

EVALUATION REVIEW

by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Shteryo Stefanov Nozharov,

Assoc. Prof. in professional field 3.8. „Economics“, scientific specialty „Political economy (*micro-economics, macroeconomics, economic policy and sustainable development*) at UNWE, Doctor in professional field 3.8. „Economics“, scientific specialty „Political economy“- UNWE

of DSc thesis for awarding the scientific degree “Doctor of science” in higher education area 3. Social, economic and law sciences, professional field 3.8 Economics

Author: Dr. Bozena Kusz

Thesis: “Economic efficiency of farms in Poland depending on economic size”

1. General characteristics of the materials presented

In accordance with Order № 85/21.02.2025 of the Rector of VUZF – Prof. Boris Velchev, DSc. I have been selected as a member of the Scientific Jury in a procedure for awarding scientific degree “Doctor of science” to a thesis, titled: “Economic efficiency of farms in Poland depending on economic size” in higher education field 3. Social, economic and law sciences, Professional field 3.8. Economics. Author of the thesis is: Dr. Bozena Kusz.

The materials, submitted by Dr. Bozena Kusz include the following documents:

A copy of the thesis, abstract of the thesis, a declaration for paper originality, a completed card for fulfillment of the minimum requirements for scientific degree “Doctor of Science”, list of contributions of the thesis, list of publications, list of abstracts of the publications, related to the title of the thesis, CV, a list of citations of the scientific publications.

The DSc candidate has attached: one (1) habilitation monograph, one published monograph, which is not main habilitation work, ten (10) articles, published in journals, indexed in SCOPUS and Web of Science, twenty-three (23) articles, published in non-refereed peer-reviewed journals in edited collective volumes, one (1) chapter of published collective monograph and a list of citations.

2. Brief biographical reference of the candidate

The DSc candidate Dr. Bozena Kusz , possess the following education and experience :

Education:

- NATIONAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF ANIMAL PRODUCTION IN CRACOW
Doctor of agricultural sciences in the field of zootechnics on the basis of a doctoral dissertation: The quality of regional pork products depending on the feeding and maintenance system of porkers.
25.03.2015
- MASTER OF SCIENCES IN ECONOMICS IN THE FIELD OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION ECONOMICS
On the basis of a master dissertation:
Characteristics of livestock for slaughter pigs slaughtered in Zakłady Miesne "Jarosław" SA in Jarosław in the fall-winter season.
- AKADEMIA ROLNICZA W KRAKOWIE, FACULTY OF ECONOMICS IN RZESZOW
Specialty: Economics of Agricultural Production
1992-1997
- MEDICAL SECONDARY SCHOOL IN PRZEMYSL
1987-1992

Positions held:

- ASSISTANT PROFESSOR IN THE GROUP OF RESEARCH -TEACHING STAFF
The Department of Computer Science in Management, Faculty of Management at the Rzeszow University of Technology
01.03.2020 - now
- PART - TIME POSITION OF AN ASSISTANT PROFESSOR
The Department of Computer Science in Management, Faculty of Management at the Rzeszow University of Technology
25.02 - 31.07.2019
1.04 - 31.07.2018
- PART TIME POSITION OF AN ASSISTANT

3. General characteristics and evaluation of the DSc candidate thesis

The DSc candidate thesis covers a total of 234 pages. It is structured in table of content, introduction, three chapters, reference list and conclusion. The first chapter consists of five sections, the second chapter has six sections, the third chapter has four sections. The reference list covers a total of 282 sources, including 20 tables and 31 figures.

4. Contributions and significance of the DSc candidate thesis for the development of science and practice

In the DSc candidate thesis, there has been discussed a relevant economic problem – an issue, related to the economic effectiveness of agriculture

The original scientifically-applied contributions of the DSc thesis are as follows:

1. The analysis of management efficiency using the nonparametric DEA method showed that the Malmquist index level increased with the increase in economic size. Decomposition of the Malmquist index into two components showed that in farms of all economic size classes the reason for changes in the total productivity index was the change in production (technological) possibilities, and not the change in the way of using the means possessed by farms within the available technology (except for ES6 farms, where no changes were noted). The efficiency gap lies in the combination of available production factors.
2. The study found that technical efficiency improved with increased economic size. It was also found that the differences in technical efficiency between the studied economic size classes of farms deepened throughout the research period. This indicates growing disproportions between farms of different economic sizes. This supports the hypothesis that small farms struggle to achieve the same level of efficiency as larger farms. In the long term, conducting agricultural activity at low efficiency will not allow small farms to function and develop.

5. Evaluation of the publications in relation to the topic of the DSc thesis candidate

The DSc candidate has attached: one published monograph, which is not main habilitation work, ten (10) articles, published in journals, indexed in SCOPUS and Web of Science, twenty-three (23) articles, published in non-refereed peer-reviewed journals in edited collective volumes, one (1) chapter of published collective monograph and a list of citations.

6. Evaluation of the fulfillment of the minimum national requirements

I concern that the DSc candidate meets the minimum national requirements according to the documents submitted and in accordance with the regulations of VUZF.

It is made an inquiry about the candidate's fulfillment of the minimum national requirements for obtaining the scientific degree "Doctor of Science" in the professional field 3.8. Economy

7. Abstract of the DSc candidate thesis

The content and quality of the abstract is good. It is written in accordance with the relevant regulations and presents the main results, achieved in the thesis.

8. Critical remarks and recommendations

I have the following questions, concerning the thesis:

1. How do the research hypothesis concerning the relationship between farm effectiveness and sizes differs from the neo-classical microeconomic theory related to achieving an efficient scale of production based on models of marginal quantities and relative prices of production factors?
2. To what extent the innovations in agriculture in the third decade of the XXI century have greater importance than the other factors that influence the economic effectiveness?

CONCUSION

The DSc candidate's thesis **contains scientifically applied results, which are original scientific contribution** and **they cover** the requirements of the Act on development of the academic staff of Republic of Bulgaria and the regulations for its implementation. The presented materials and conclusions in the thesis **correspond** to the specific requirements of the Regulation for admission and training of PhD students at VUZF.

The DSc candidate's thesis shows that Dr.Bozena Kusz **possesses** good theoretical knowledge and professional skills in professional field 3.8 Economics, as **she demonstrates** qualities and skills to independently conduct scientific research.

Having in mind the abovementioned, I give a **positive assessment** of the conducted research, presented by the above-reviewed thesis, abstract, list of contributions and I **suggest to the esteemed Scientific Jury to award scientific degree „Doctor of Science“** to Dr. Bozena Kusz in higher education area 3. Social, economic and law sciences, professional field 3.8 Economics.

A blue rectangular redaction box covering a signature.

29.3.2025

Reviewer:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Shteryo Nozharov