiving support under LFA and/or Natura 2000 payments.

3. Institutional System for implementation of Area Payments

The institutional system for implementation of the area payments is derived from the EU and Latvia's regulatory enactments described in the previous chapter. The institutional system for direct payments and the RDP measures is diverse: see Table 3.

Table 3

Institutional System for Implementation of Area Payments in 2008

Direct Payments		RDP	
Name of the Institution	LR Institution	Name of the Institution	LR Institution
Competent Authority	MOA	Competent Authority	MOA
Paying Agency	RSS	Paying Agency	RSS
Certification Body	Selected by MOA according to the public procurement procedure	Certification Body	Selected by MOA according to the public procurement procedure
		Managing Authority	MOA
		Monitoring Committee	Fellowship institution uniting 21 representatives of different stakeholders

Source: drafted by authors according to Cabinet Regulations No. 267, 2007.

Thus, the implementation of RDP involves more institutions than direct payments. This is caused by the necessity of drafting, if appropriate, amending the RDP, its co-ordination with the European Commission and monitoring of its implementation. Main purpose of the Competent Authority: accreditation of the Paying Agency and the related structures, clarification of bookings for EAGGF and EAFRD. Paying Agency carries out granting and disbursement of support. Certification Body carries out accreditation of the Paying Agency and certification

of accounts according to delegation of MOA. Managing Authority is responsible for efficient and appropriate management and implementation of RDP. Monitoring Committee is acting on the basis of self-approved By-law, provides the monitoring of the implementation of RDP.

4. Area Payments' Implementation Results in Latvia

The amount disbursed over the given period within the direct payments' scheme is reflected in Table 4.

Table 4

Area Payments in Latvia over the Period of 2004-2007, Thousand LVL

Indicators	2004	2005	2006	2007	Totally	Structure, %
SAPS applications, number	69585	78610	80429	77640	306264	x
SAPS	17441.0	26708.0	33651.5	39033.9	116834.4	27.2
CNDP	23300.2	25060.6	24943.1	15397.2	88701.1	20.6
Decoupled CNDP	x	x	x	10003.0	10003.0	2.3
Crops with high energy value	x	x	x	793.5	793.5	0.2
LFA	27492.9	35043.8	37187.9	29896.8	129621.4	30.1
AER	x	1390.9	1592.8	1277.9	4261.6	1.0
Agri-environment payments	4265.0	10391.4	24845.8	21407.8	60910.0	14.2
Force Majeure	x	323.9	18856.4	x	19180.3	4.5
Total Area Payments	72499.1	98918.6	141077.5	117807.0	430302.2	100.0
TOTAL Support Payments, MLN LVL	110.5	219.7	213.3	191.5	735.0	x
Proportion of Area Payments in total support, %	65.6	45.0	66.1	61.5	58.5	x

Source: drafted by authors according to RSS data of 2004-2007.

From information presented in Table 4, several conclusions can be derived:

- Over the period 2004 – 2007, RSS has processed 306,264 applications for Area Payments, requesting SAPS payments and has disbursed more than LVL 116.8 MLN within this scheme.
- Since 2007, changes have been introduced in the CNDP, dividing it in two parts: CNDP and the decoupled CNDP. The decoupled CNDP can be received for the number of ha for which CNDP has been received for the previous year. Of all types of Area Payments, the highest proportion has been disbursed under LFA;

- however, in 2008, the situation is expected to change for the support rates for LFA are going to be reduced.
- Force Majeure (FMA) support is envisaged for emergency cases from the state budgetary allocations to mitigate the damages to agriculture by unfavourable weather conditions. In 2006, this type of support was disbursed for injuries caused by the draught to arable crops and feed crops. Thus in 2006, LVL 18.9 MLN was disbursed under FMA support scheme. In 2005, this type of support was paid to farmers to compensate damages caused by excess precipitation.
 - Of the total support funding disbursed, Area Payments take up more than 50%; up to now the highest point has been reached in 2007 with 66.1%, disbursing over 141 MLN LVL.
 - Over the period 2004-2007, the amount of support disbursed within Area Payment schemes amounts to LVL 430.3 MLN substantially increasing from 72.50 MLN LVL in 2004 to 117.8 MLN LVL in 2007. It is expected that this amount could still continue to grow in 2008 as new measures are becoming available and the support rates for several support types are increased.

