

“Dunarea de Jos” University of Galati

The School for Doctoral Studies in Fundamental and Engineering Sciences



DOCTORAL THESIS

INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY RIGHTS IN THE AGRI-FOOD SECTOR IN ROMANIA

ABSTRACT

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NOTES AND ABBREVIATIONS

- AFIR - Agenția pentru Finanțarea Investițiilor Rurale (*Agency for Financing Rural Investments*)
- ANPC – Autoritatea Națională pentru Protecția Consumatorilor (*National Authority for Consumer Protection*)
- ANSVSA – Autoritatea Națională Sanitară Veterinară și pentru Siguranța Alimentelor (*National Veterinary Sanitary and Food Safety Authority*)
- APAR – Asociația pentru Promovarea Alimentului Românesc (*Association for the Promotion of Romanian Food*)
- ASIAR – Asociația Specialiștilor din Industrie Alimentară din România (*Association of Food Industry Specialists in Romania*)
- BOPI - Buletinul oficial al proprietății intelectuale (*Official bulletin of intellectual property*)
- CA – Cifra de Afaceri (*Turnover*)
- CBI - Cerere de brevet de invenție (*Patent application*)
- CE – Comunitate Europeană (*European Community*)
- CEPAC - Catalogul Produselor și Activităților Certificate (*Catalogue of Certified Products and Activities*)
- CE – Comisia Europeană (*European Commission*)
- DG AGRI – Directoratul General pentru Agricultură și Dezvoltare Rurală (*Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development*)
- DOOR – Baza de date pentru înregistrările de origine (*Database for origin records*)
- DPO – Denumire de origine protejată (*Protected designation of origin*)
- EPO - European Patent Organization
- HG – Hotărârea de Guvern (*Government Resolution*)
- IGP – Indicație geografică protejată (*Protected geographical indication*)
- Loc. – Locuitori (*Resident*)
- LSAA – Lanțurile Scurte de Aprovizionare Alimentară (*Short Food Supply Chains*)
- MADR – Ministerul Agriculturii și Dezvoltării Rurale (*Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development*)
- Nr. – număr (*number*)
- OMG – Organisme modificate genetic (*Genetically modified organisms*)
- OMPI - Organizația Mondială a Proprietății Intelectuale (*World Intellectual Property Organization*)
- OSIM - Oficiul de Stat pentru invenții și Mărci (*State Office for Inventions and Trademarks*)
- PAC – Politica Agricolă Comună (*Common Agricultural Policy*)
- PNDR – Programul Național de Dezvoltare Rurală (*National Rural Development Programme*)
- RNPT - Registrul Național al Produselor Tradiționale (*National Register of Traditional Products*)
- TPC – Certificarea de terță parte (*Third-party certification*)
- TSG – Specialitate Tradițională Garantată (*Guaranteed Traditional Speciality*)
- UDJG – Universitatea "Dunărea de Jos" din Galați (*"Dunarea de Jos" University of Galati*)
- UM – Unitate de măsură (*Unit of measurement*)
- UE – Uniunea Europeană (*European Union*)
- WIPO - The World Intellectual Property Organization

INTRODUCTION

Intellectual property plays an essential role in business sustainability for the field of food and agriculture, ensuring the framework for the protection of the results of their economic activities or the fact that the products/production methods belong to a specific producer.

The first part of the study aimed at documenting the legal institutions that certify intellectual property rights, starting from the following questions:

- ✓ why legal protection is important in the field of food and agriculture?
- ✓ does registration contribute to sustainable food and agricultural business development?
- ✓ are there quantifiable benefits from obtaining food and agricultural certifications?
- ✓ is Romania exploiting its historical, regional, and economic potential at the optimal level for the proper development of the food and agricultural sector?
- ✓ how is Romania in terms of legal protection of intellectual property rights in the food and agricultural sector?

Chapter II was devoted to assessing the particularities of the subject matter in the food and agricultural sector, the applicability of the general rules in the sector, and identifying other specific legal instruments that may not apply in other sectors.

Chapter III analyses trademarks and geographical indications in the food and agricultural sector, their particularities and differentiation from quality schemes and certified traditional products, which concludes the documentation part of the thesis and creates the framework for the choice of materials and methods of analysis that is used to obtain the scientific results.

Chapter IV presents the used resources and the research procedures employed, indicating the databases, the method of extraction, their systematization for the study and the research methodology. The thesis uses the formulae for calculating the degree of product market concentration by calculating the coefficient by determining the Gini coefficient and using it to determine the degree of concentration HH index, as well as modeling the extracted data.

Chapter V – Applied regional analysis – covers a part of the applied research carried out, going from the general to the particular and vice versa. Data were extracted from the RNPT (*National Register of Traditional Products*) with the distribution by county, then singularized by development region, with an analysis of the types of products at the level of each area. An assessment of the impact of the legal protection of food and agricultural rights on regional sustainable economic development was sought. The influence of tradition, demographic situation, geo-climatic factors, particularities of the development regions and socio-economic environment on the quality of life of the inhabitants was quantified in relations to the food and agricultural products registered.

The thesis ends with a section devoted to conclusions, with references to the results obtained and proposals for the regulations of intellectual property rights in the food and agricultural sector in Romania, for the permanent development of the sector, increasing the number of certified national products, and reducing the degree of market concentration at the national level.

CHAPTER 1

GENERAL ASPECTS OF INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY

The innovative capacity of human society, i.e. the power to generate new and original ideas and transform them into products, artistic works, innovations or other forms of creative expression, is one of the most important aspects of human nature that has played a crucial role in the development of society over time.

Human inventiveness can be traced back to ancient times when prehistoric humans created primitive tools from stone, bone, or wood to ensure their survival and improve their lifestyle.

In ancient times, inventiveness was fuelled by discoveries in education, physics, mathematics, architecture, and technology. In Ancient Greece, scholars such as Euclid, Pythagoras, and Archimedes made important discoveries in mathematics, physics, and mechanics. In Ancient Egypt, people developed innovative technologies for building pyramids and using irrigation systems [1].

Technological innovations continued to emerge in the medieval period when inventiveness was fuelled by advances in agriculture, medicine, and manufacturing. In medieval Europe, scholars and inventors like Leonardo da Vinci, Galileo Galilei, and Johannes Guttenberg made important discoveries in art, science, and communication sciences [2].

The Industrial Revolution of the 18th and 19th centuries marked an important period in the history of human inventiveness. Technological innovations revolutionised manufacturing, transport, and communication. Advances in science and medicine also led to the development of innovative medical treatments and technologies that saved patients and improved people's life quality [3].

Starting from the general to the special, it should be noted that industrial property law is a part of intellectual property law, which is complemented by the field of copyright. In other words, the intellectual property consists of:

- ✓ industrial property law;
- ✓ copyright and related rights.

The International Intellectual Property System (IP) was founded based on the Paris and Berne Conventions at the end of the 19th century. These Conventions established an international legal framework for the protection of intellectual property and were signed by many countries around the world. The international intellectual property system aims to protect intellectual property, promote innovation, and encourage economic development [6].

As regards the legal protection of intellectual property, patents, and copyright are important starting points.

Patents are used to protect technological inventions, such as mechanical, electrical, and software inventions.

Copyright is used to protect literary and artistic creations such as books, poems, films, music, and visual arts.

By protecting intellectual property, inventors, authors, and artists can get financial benefits for their creations and be encouraged to continue creating new and innovative works.

A correct and complete conceptual approach to the notion of industrial property law can only be made by starting from the main international regulatory act on the subject, namely the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property of 20 March 1883, ratified in Romania by the Decree no. 1177/1968. According to Art. 1, parag. (2) of the Paris Convention [7] for the

Protection of Industrial Property, *the protection of industrial property covers **patents for inventions, utility models, industrial designs, trademarks, service marks, trade names and indications of the source of appellations of origin**, as well as the prevention of unfair competition.*

In a brief approach to the main objects of the legal definition established by the above-mentioned legal text, the reference elements in the matter are:

A. Patent – an intellectual property right granted by a government authority that gives the inventor the exclusive right to produce, sell, and use the invention for a certain period. The history of patent protection dates back to antiquity, but the modern concept of a patent was developed in the 19th century [8].

Patents are an extremely powerful legal tool for innovators and companies, giving them protection, profitability, and opportunities for collaboration and expansion [14].

B. Utility models - utility models are a type of intellectual property protection that allows inventors to protect new and useful inventions that might not qualify for a patent. Utility models are often referred to as “petty patents” or “innovation patents” in some countries.

C. Industrial designs [15] are those types of intellectual property protection that cover ornamental or aesthetic aspects of a product.

D. Trademarks are distinctive signs by which a company’s goods and services can be identified and differentiated from those of other companies.

Legal protection for a trademark may be granted for an indefinite period, as long as the trademark owner complies with the legal obligations to maintain the trademark registration and protect it against unauthorised use by third parties [18].

E. Service marks are distinguishing marks used to identify and differentiate a company’s services from those of other companies. They can be words, pictures, combinations of words and pictures, sounds, or any other type of distinctive sign that can be represented graphically and is used to represent a company’s services.

F. A trade name [20] is an important part of a business’s identity that can be used to build a strong and trusted reputation among customers and business partners.

G. Geographical indications - the history of geographical indications (IG) can be traced back to ancient times, when local products were recognised as being of superior quality and taste.

Generic geographical indications are mainly applicable in the food sector, referring to:

- PDO – protected designation of origin (for food and wine);
- PGI – protected geographical indication (for food and wine);

CHAPTER 2

PARTICULAR ASPECTS OF PATENTING IN THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

Patenting in the food and agricultural field can be controversial because of the ethical, moral, and economic implications [43]. For example, patenting living organisms and biological materials can lead to limiting access to genetic resources and can have a negative impact on communities that depend on these resources.

