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UKRAINIAN SCIENTIFIC AND RESEARCH STATION OF OIL CROPS: HISTORY AND ACHIEVEMENTS (1932–1955)

Summary

In 1932, Adjamskaya Agricultural Experimental Station was reorganized into the Ukrainian scientific and research station of oil crops (USRSOC), which existed as a republic-level scientific institution conducting research in the field of agro technics, plant protection, breeding and seed production of oilseeds. The station was tasked with conducting research on agro technics and the creation of varieties of oilseeds suitable for cultivation in the steppe zone of Ukraine, the characteristic features of which were: high productivity, frost and drought tolerance, resistance to crumbling and plant lodging.

In order to more fully study of agro technics of oil crops in different soil-climatic zones of Ukraine, in the structure of the Ukrainian scientific and research station of oil crops acted 9 strong point in 8 oblasts.

In the pre-war period, new varieties of castor bean and peril were created which, according to the results of the tests on the variety-testing stations of Ukraine, were highly appreciated. In the 30s of the twentieth century, the institution developed the

most important agro technical methods of cultivating almost all oilseeds (sunflower, castor bean, flax, peril, winter rape and peanuts).

In 1940, based on the results of the work of the USRSOC scientists, was published the book «Oil Cultures in Ukraine», edited by the Director of USRSOC Z. Zhernovy. This book was the first in Ukraine scientific guidance on the description of morphological characteristic, agricultural technology, plant protection, seed production of 13 major oilseeds grown in Ukraine.

After the organization in 1939 in the Kirovograd region, studies on grain crops and perennial herbs were introduced into the USRSOC scientific research program.

In 1949, under the direction of Agricultural Candidate A. Leshchenko, the Ukrainian scientific and research station of oil crops began the launch of scientific research on soybean selection, which was aimed at the creation of early, high yielding and suitable for mechanized harvesting of varieties.

During the period of its existence, USRSOC (1932–1955) as a narrow-profile pilot oilseed station developed the basic elements of agro technics for the most common types of oilseeds: sunflower, castor bean, oil side flax, winter rape, and others. It was a scientific institution of the republican level, which laid the foundations fundamental research on agro technic and selection of the main oil crops in the northern Steppe of Ukraine.

Based on the relevant material and technical base and experience of scientific activity, the Ukrainian scientific and research station of oil crops became the basis for the establishment in 1956 of the Kirovograd Regional Agricultural Research Station.

Key words: oil crops, agro technics, breeding, seed production, support points, Steppe.