

Anton Holler, Deggendorf, Germany:

e-mail: anton@holler-deggendorf.de

Tel: +49 991 370 490

Fax: +49 991 370 49-12

Internet: <http://www.holler-deggendorf.de/hanf/>

Cultivation of Hemp in Romania 1999

Production Potential

In 1999 four hemp-fiber factories operated in Romania. All use biological water-retting technology. The type of seed used mostly in Romania is “Lovrin 110” which is certified within the European Union. The four companies, their location and how much each company cultivated for the production of fiber, seed and the stalks that were harvested in 1998 are shown in Table 1.

Table 1
Company Productions Potential

Company	District of (Country)	Cultivated Area for Fiber (hectare)	Cultivated for Seed Production (hectare)	Straw Stalks from the 1998 Harvest (tons)
SC CARIN SA	Arad (West Romania)	448	407	1,900
CARPIC CAREI SA	Satu Mare (West Romania)	330	20	1,500
SC IN CANEPA BECLEANI	Bistrita (Central Romania)	170	0	200
SC LUTEX LUDUS SA	Mures (Central Romania)	145	20	300

Fiber Production Potential

Table 2 shows, eg.: SC CARIN SA, the amount of fiber produced from the 1999 straw harvest which was cultivated on the 448 hectare. It also shows the type, the usage, and the quality of the fiber.

Table 2
“SC Carin SA” Fiber Productions Potential

Approximate Amount (European tons)	Type	Usage	Yarn to
100	Long Fiber - TS	Fine Textiles	NM18
100	Long Fiber - T1	Textiles	NM14
50	Long Fiber - F1	Technical Textiles	NM10
100	Short Fiber - C1	Technical Textiles	NM5 (fine)
100	Short Fiber - C2	Technical Textiles	NM5 (rough)
80	Short Fiber - C3	Yarn NM1 (rough) or Fleece	NM1 (rough)
80	Short Fiber - C4	Fleece	
1.800	Hurds	Plates or Thermal Utilization	

Market Situation

These types of fiber shown in Table 2 are the classical products of all Romanian hemp factories. The other companies, depending on their cultivated area, achieve similar long and short fiber results. The fibers are sorted according to the classification called “Romanian STAS” which is equivalent to the German Industrial Norm called “DIN”.

The current prices for hemp fiber on the European market are 800 - 1400\$/ton for long fiber, 400 - 600\$/ton for the short fiber, and approximately 30\$/ton for hemp hurds.

The textile production of long fiber, which includes spinning, weaving, and confection takes place almost exclusively in Romanian Moldova. The leaders, in producing large quantities and finest quality, are the German companies.

The continual treatment of the short fibers to rope happens mostly in Szeged, Hungary. (company ELSÖ). Hemp cords are sent from there all around the world, in particular the USA. However, the American-owned company “Hemp Supply Romania SRL” (located in Romanian Moldova) appears also quite successful.

Possible Future

Altogether it must be stated that the future of the Romanian hemp industry is not yet secured because of strongly varying demand and the chronic under capitalization of the hemp fiber factories. The fact is that the capital is fixed up to 4 years within the production process before money results can be seen. The production process includes, first two years in seed production (prebase and base), the third year in fiber production on the field, and the fourth year in fiber separation in the factory.

If the Western European automobile industry should decide to use hemp as a product for reinforcement, then Romania will become the top provider. At the moment, only the Romanian textile industry is able to produce parallel lying hemp fibers where the stability of the fiber can be defined with the E-Modules. Also the availability of cultivation and process is already in place. The production cost is low and the transport to the European Automobile Industry is easy.

Areas of Cultivation 2000

Table 3
Areas of Cultivation 2000

Company	District of (Country)	Cultivated Area for Fiber (Hectare)	Cultivated for Seed Production (Hectare)	Cultivated for Pre-Seed Production (Hectare)
SC CARIN SA	Arad (West Romania)	517	139	76
CARPIC CAREI SA	Satu Mare (West Romania)	70	0	0
SC IN CANEPA BECLEANI	Bistrita (Central Romania)	0	0	0
SC LUTEX LUDUS SA	Mures (Central Romania)	65	0	10
	Cluj (Central Romania)	5	0	0
	Sibiu (Central Romania)	110	0	0
	Botosani (North-East Romania)	15	207	50
	Neamt (East Romania)	0	3.5	0
	Timis (West Romania)	0	50	0
	TOTAL		736	426,5

The expectation of the harvest decreased in all regions due to the extreme dry summer period. The data shown in Table 3 was from August 2000.