Given the sensitivity of the field, it was necessary for the regulation to be as strict as possible, with precise specifications, limitations, and standardisation. Thus, according to the provisions of Article 69 (2) of the Regulation implementing Law no. 64/1991 of 21.05.2008 on patents, “*Products may be biological materials as defined in Art. 68, para. (2) and genetically modified plants or animals as defined in Art. 68, para. (7)*” [44].

In the food and agricultural field, patenting can be applied to inventions that meet the general criteria for patentability, such as novelty, inventive step, and industrial applicability. However, there are also certain particularities in this field, such as the fact that patenting can also be applied to living organisms or biological materials.

The patent holder has the exclusive right to exploit and sell the invented product or technology, subject to compliance with legal requirements for the protection of intellectual property. The corresponding obligation is a negative one, i.e. the obligation of *non facere*, i.e. not to exploit the patented solution or material in any way [63].

Patents can be bought, sold, or licensed to other people or companies for use in the production and marketing of food products.

Law no. 64/1991 republished, regulates special patent offences in articles 55-59. Thus, the law provides for the following situations falling within the scope of criminal law:

- A. Unrightful inventorship;
- B. Counterfeiting offence;
- C. Disclosure of data contained in patent applications pending publications.

One of the conditions for the patentability of inventions is their industrial applicability.

The importance of the transfer of patentable results to the industry could not be overlooked by the legislator, which is why, in Chapter V of Law 64/1991, on patents for invention, he regulated the terms and conditions of the transfer of rights originating in the patent.

Essentially, the transfer of rights arising from the patent can be transferred in whole or in part [68]. The condition for the effects to be produced to third parties is the publication of the transfer in the Official Industrial Property Bulletin.

Procedural ways of transferring patent rights include: licence agreement, assignment agreement, legal succession, and testamentary succession. There are two distinct situations of transfer determined by the time of the transfer, *inter vivos acts (contractual transfer)* and *mortis cause transfer (in the case of legal or testamentary succession)*.

The parties involved in a patent licencing agreement are:

1. The patent holder (or patent application) – the person or entity who owns the intellectual property rights to the patented invention and who may grant the rights of use by licence agreement.

2. Licencee – the person or entity who wishes to use the patented invention and who obtains the right of use through the licence agreement.

The object of patent licencing agreements in the food and agricultural sector concerns the rights granted by the patent holder to a third party to produce, use, and/or sell a product or

technology protected by a patent. In the food and agricultural sector, such licencing agreements mainly concern innovative agricultural and food products and technologies that improve their quality, durability, yield, and safety.

Patent assignment is the process by which a patent owner (*assignor*) transfers its ownership rights of the patent to another person or entity (*assignee*) [72].

Through this procedure, the assignee becomes the legal owner of the patent and thus has the right to exercise ownership rights over the invention protected by the patent.

The essential point is the moment of transfer of rights in this case, i.e. after the patent application has been registered, but in all cases before the decision granting the patent has been handed down, the object of the transfer being the right to obtain the patent and not the patent already certified.

Specific to the transfer of ownership by assignment of the patent application is the risk of the contract, which is the absolutely real possibility that the patent application will be rejected. Once the patent has been granted, the assignee will become the owner of the patent and will have exclusive rights to produce, market, and use the invention.

As regards the form of the assignment contract, it is in principle a consensual contract, the consent of the parties certifying the transfer of ownership. However, for the contract to be valid, the requirement that the right must be recorded in the official industrial property registers must be met, which is why the contract must be concluded in writing.

A patent assignment contract for food and agricultural products must meet certain substantive conditions to be valid and legal:

1. Capacity of the parties – both the assignor and the assignee must have the legal capacity to enter into the contract. It is also important that the assignor is the patent owner or has the authorisation of the co-owners to assign the intellectual property rights.

2. Object of the contract – the object of the assignment contract must be clearly defined so that there is no confusion or misinterpretation. In the case of food and agricultural products, the object of the contract may be the invention itself or a patented technology used in the production process.

3. Price – the contract must stipulate the price for the assignment of intellectual property rights. This price may be fixed or based on the performance of the products or technology.

4. Duration of the contract – the contract must state the duration for which the intellectual property rights are assigned. This can be for a fixed or indefinite period.

5. Additional conditions – depending on the nature of the contract, additional conditions may be set, such as the obligation of the parties or non-compete guarantees.

Licencing and assignment agreements are the means of voluntary legal transfer of patent rights [74]. Specific to these is the fact that transfer is not conditional on the death or dissolution of the right holder.

CHAPTER 3

TRADEMARKS AND GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS IN THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

Trademarks and geographical indications are important for the protection and promotion of high-quality food and agricultural products [75], produced in certain geographical areas or according to certain traditional recipes. They are used in the food and agricultural sector to provide consumers with clear and precise information on the origin and quality of products.

As far as the food and agricultural sector is concerned, trademarks and geographical indications can be used in different ways:

- ✓ Manufacturers can use trademarks to promote their products and differentiate them from the competition, thus creating consumer brand loyalty.

- ✓ Distributors can use trademarks to differentiate their products from those of other distributors and to promote a strong trademark image.

- ✓ Consumers can use trademarks and geographical indications to identify high-quality products and make informed choices when buying food.

A trademark is a distinctive sign, whether in the form of a word, phrase, symbol, or design, which is used to identify and differentiate the goods or services of one company from those of other companies.

The trademark's features include:

- ✓ Distinctiveness – the trademark must be sufficiently distinctive to enable consumers to associate it with the company's goods or services [79].
- ✓ Unavailable – the trademark must be available for use and registration. It must not be identical or confusing with other previously registered marks.
- ✓ Graphical representation capability – the trademark must be capable of being represented clearly and accurately in a form that can be reproduced consistently.
- ✓ Ability to be associated with a particular product or service – the trademark must be associated with the company's goods or services so that it can be used to distinguish those goods or services from those of other companies.
- ✓ Durability – the trademark must be capable of being used continuously over a significant period.

By fulfilling all of these goals, the trademark becomes an important tool for protecting a company's intellectual property and helping them build a strong reputation in the marketplace.

Several types of trademarks have been identified in the literature:

- ✓ individual trademark;
- ✓ well-known trademark;
- ✓ collective trademark;
- ✓ certification trademark;
- ✓ trademarks and brand names;
- ✓ simple and combined trademark;
- ✓ verbal, figurative and sound trademark;
- ✓ the trademark of the agent or representative;
- ✓ "telle quelle" trademark;
- ✓ community trademark.

The exhaustion of trademark rights in the food and agricultural sector refers to the loss of ownership of a trademark for food and agricultural products.

There are several reasons why this may happen, the most common reason being the failure to show actual and continuous use of the trademark over a period.

The exhaustion causes of the trademark's protection right are:

- ✓ expiry of the period of regulated period;
- ✓ surrender by the holder of his rights of the trademark;
- ✓ brand abandonment;
- ✓ expiry;
- ✓ decline;
- ✓ cancellation of the trademark registration.

In Romania, *the duration of trademark protection* is regulated by Law no. 84/1998 on trademarks and geographical indications, including subsequent amendments and additions. According to the law, the term of protection of a trademark is 10 years from the date of filling the application for registration, with the possibility of extension for successive periods of 10 years.

To extend the trademark protection in Romania, the owner must file a request for an extension at least 6 months before the expiry of the protection term.

The owner must also pay a trademark extension fee.

If the owner does not apply for a trademark extension before the expiry of the protection term, the trademark protection will cease and the trademark will be removed from the Trademark Register. In this case, the trademark owner may apply to re-register the trademark but will have to file a new application and pay the appropriate fees.

It is important for trademark owners to monitor the expiry dates of their trademark protection and to take timely steps to extend protection to protect their investment in their trademark and avoid losing ownership rights in the trademark.

Article 30 of the Trademark law regulates the grounds for revocation of a registered trademark. According to it, a trademark may be declared invalid in the following situations:

1. If the trademark has not been put to genuine and effective use in connection with the goods or services for which it is registered for at least 5 consecutive years without legitimate justification for non-use;
2. If, after registration of the trademark, it is objectively found to be unsuitable for use in relation to the goods or services for which it is registered;
3. If the trademark has become a generic term for the goods or services for which it is registered through the action or inaction of the trademark owner or other persons;
4. If the trademark owner has explicitly or implicitly abandoned the trademark, in particular by failing to apply for renewal of the trademark registration by the legal terms and conditions.

The grounds on which cancellation of the trademark registration may be sought include the following:

- ✓ Trademarks that are in conflict with other earlier registered trademarks or which are identical or similar to trademarks that are protected by law [105];
- ✓ Misleading or deceptive trademarks;
- ✓ Trademarks that are contrary to public policy or morality;
- ✓ Trademarks that are similar or identical to legally protected geographical names;
- ✓ Trademarks not satisfying the formal or substantive requirements of the law.

If it is found that the trademark registration should be cancelled, the competent court or authority will issue a decision ordering the cancellation of the trademark registration. This decision has a retroactive effect and entails the loss of all rights conferred by the trademark registration, and trademarks identical or similar to the cancelled trademarks cannot be registered in the future.

CHAPTER 4

MATERIALS AND METHODS

4.1. Research objectives

The study on industrial property law in the food and agricultural sector in Romania aims to show the advantages that regulation, attention, and action can create for decision-makers (economic and/or political), economic, political, or strategic advantages for the sector.