Conclusions

1. One of the most important elements of the CAP common market organization is direct area payments:

1. a support to agriculturists on annual basis fully funded from the EU common budget. The former support for products is gradually being replaced with direct support to producers.
2. In Latvia, agriculturists may receive support within the Single Area Payment scheme incorporating SAPS, CNDP, CHEW (as from 2007) as well as decoupled payments.
3. Rural Development Plan for 2004 – 2006 and Rural Development Program for 2007-2013 foresee several area payments: LFA, AER support and support under sub-measures of Agri-environment, disbursed as compensation and subject to eligibility conditions.
4. The process and operation of the Area Payment implementation is regulated by enactments on different levels of legislation the most important of them being EU Regulations and Commission Decisions, Republic of Latvia Laws and Cabinet Regulations.
5. The institutional system established in Latvia for implementation of the Direct Payments is compliant with the EU requirements.
6. Over 2004 – 2007, Area Payments have been disbursed to 76 566 agriculturists in Latvia (yearly average) in the total amount of LVL 430.3 MLN constituting 58.5% of the total support disbursed in Latvia.

References

1. *Act concerning the conditions of accession of the Czech Republic, the Republic of Estonia, the Republic of Cyprus, the Republic of Latvia, the republic of Lithuania, the Republic of Hungary, the Republic of Malta, the Republic of Poland, the Republic of Slovenia and the Slovak Republic and the adjustments to the Treaties on which the European Union is founded, following the reform of the common agricultural policy* (2003) *Official Journal*, Volume 46 p.
2. Bratka V. (2005) Latvijas lauku saimniecību perspektīvas reformētājā KLP (Perspectives of Latvian Rural Farms within Reformed CAP), *Agrārās zinātnes attīstības problēmas ES vienotā telpā*, Proceedings of the International Scientific Conference, May 27-28, pp. 23-33. (In Latvian).
3. Buģina V., Krūmiņš Ģ. (2005) Eiropas Savienības tiešie maksājumi Latvijas lauksaimniekiem (EU Direct Payments to Latvian Farmers) *Proceedings of the International Scientific Conference „Economic Science for Rural Development – 2005”*, No. 8, pp. 72–84. (In Latvian).
4. ES lauksaimniecības pārskats (EU Agricultural Report) (2008) Available at: http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/faq/index_lv.htm/, 03.11.2008.
5. *Establishing common rules for direct support schemes under the common agricultural policy and establishing certain support schemes for farmers*. Council Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 of 29 September amending Regulations (EEC) No 2019/93, (EC) No 1452/2001, (EC) No 1453/2001, (EC) No 1454/2001, (EC) No 1868/94, (EC) No 1251/1999, (EC) No 1254/1999, (EC) No 1673/2000, (EEC) No 2358/71 and (EC) No 2529/2001, *Official Journal L 270*, 21/10/2003, pp. 1-69.
6. *Republic of Latvia Cabinet Regulation No. 268 adopted 17.04.2007. The procedure for administration and surveillance of the European Union and national support in agriculture and rural development and procedure for publishing information on support beneficiaries*. Government official newspaper *Latvijas Vēstnesis*, No. 69 (3645), 27.04.2007.
7. *Republic of Latvia Cabinet Regulation No. 1002 adopted on 30.11.2004. The procedure for implementation of the programming document “Latvian Rural Development Plan for implementation of the Rural Development Program 2004 – 2006*. Government official newspaper *Latvijas Vēstnesis* No.48 (3416), 09.12.2004.