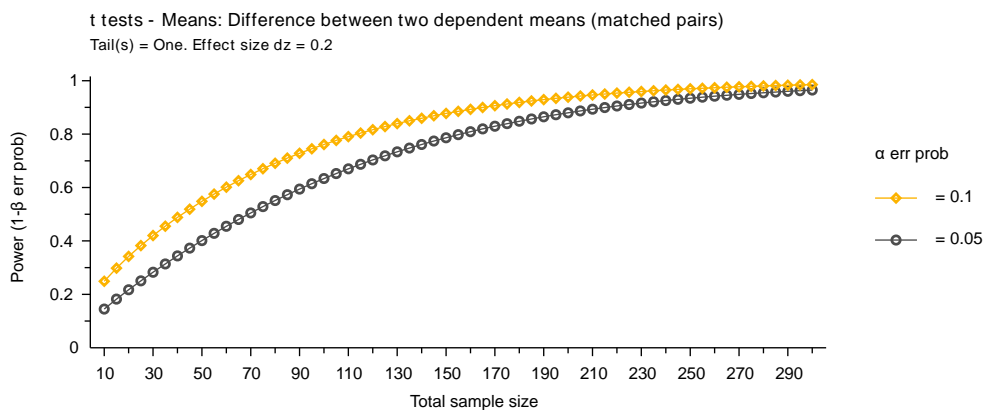
4.2. Population identification

In the present approach, the categories of subjects qualified by the act of having registered at least one product in the National Register of Traditional Producers during the period of these registrations are sought. The selected dataset is the main benchmark against which other aspects of the population under analysis are assessed qualitatively and quantitatively.

4.3. Sample selection

In the sample selection phase, this research approach will follow the totality of economic agents and entrepreneurs who have registered food and agricultural products in the National Register of Traditional Products (RNPT) or, for selective homogenization through sampling algorithms that favor the tracking of secondary factors in data modeling, but also the heteroscedasticity of data.

Figure 4.1 Sample size power

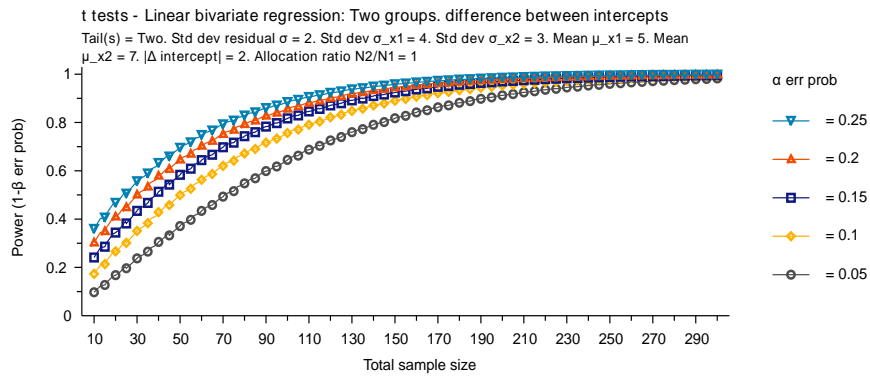


Source: author by data processing [23]

The graph showing power versus sample size is useful to visualise the relationship between these two variables and to assess whether the sample size obtained is sufficient to achieve the desired power. It can be seen in Figure 4.2 that incrementally increasing the chosen sample size does not bring substantial marginal benefits, but rather minor ones.

Sample size determinations relative to all economic agents for Pearson/Spearman correlation tests and bivariate linear regressions.

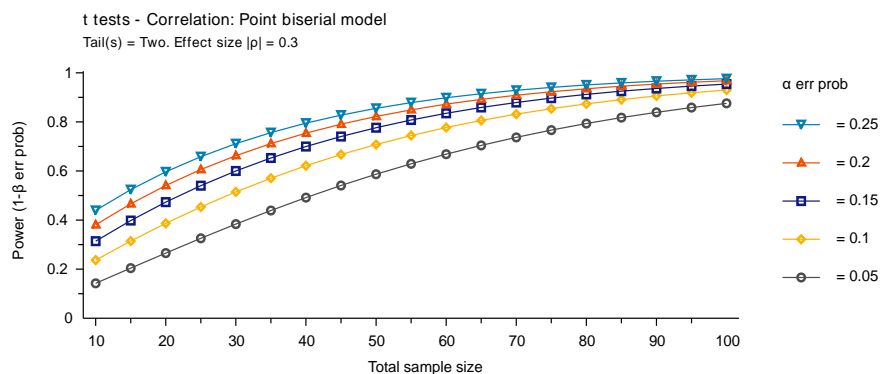
Figure 4.2 Bivariate regression analysis



Source: author by data processing [23]

A representative sample was selected for Romania, with subjects representing the totality of market participants with products in the RNPT. Although, from the simulations carried out previously, it was determined that a sample of 238 subjects (observations) is sufficient. A sample was selected that overlaps the studied population by 100: 772 observations from all macro-regions and counties of the country (Figure 4.3).

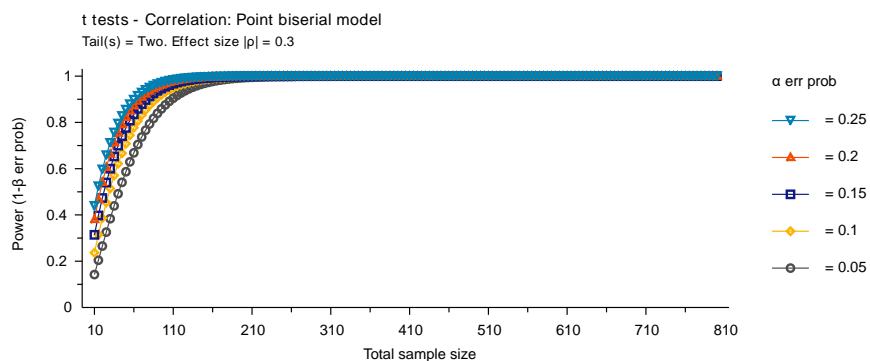
Figure 4.3 Maximum power total sample



Source: author by data processing [23]

Figure 4.3 shows the maximum power reached with the total sample overlapping the population under the study of 772 observations. Figure 4.4 shows the gradient of capping of the statistical parametric benchmarks in relation to the total number of observations: it can be seen that the sample exceeds the needs of the study.

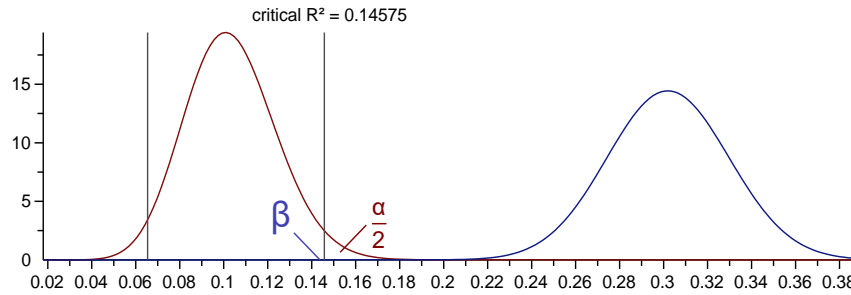
Figure 4.4 The capping gradient of statistical parametric benchmarks



Source: author by data processing [23]

Analysing the power obtained from the dataset with 772 observations and looking at the impact on a possible multiple linear regression analysis with a randomised model yields Figure 4.5.

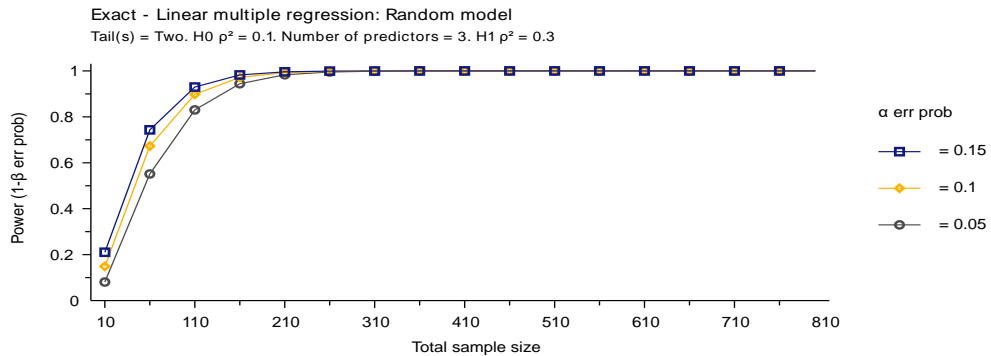
Figure 4.5 Impact on a possible multiple linear regression analysis



Source: author by data processing [23]

The result confirms previous analyses: we have enough participants in a randomised and geographically representative sub-sample, determined in the neighbourhood of 210-230 participants.

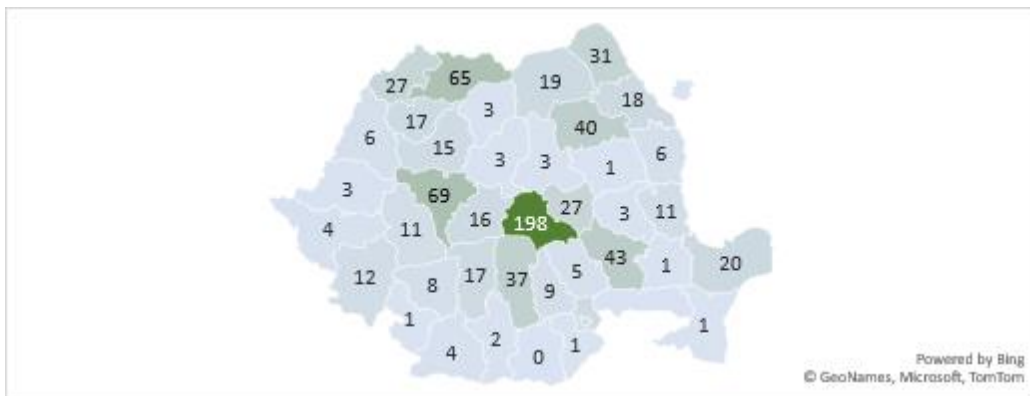
Figure 4.6 Impact 22 participants and 772 observations



Source: author by data processing [23]

In terms of randomisation, the dataset contains significantly more examples at the level of certain regions, but it is precisely these aspects that are useful for comparative analysis of the impact on economic growth (Figure 4.7).

Figure 4.7 Geographical distribution of sampled subjects

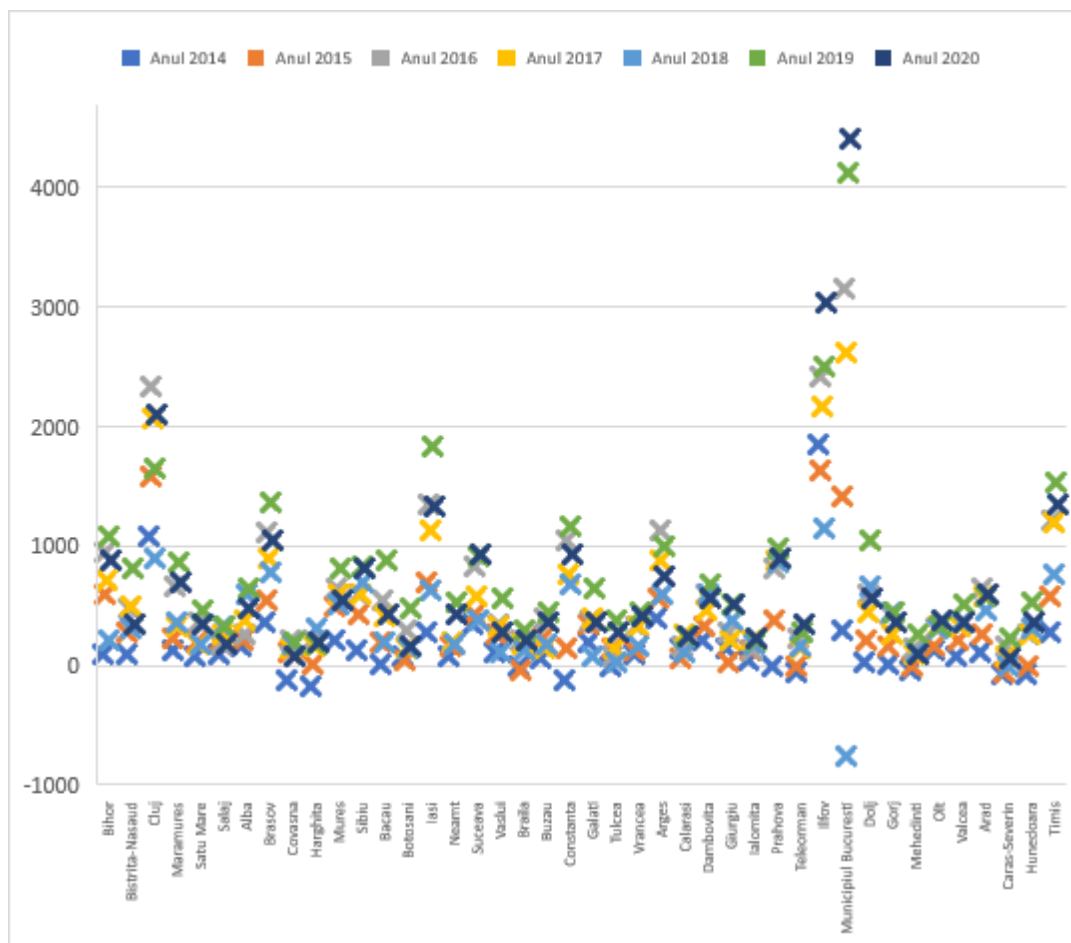


Source: author by data processing [23]

Map 4.7 provides a geographical overview of the distribution of the subjects in the study, i.e. the firms and their products registered in the RNPT, across the country. It can be noted that there is considerable clustering in the Brasov region, with a total of 198 registered products.

The use of NIS data has significant methodological advantages as the NIS is known for rigorous and systematic data collection that contributes to the reliability of the data, the information is likely to be accurate and consistent as it is collected through standardised procedures and checked for accuracy. Moreover, due to the national coverage of the NIS, the collected data are representative of the whole country, which is essential in contextualising the studied sample and understanding how it fits into the wider economic landscape of Romania (Figure 4.8).

Figure 4.8 NIS data on the quantitative development of economic agents



Source: author by data processing [106]

4.4. Data collection

The baseline data for the study was extracted only for the formulation of the answer to the essential question of the thesis *“what is the impact of industrial property rights on innovation and competitiveness in the food and agricultural sector in Romania?”*

The collection and analysis of the number of patents and trademarks registered in the food and agricultural sector in Romania, the collection and analysis of certified products, their structuring by geographical areas and counties, the collection and analysis of statistical data on economic activity in the food and agricultural sector, the analysis of statistical factors on the standard of living, regional economic development, are data that will lead to the assessment of

the impact of industrial property rights on investment in research and development in the food and agricultural sector, and the comparison of intellectual property protection models used in different regions in terms of their impact on innovation and competitiveness in the food and agricultural sector.

4.5. Data analysis

In the data analysis stage, the processed data are examined and interpreted to draw relevant conclusions. This is the stage where the initial hypothesis can be tested and it can be discovered whether or not there is a relationship between the variables under investigation.

The percentage occupied in the reference area by the administrative-territorial unit was analysed.

The statistical clustering method was used to investigate the impact of industrial property rights protection on the Romanian food and agricultural sector.

All data will be entered into the Herfindahl-Hirschmann Index (HHI) calculation formula following the formula:

$$IGS = \sqrt{\left(\frac{N\sum(Gi^2) - 1}{N - 1}\right)}$$

where:

- GSI stands for Gini-Struck Index (GSI)
- N is the number of items or questions in the test or scale
- $\sum Gi^2$ is the sum of squared values of a set of variables or terms in the officially collected data.

The Herfindahl-Hirschman Index (HH) is the indicator used to measure the degree of concentration of a market.

It is calculated by squaring the market weights of each market participant.

The formula for calculating the Herfindahl-Hirschman (HH) index is:

$$HH = \sum_{i=1}^n G_i^2$$

- HH is the Herfindahl-Hirschman index of the market.
- $\sum_{i=1}^n G_i^2$ is the sum of the squares of the market weights of each market participant.

In other words, to calculate HH, we need to sum the squares of the market weights (G_i^2) for each market participant. The higher the HH, the more concentrated the market, indicating that fewer players dominate the market.

To track the impact of intellectual property rights on innovation and economic performance, we also calculate Pearson correlation coefficients (R) according to the formula:

$$r = \frac{cov(X, Y)}{\sigma_X \sigma_Y}$$

- $cov(X, Y)$ is the covariance between variable X and variable Y. Covariance measures the extent to which the variances of the two variables are linearly correlated with each other. The higher the covariance, the stronger the correlation between the variables.

- $\sigma_X \sigma_Y$ is the standard derivation of variables X and Y. The standard deviation is a measure of the dispersion of the data around their mean value. The larger the standard deviation, the greater the variability of the data.

Thus, the Pearson correlation coefficient (r) is calculated as the ratio of the covariance to the product of the standard deviations of the two variables. The value of the coefficient r varies between -1 and 1, indicating the direction and strength of the linear relationship between the

variables. An r coefficient close to 1 or -1 indicates a strong correlation, while a value close to 0 indicates a weak or no correlation.

Lorenz concentration index (IL):

$$IL = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (2i - n - 1)y_i}{n \sum_{i=1}^n y_i}$$

where

- n is the number of categories or groups into which the data are divided.

- $\sum_{i=1}^n (2i - n - 1)y_i$ is the weighted sum of the observed values in each category.

Values are weighted according to their rank in the distribution.

- $\sum_{i=1}^n y_i$ is the total sum of the observed values in all categories.

The Lorenz concentration index is calculated by dividing the weighted sum of the observed values in each category by the total sum of the observed values. This index measures the degree of inequality or concentration of a feature in the distribution of the data. The closer the Lorenz concentration index is to 0, the more equal the distribution, while a value close to 1 indicates greater concentration in fewer categories.

The Shannon Index is an indicator used to measure the diversity or information contained in a data set. It is also called information entropy and is calculated based on the probabilities of occurrence of different categories or events in a system.

The formula for calculating the Shannon Index is:

$$H = - \sum_{i=1}^n p_i \log_2(p_i)$$

where:

- H is the value of the Shannon index or information entropy.

- n is the number of categories or events in the system.

- p_i is the probability of occurrence of category or event i.

$\log_2(p_i)$ is the logarithm in base 2.

The value of the Shannon index can vary between 0 and $\log_2(n)$, where 0 indicates a situation of maximum certainty (all categories or events have the same probability) and $\log_2(n)$ indicates a situation of maximum uncertainty (categories or events have different probabilities).