8. Republic of Latvia Cabinet Regulation No 255 adopted on 17.04.2007. The procedure for granting the national and the European Union support to agriculture and the rural development. Government official newspaper Latvijas Vēstnesis No.70 (3646), 28.04.2007.
9. Republic of Latvia Cabinet Regulation No 269 adopted on 17.04.2007. (2007b).69 (3645) The procedure for granting the national and European Union support within the direct support schemes, 27.04.2007.
10. Republic of Latvia Cabinet Regulation No 746 adopted on 06.11.2007 The procedure for administration and surveillance of the European Union support for cultivated crops with high energy value. Government official newspaper Latvijas Vēstnesis No. 184 (3760), 15.11.2007.
11. Kondratowicz-Pozorska J., Mickiewicz P. (2004) European Union policy and its influence on Polish food management. *Economic Science for Rural Development – Proceedings of the International Scientific Conference “Possibilities for rural development in the enlarged Europe”*, No 5, Jelgava, pp. 63-68.
12. Latvijas lauku attīstības plāns lauku attīstības programmas īstenošanai 2004. – 2006.gadam (Latvian Rural Development Plan for Implementation of Rural Development Programme 2004-2006) (2004) Rīga: LR Zemkopības ministrija, 297 p. (In Latvian).
13. Latvijas lauksaimniecība un lauki (2007) (Agriculture and Rural Areas of Latvia), Rīga: LR Zemkopības ministrija, 152 p. (In Latvian).
14. Latvijas lauku attīstības programma 2007. – 2013. gads (2007) (Latvian Rural Development Programme 2007-2013), Rīga: LR Zemkopības ministrija, 471 p. (In Latvian).
15. Lauku atbalsta dienesta (LAD) dati (2005-2007) (Rural Support Service (RSS) data) (In Latvian).
16. *Lauku atbalsta dienesta likums*: LR Likums (Law on Rural Support Service) (2000) Available at: <http://www.likumi.lv/>, 03.01.2008. (In Latvian).
17. *Laying down detailed rules for the implementation of cross-compliance, modulation and the integrated administration and control system provided for in of Council Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 establishing common rules for direct support schemes under the common agricultural policy and establishing certain support schemes for farmers.* (2004a) Commission regulation (EC) No 796/2004 of 21 April 2004, *Official Journal L 141*, 30/04/2004 pp. 0018-0058.
18. Mazūre G. (2005) Implementation of State Support Policy for the Development of Agriculture, *Proceedings of the International Scientific Conference „Economic Science for Rural Development – 2005”*, No. 9, pp. 61-69.
19. Miglavs A., Salputra G. (2008) ES lauksaimniecības politikas 2007.-2013.gada finansējuma struktūras potenciālā ietekme uz Baltijas valstu lauksaimniecību (The Impact of EU Agricultural Policy's the financing structure 2007-2013 on Agriculture of the Baltic States) Available at: <http://www.evf.lu.lv/Miglavs&Salputra.pdf>, 27.09.2008. (In Latvian).
20. Par īpaši aizsargājamām dabas teritorijām: LR Likums (1993) (Law on Specially Protected Natural Areas) Available at: <http://www.likumi.lv/>, 03.01.2008. (In Latvian).
21. Pilvere I. (2007) Protectionism - One of Factors in Agriculture Development, *Humanities and social sciences Latvia*, Nr.1 (50), pp. 43-56.
22. Pilvere I., Rukmanis A. (2004) The European Union`s Financial Support Resources for Latvia`s Rural Areas, *Humanities and social sciences Latvia*, Nr.3 (43), pp. 47-56.
23. Pilvere I., Rukmanis A. (2006) Experience and Provisional Impact of Direct Support Payments in Latvia, *Proceedings of the International Scientific Conference “Economic Science for Rural Development”*, No 11, Jelgava, pp. 12-19.
24. Piecuch J. (2007) Development of Agriculture in Portuguese Regions, *Proceedings of the International Scientific Conference “Economic Science for Rural Development”*, No 12, Jelgava, pp. 98-104.
25. Rokasgrāmata platību maksājumu saņemšanai 2007. gadā (2007) (Guidebook on Receiving Area Payments) Rīga: Lauku atbalsta dienests, 80 p. (In Latvian).
26. Saktiņa D., Meyers W.H. (2005) Eiropas Savienības līdzfinansētās un nacionālās lauku atbalsta programmas Latvijā: gatavojoties jaunajam programmēšanas periodam (EU Co-financed and National Rural Support Programs in Latvia: Preparing for New Programming Period), Rīga, 242 p. (In Latvian).
27. Vidickiene D. (2007) The Role of Agriculture in the Rural Policy of the 21st century, *Žemes ūkio mokslai, Lietuvos mokslu akademijos Leidykla*, T.14, Vilnius, pp. 56-63.