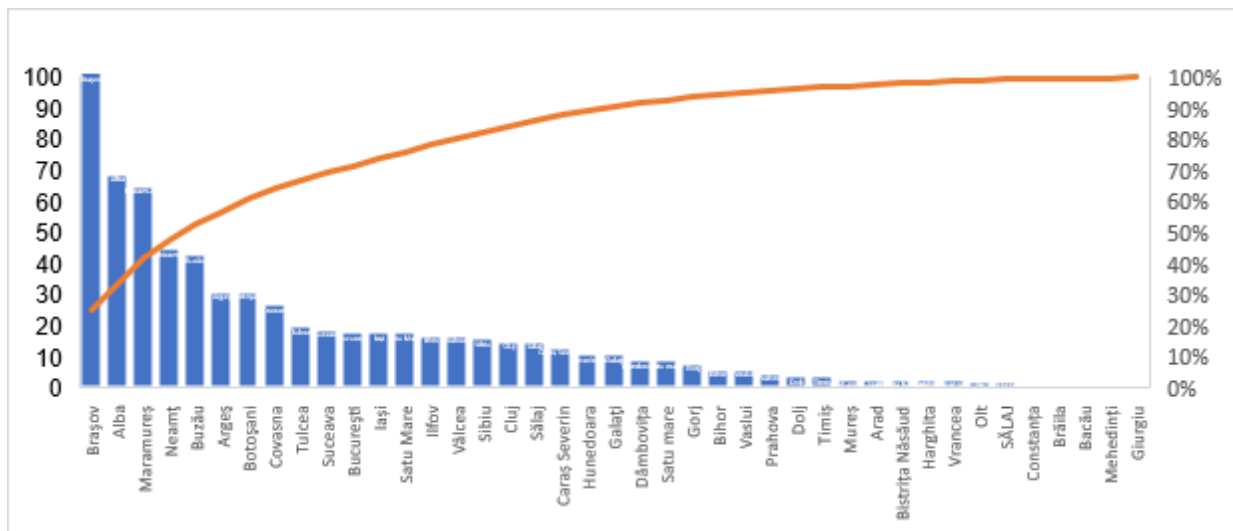
CHAPTER 5

APPLIED REGIONAL ANALYSIS

The chapter presents the research carried out for each region, showing the benefits that legal protection of industrial property rights creates for economic development itself. As a result, a direct correlation is sought between certified products according to quality schemes and the state of local and regional development as a whole.

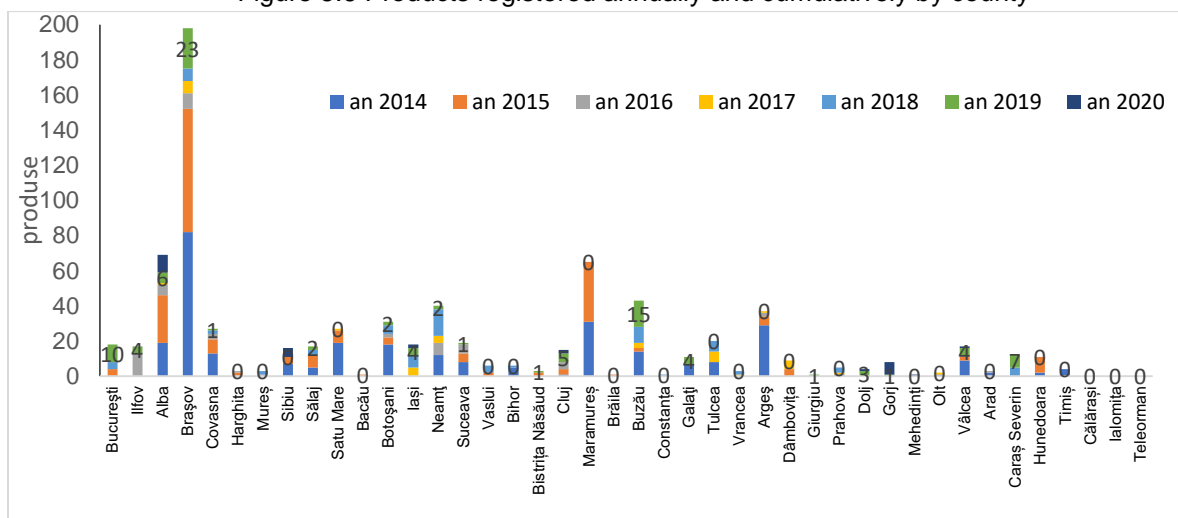
All certified products registered in the RNPT were graphically analysed for the application of their distribution (Figure 5.1). It can be seen that the results follow a Pareto distribution. The Pareto distribution has a “long tail” on the right, which means that it has an area with high values that occurs less frequently but can have a significant impact.

Figure 5.1 Distribution of producers by counties according to the number of products



Source: author by data processing [23]

Figure 5.6 Products registered annually and cumulatively by county



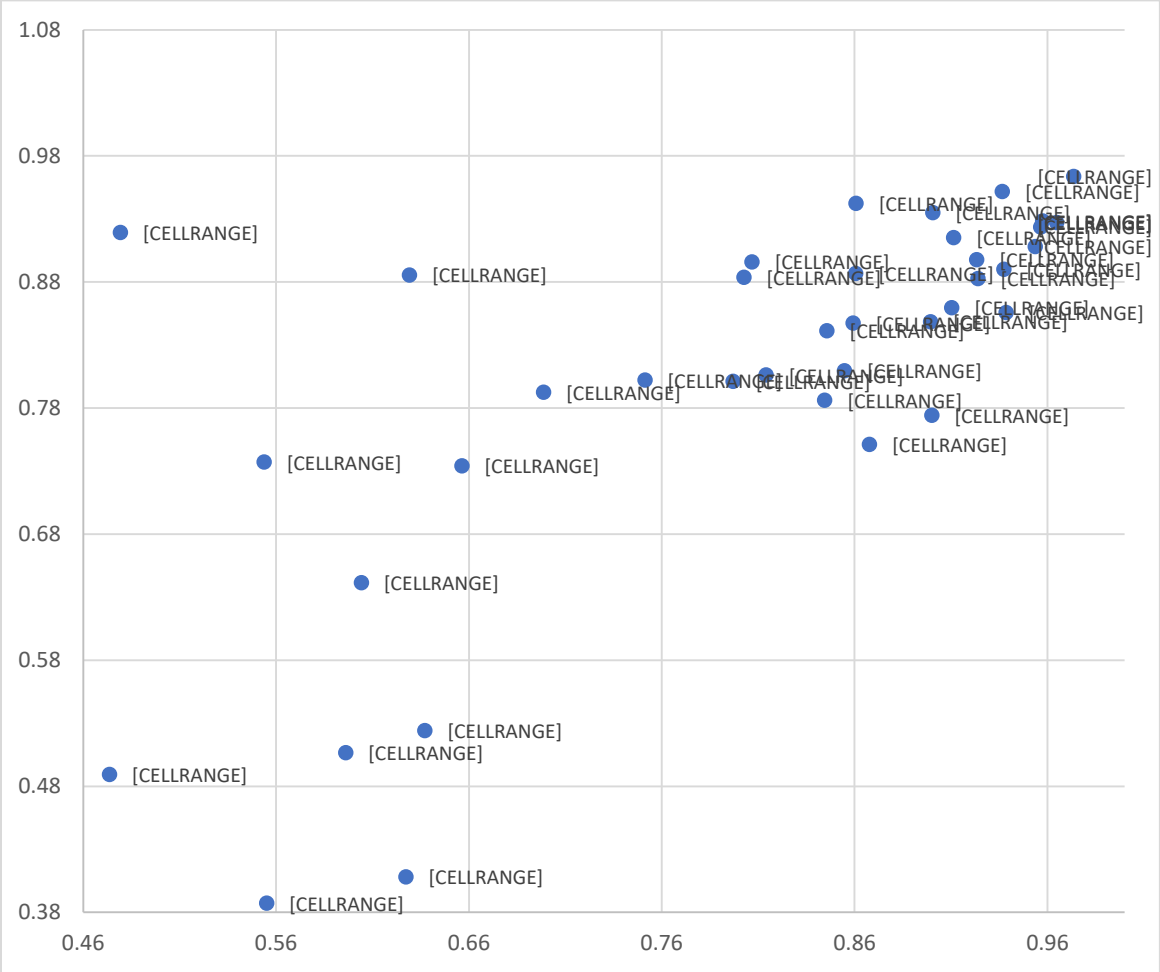
Source: author by data processing [23]

Because RNPT data are representative and exhaustive, they can be a robust indicator of how different aspects of the economy are linked. This allows for specific and enriched observations compared to those that can be extracted from the scatter plot. This makes it possible to analyse the discrepancies between the correlation coefficients of Turnover (CA) with the number of Active Units (UA) and those of Turnover with the number of products registered in the RNPT. For example, in the BIF region (Bucharest-Ilfov), there is a strong correlation between CA and UA (0.965), but this relationship becomes weaker when compared with the number of products in the RNPT (0.830). This may suggest that in BIF, growth in turnover and number of active units is not as strongly related to the production of traditional products as in other regions.

Secondly, another interesting aspect is observed in the relationship between the number of products in RNPT and Active Units in the regions C (Centre) and NV (North-West) where the coefficients are extremely close to 1 (0.997 in NV and 0.997 in C).

This suggests that in these regions there is an almost perfect link between economic activity and the production of traditional products (Figure 5.8). The feature highlighted may be an indication of a regional economy that is particularly focused on the production and marketing of traditional products and may suggest that these regions have significant potential for the development of this sector in the future.

Figure 5.8 Pearson correlation coefficient - RNPT vs. CA/UA perspective



Source: author by data processing [23]

Figure 5.8 gives a clear picture of the relationship between economic prosperity and the number of products registered in the RNPT at the county level. In particular, it can be seen that

there are certain groups of counties that *cluster* in different regions of the graph, suggesting similar regional patterns in the relationship between these variables.

The main mathematical model of the impact of intellectual protection practices on regional economic prosperity

1. The Herfindahl-Hirschman Index (HH) values is calculated for each region:

$$[HH_i = \sum_{k=1}^{n_i} (p_{ik})^2]$$

where (n_i) is the number of business in the region (i) , (p_{ik}) is the business's market share (k) in the region (i) .

The Herfindahl – Hirschmann index (IHH) is used to measure the degree of market concentration by summing the squares of the market shares of all factors in the sector.

2. The Shannon index for product diversity in each region is calculated:

$$[S_i = - \sum_{l=1}^{m_i} q_{il} \cdot \ln(q_{il})]$$

where (m_i) is the number of product types in the region (i) , and (q_{il}) is the proportion of the product (l) in the total products of the region (i) .

3. A preliminary score is defined for each region based on the HH index, Shannon index, number of products, turnover, and active units:

$$[R_i = \left(\frac{HH_i \cdot S_i \cdot P_i}{CA_i} \right)^{UA_i}]$$

4. Average of the preliminary scores for all regions:

$$[R_{medie} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N R_i]$$

5. An adjustment factor is calculated for each year based on the number of products in the RNPT, active units, and turnover:

$$[F_j = \left(\frac{P_{RNPT_j} \cdot U_j}{1 + e^{-(CA_j - \bar{CA})}} \right)^{t_j}]$$

6. Sum up the adjustment factors for all years assessed:

$$[F_{total} = \sum_{j=1}^M F_j]$$

7. Finally, the results are combined to derive the Impact of Intellectual Property Protection on Economic Prosperity Index:

$$[I_{PEP} = \alpha \cdot R_{medie} + \beta \cdot F_{total}]$$

where (α) and (β) are weighting coefficients that can be adjusted to reflect the relative importance of the two components of the formula.

The resulting mathematical model is:

$$[I_{PEP} = \alpha \left(\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \left(\frac{HH_i \cdot S_i \cdot P_i}{CA_i} \right)^{UA_i} \right) + \beta \left(\sum_{j=1}^M \left(\frac{P_{RNPT_j} \cdot U_j}{1 + e^{-(CA_j - \bar{CA})}} \right)^{t_j} \right)]$$

For updated and detailed information on the National Register of Traditional Products in Romania, please consult the official website of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development or contact the competent authorities responsible for managing this register [28].

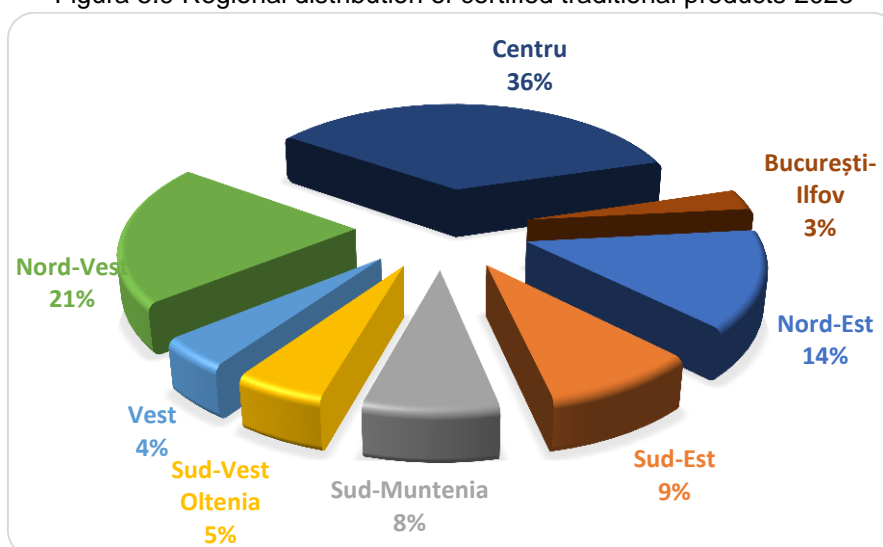
In the consolidated version as of March 2023, 753 products were registered in the RNPT as “traditional products”.

The distribution of traditional products registered in the RNPT in the March 2023 consolidated version is shown in Figure 5.10 [23].

In this case, the HH concentration index is a measure of the extent to which a small number of regions can account for a large share of the traditional product market (table 5.3).

The higher the HHI value of a market, the more production is concentrated in a small number of factors.

Figura 5.9 Regional distribution of certified traditional products 2023



Source: [23]

In general, when the HHI is below 1000, the market concentration is considered low. When the index is between 1000 and 1800, the market concentration is considered medium, and when the HHI is above 1800, it is considered high. In absolute values, the total number of traditional products and their distribution by region is shown in Table 5.3.

Table 5.3. Distribution and share of certified traditional products by development region

Nr. crt.	Region	No. of products	Weight G_i	G_i^2
1	North-East	107	14.20982736	201.9191935
2	South-East	68	9.030544489	81.55073376
3	South-Muntenia	59	7.835325365	61.39232358
4	South-West Oltenia	40	5.312084993	28.21824698
5	West	33	4.38247012	19.20604435
6	North-West	156	20.71713147	429.1995365
7	Centre	267	35.45816733	1257.28163
8	Bucharest-Ilfov	23	3.054448871	9.329657907
	Total	753	100	2088.097367

Source: Author, using [23]

The calculated value is $HH = \sum (G_i^2) = 2088.09$. According to the presented methodology, a high concentration of traditional products can be observed at national level.

Further verification of the degree of concentration of the traditional products market can be done using the Gini-Struck Index (GSI), calculated according to the formula:

$$GSI = \text{SQRT} \left(\frac{(N \sum G_i^2 - 1)}{(N-1)} \right)$$

$$GSI = \sqrt{\left(\frac{(753 * 2088.097367 - 1)}{(753 - 1)} \right)} = \sqrt{\left(\frac{(1577477.854751 - 1)}{752} \right)}$$

$$GSI = 45.72606$$

If the GSI values is high (tending toward 1), it indicates a high degree of market concentration and if the coefficient value tends towards 0, it indicates a low degree of concentration of the market structure under analysis.

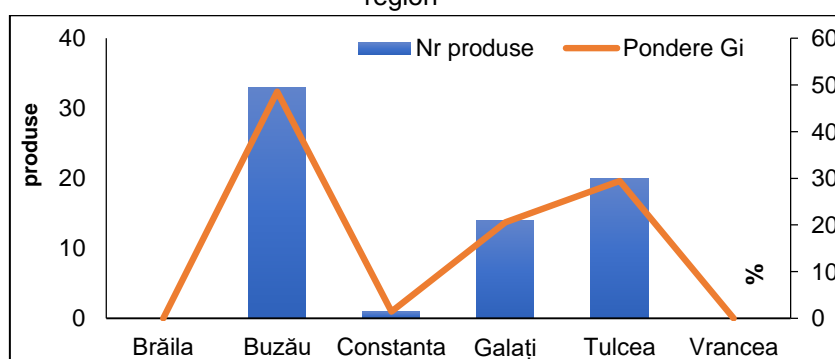
The application of the calculation formula leads to a value of GSI=45.7, i.e. a high degree of market concentration.

Economic and social analysis of the South-East region

The South-East development region is located in the south-east part of Romania. It is the second largest of the eight Development Regions, with an area of about 35,762 km², which represents about 15% of Romania's total area [111].

The distribution by counties of certified traditional products and the share in the South-East region is shown in Figure 5.13.

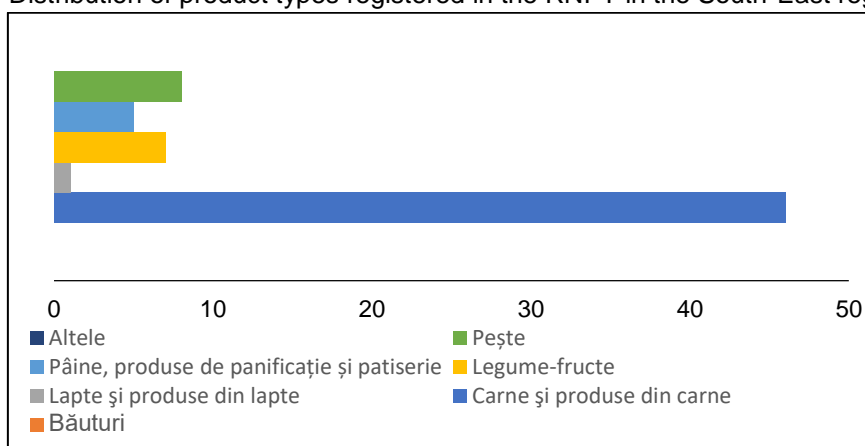
Figure 5.13 Distribution by counties of certified traditional products and share in the South-East region



Source: author by data processing [23]

In the South-East region, the most products recorded are meat products, followed by fish and bread and bakery products. The situation is shown in Figure 5.14.

Figura 5.14 Distribution of product types registered in the RNPT in the South-East region



Source: author by data processing [23]

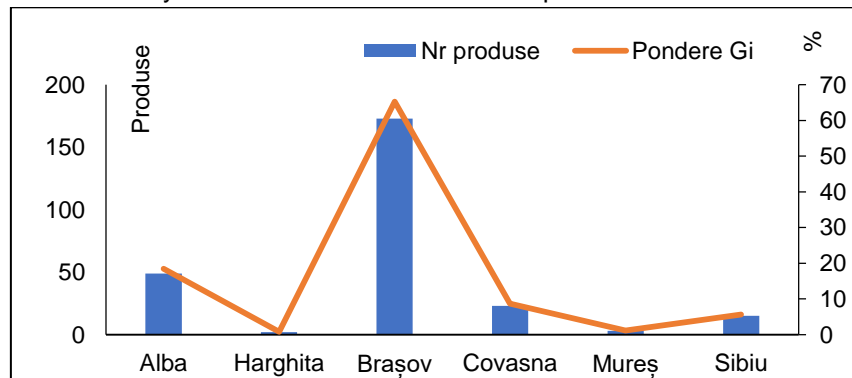
It can be seen that meat products are well represented in the South-East region in the situation of registered products, which corresponds to the traditional realities based on shepherding, animal husbandry, according to geo-climatic conditions.

Economic and social analysis of the Centre region

The Centre Region is located in the central part of Romania, inside the great curvature of the Carpathian Mountains, on the upper and middle courses of the Mures and Olt rivers, around the meridian 25° east longitude and the parallel 46° north latitude. The area of the Centre region is about 34.100 km², representing about 14.3% of Romania's territory.

Following the individual analysis of each county in the Centre Region, the situation regarding the distribution and share of traditional products in the Centre Region is shown in Figure 5.31.

Figure 5.31 Distribution by counties of certified traditional products and share in the Centre region

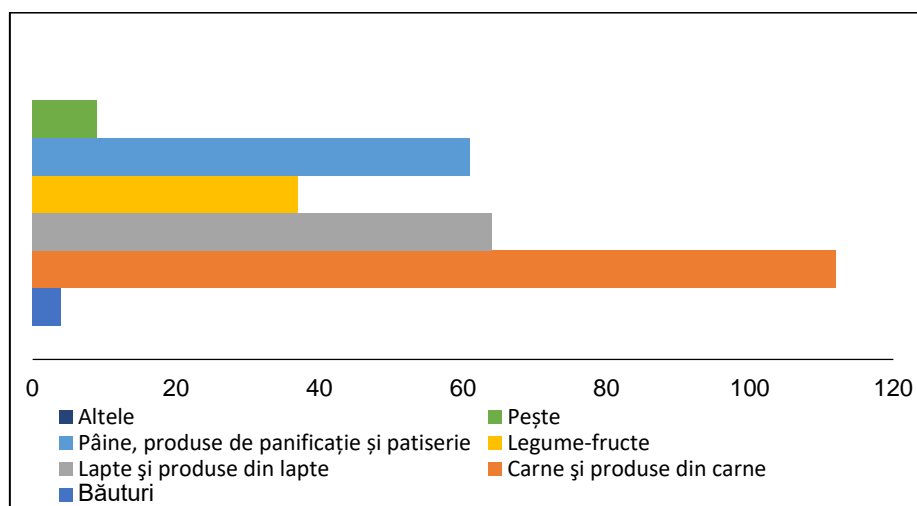


Source: author by data processing [23]

A major disproportion can be observed between the counties of the region, which must be interpreted in order to bring all the regions of the region to a common denominator. It is obvious that each county of the region has something to offer, as the above descriptions show, but how regional harmonisation can be achieved remains uncertain for the time being.

In terms of the share of product types registered, the situation is shown in Figure 5.32.

Figure 5.32 Distribution of product types registered in the RNPT at the level of the Centre region



Source: author by data processing [23]

Meat products also dominate this region at the top of the product categories registered in the RNPT. Beverages, bread, and bakery and pastry products are far behind in the rankings but are well-represented compared to the national level.

CONCLUSIONS

Traditional food products are an essential element in the development of the rural food industry. The promotion of the concept of traditional products has recently led to an increased interest on the part of the food consumer, amidst the concern for natural nutrition and a healthier lifestyle.

Based on the author's legal expertise and experience in patenting and technology transfer, the results of the research carried out in this thesis have resulted in the drafting of three proposals for a new law, which will be submitted to the parliamentary offices for analysis and development. A new occupational standard is also proposed which, if regulated, could significantly increase the number of certified products.

In Romania, traditional products can represent a significant change in the food market, bringing a healthier alternative to the conventional foods that are predominant in supermarkets. These products have become popular in the market as many consumers have begun to avoid additives, artificial ingredients, and other components of food products perceived as less healthy.

PROPOSAL FOR LEX FERENDA NO. 1

Law of granting state aid to support traditional Romanian products

Article 1: Purpose of the law. The purpose of this law is to promote and support the production, processing, and marketing of traditional Romanian products by granting state aid.

Article 2: Definitions. For this law, the following definitions shall apply: a) Traditional Romanian products: food or non-food products which are made according to traditional methods and which have characteristics specific to Romanian culture and traditions; b) Producer: a natural or legal person who produces and markets traditional Romanian products.

Article 3: Support measures:

The government will establish financial and non-financial support measures for producers of traditional Romanian products, including:

Providing grants and subsidies to improve production and processing infrastructure, upgrade equipment and facilities, and develop storage and distribution capacity.

Promoting and supporting the participation of producers in fairs, exhibitions, and events to promote traditional Romanian products.

Providing technical assistance and consultancy to improve the quality, certification, and labelling of traditional Romanian products.

Development and implementation of training and education programs for producers in the field of traditional Romanian products.

Article 4: Eligibility and criteria for granting state aid

Producers of traditional Romanian products will be eligible for state aid according to the criteria set by the Government.

Eligibility criteria may include but are not limited to, meeting quality and authenticity standards, obtaining official certifications, commitment to using local resources and protecting the environment, and demonstrating long-term sustainability of the business.

Article 5: Monitoring and evaluation

The competent authorities will monitor and evaluate the use and impact of support measures granted to producers of traditional Romanian products.

If infringements of the law or misuse of state aid are found, sanctions will be applied in accordance with the legal provisions.

Article 6: Final provisions. This law shall enter into force within 30 days from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette and shall apply for a period of [x] years. The Government shall adopt implementing rules within [x] months of the entry into force of the law.

The benefit is to support traditional Romanian products. When implementing it, it is important to take into account the expertise and consultation of several stakeholders, such as producers, professional associations, consumer organisations and specialists in the field.

PROPOSAL FOR LEX FERENDA NO. 2

Law on exemption from the payment of tax on income from wages and salaries of employees whose activities include certified traditional products

Article 1: Purpose of the law. The purpose of this law is to promote and support the production and marketing of certified traditional products by granting an exemption from the payment of tax on income from wages and salaries for employees working in the field of certified traditional products.

Article 2: Definitions. For this law, the following definitions shall apply: a) Certified traditional products: food or non-food products that have obtained official certification in accordance with the applicable national and European regulations; b) Employee: any natural person who has an employment contract or performs an activity assimilated to that of an employee in an organisation engaged in the production, processing, or marketing of certified traditional products.

Article 3: Tax exemption

1. Employees who carry out activities in the field of certified traditional products, based on an employment contract or another type of contract assimilated to that of an employee, benefit from a 100% exemption from the payment of tax on income from salaries and assimilated to salaries for income obtained from these activities.

2. The tax exemption applies for a period of [x] years from the date of employment in an organisation engaged in the production, processing, or marketing of certified traditional products.

3. To benefit from the tax exemption, employees must obtain a certification issued by the competent authorities attesting that they are a specialist in certified traditional products and are employed by an organisation holding official certification for traditional products.

Article 4: Obligation of the employer. The employer has the following obligations:

a) Ensure that the employee meets the specialisation and qualification criteria for tax exemption.

b) To take all necessary administrative steps to benefit from the tax exemption and to comply with all applicable legal provisions.

c) To provide the competent tax organisation with all the information necessary to verify that the conditions for tax exemption are met.

Article 5: Monitoring and evaluation

1. The competent tax authority is responsible for monitoring and verifying the correct application of the tax exemption.

2. If violations of the provisions of the law or improper use of the tax exemption are found, the tax authority may impose penalties in accordance with the legal provisions.

Article 6: Final provisions. This law shall enter into force within 30 days from the date of publication in the Official Gazette and shall apply from [date].

The benefit is the creation of accessibility conditions to high-quality labour force for economic agents in the food and agricultural sector.

PROPOSAL FOR LEX FERENDA NO. 3

Law on the reduction of the VAT rate for traditionally certified food and agricultural products

Article 1: Purpose of the law

The purpose of this law is to promote and support the production and marketing of traditionally certified food and agricultural products by reducing the VAT rate applied to these products.

Article 2: Definitions

For this law, the following definitions shall apply:

- a) Traditionally certified food and agricultural products: food products obtained according to traditional methods and technologies and which have obtained official certification to this effect and registration in the National Register of Traditional Products;
- b) Producer: natural or legal person producing and marketing traditionally certified food and agricultural products.

Article 3: Reduction of the VAT rate

The standard VAT rate applied to traditionally certified food and agricultural products is reduced from 19% to 5%.

The reduced VAT rate applies to all stages of the production and distribution chain of traditionally certified food and agricultural products.

Article 4: Obligations of producers

Producers of traditionally certified food and agricultural products have the following obligations:

- a) Obtain official certification for their products in accordance with current legislation.
- b) Maintain appropriate quality and authenticity standards for traditionally certified food and agricultural products.
- c) Provide the competent tax organisations with all the information necessary to verify compliance with the provisions of the law and the correct application of the VAT rate reduction.

Article 5: Monitoring and evaluation

Tax and control authorities will monitor and evaluate the application of the reduced VAT rate for traditionally certified food and agricultural products.

If violations of the provisions of the law or improper use of the VAT reduction rate are found, penalties will be applied in accordance with the legal provisions.

Article 6: Final provisions

This law shall enter into force within 30 days from the date of publication in the Official Gazette and shall apply from [date].

The benefit is to create conditions of accessibility to certified products for all social categories, thus ensuring the representation of these products in all types of retail outlets, not only in hypermarket networks.

PROPOSAL FOR OCCUPATIONAL STANDARD SPECIALIST IN TRADITIONAL PRODUCTS

Occupational title: Specialist in Traditional Products

Purpose of occupation: The Traditional Products Specialist is responsible for promoting and supporting the development, production, and marketing of Romanian traditional products. He/she is involved in all stages of the process, from identifying traditional resources and raw materials to promoting and selling finished products.

Skills and responsibilities:

Identifies and evaluates traditional resources used in the production of traditional Romanian products. Collects, analyses, and documents information on traditional technologies and specific production processes. Provides advice and technical assistance to producers of traditional products to ensure their quality and authenticity.

Promotes traditional products at fairs, exhibitions, and special events.

Develops and implements marketing strategies and plans to promote traditional products.

Collaborates with relevant institutions and organisations to obtain specific certifications and labels for traditional products.

Monitors and evaluates the impact of support measures of traditional products and proposes improvements.

Qualification requirements:

Higher education in Engineering and management in agriculture and rural development.

Solid knowledge of traditional Romanian products, traditional technologies, and production processes. Experience in developing and implementing marketing and product promotion strategies. Excellent communication and negotiation skills. Ability to work in a team and coordinate projects. Knowledge of foreign languages, especially English (an advantage).

Resources and infrastructure required:

Access to information resources on traditional products and specific technologies.

Equipment and tools needed for the analysis and evaluation of the quality of traditional products. Access to distribution networks and product marketing channels.

Career progression: the Traditional Products Specialist can advance according to experience and performance in various roles, such as Project Manager for the Promotion of Traditional Products, Traditional Products Certification Expert, or Agricultural Policy Advisor.

The profession must be regulated and it is absolutely necessary that it is included in the occupational proposals in the descriptive supplements for graduates of the first cycle of undergraduate studies in accredited specialisation in the field of Engineering and management in agriculture and development. Hypermarkets must be required to set up stands selling these products, supervised by traditional products specialist.

The measure would ensure multiple benefits such as food safety, development of certification of traditional products, employability for graduates, sustainability of the sector.

LIST OF SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS

A. Books/Book chapters as author/Co-author

1. Stanciu, S., Mereuță, C., **Bratoveanu, B.D.**, 2018, Bune practici în activitatea de brevetare, în Etică și deontologie academică, Vlad, C. (Ed.), ISBN978-606-696-147-9., Ed. GUP, Galați, pag. 119-154 (36 pag/305 pag.).

2. Stanciu, S., **Bratoveanu, B.D.**, 2018, Protecția datelor cu caracter personal—elemente de noutate în contextul adoptării Regulamentului (UE) 2016/ 679, în Etică și deontologie academică, Vlad, C. (Ed.), ISBN 978-606-696-147-9, Ed. GUP, Galați, pag 213-246 (34 pag/305 pag).

B. Scientific articles

1. Articles published in ISI journals.

1. Nicula, M.D., Stoica, C.D., Dumitriu Ion, M.I., Florea, A.M., Munteanu (Pila), M., **Bratoveanu, D.B.**, Stanciu, S., 2020, Research Regarding Land Evolution and Agricultural Area of Galati County, Scientific Papers-Series A-Agronomy, 63(2), pp. 178-183, ISSN: 2285-5785, WOS:000596730700028, <https://www.webofscience-com.am.e-nformation.ro/wos/woscc/full-record/WOS:000596730700028>.

2. Articles published in ISI indexed conference volumes (Web of Science/Clarivate Analytics Core Collection).

1. **Bratoveanu, B.D.**, Nicula, M., Sarbu, R., Stanciu, S., 2020, The Beer Market in Romania. Situation and Outlook, Proceedings of 2020 BASIQ International Conference: New Trends in Sustainable Business and Consumption (Messina, Italy, Jun 04-06, 2020), Ed. Dinu, V., ISSN: 2457-483X, pp. 532-539, WOS:000630165800115, <https://www.webofscience-com.am.e-nformation.ro/wos/woscc/full-record/WOS:000630165800115>.

2. Nicula, M., **Bratoveanu, B.D.**, Dumitriu (Ion), I.M., Stoica (Dinca), C., **Stanciu, S.**, 2020, The Determining Factors for Establishing the Structure of Agricultural Crops in Small Farms in Romania, Proceedings of The 35th International-Business-Information-Management-Association Conference (IBIMA): Education Excellence and Innovation Management: A 2025 Vision to Sustain Economic Development During Global Challenges, (Seville, Spain, April 01-02, 2020), pp. 8353-8360, Ed. Soliman, K.S., ISBN: 978-0-9998551-4-0, WOS: 000661127408082, <https://www.webofscience-com/wos/woscc/full-record/WOS:000661127408082>.

3. Stanciu, S., Vochin, O.A., Sârbu, M.A., **Bratoveanu, B.D.**, 2019, Food Retail in Romania. Market Overview, Proceedings of 2019 BASIQ International Conference: New Trends in Sustainable Business and Consumption (Bari, Italy, May 30-Jun. 01, 2019), Ed. ASE București, pp. 785-792, ISSN: 2457-483X, Ed. Dinu, C., WOS: 000478861800100, <https://www.webofscience.com/wos/woscc/ full-record/WOS:000478861800100>.

4. Florea, A.M., Radu, R.I., **Bratoveanu, B.D.**, Nicula, M.D., 2019, ASPECTS ON THE NEED OF REENGINEERING THE ENTITIES ACTIVATING IN THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR, Proceedings of BASIQ 2019, 2019 BASIQ INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE: NEW TRENDS IN SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS AND CONSUMPTION, <https://www.webofscience.com/wos/woscc/full-record/WOS:000478861800052>.

5. Stoica (Dinca), C., Dumitriu (Ion), I.M., **Bratoveanu, B.D.**, Munteanu Pila, M., Ursan (Dincă), M.D., Stanciu, S., 2019, Considerations Regarding the Restrictive Factors on the

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3. Articles published in journals/volumes of scientific conferences indexed in international databases

1. Stanciu, S., Radu, R.I., Sapira, V., **Bratoveanu, B.D.**, Florea, A.M., 2020, Consumer Behavior in Crisis Situations. Research on the Effects of COVID-19 in Romania, Annals of "Dunarea de Jos" University of Galati, Fascicle I. Economics and Applied Informatics, Years XXVI – no1/2020, ISSN-L 1584-0409, ISSN-Online 2344-441X, pp. 5-13, <https://doi.org/10.35219/eai1584040975>.

2. Stoica Dinca, C., Dumitriu Ion, I.M., **Bratoveanu, B.D.**, Stanciu, S., 2020, Aspects Regarding Maize Crops in the Southeast Region of Romania, Economics and Applied Informatics, "Dunarea de Jos" University of Galati, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, (26)2, pp. 122-128, DOI: <https://doi.org/10.35219/eai15840409115>,

4. Studies presented at international/national scientific conferences with international participation

1. Bratoveanu, B.D, Zungun, D., Stanciu S., *Agro-Food Brands–Survival and Success on Romanian Market* The 32nd International Business Information Management Association (IBIMA) conference 15-16 November 2018, Seville, Spain

2. Bratoveanu, B.D, Stanciu S., *Research on the importance of trademarks on the agri-food market in Romania*, Sesiunea Științifică Internațională Cercetări de Economie Agrară și Dezvoltare Rurală: „Piețele agricole și spațiul rural în contextul modernizării și simplificării

politicii agricole comune”, Organizatori Academia Română, Institutul Național de Cercetări Economice „Costin C. Kirițescu”, Institutul de Economie Agrară (București, România, Decembrie 11, 2018)

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4. Dumitriu (Ion) Iuliana Manuela, Stoica Cristina (Dincă), Bratoveanu D.B., Ursan (Dincă) M.D., Stanciu S., *Cercetări privind eficientizarea controlului integrat al organismelor dăunătoare de depozit specifice loturilor de semințe de cereale păioase*, Sesiunea Științifică Internațională Cercetări de Economie Agrară și Dezvoltare Rurală: "Dezvoltarea Durabilă a Agriculturii și a Spațiului Rural din Perspectiva Politicii Agricole Comune", Org. Academia Română, Institutul Național de Cercetări Economice “Costin C. Kirițescu”, Institutul de Economie Agrară (București, România, 11. 12. 2019)

5. Bratoveanu D.B., Stanciu S., *Protected designations of origin in wine production in Romania*, Scientific conference of doctoral schools SCDS-UDJG SCDS-UDJG 2019 The Seventh Edition, Galați, 13th-14th of June 2019, Galați, Romania

6. Florea A. M., Radu R. I., Bratoveanu D. B., Nicula M. D., *Aspects on the need of reengineering the entities activating in the agricultural sector*, BASIQ International Conference: New Trends in Sustainable Business and Consumption (Bari, Italy, May 30-Jun. 01, 2019).

7. Nicula M. D., Dinca Stoica C., Ion Dumitriu, I. M., FLOREA A. M., , MUNTEANU PILA M., BRATOVEANU D. B., STANCIU S., *Research regarding land evolution and agricultural area of Galati county*, The international conference AGRICULTURE FOR LIFE, LIFE FOR AGRICULTURE, 4-6 June 2020, Bucharest, Romania

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11. Bratoveanu D. B., *Patenting in Europe. Are SMEs Involved?* International Conference, Risk in Contemporary Economy – XXIIth Edition, 4th June 2021, Dunarea de Jos University of Galati, Romania, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration

12. Bratoveanu D. B., *Patents and Technology Transfer. Is it Profitable for Authors?* International Conference, Risk in Contemporary Economy – XXIth Edition, 4th June 2021, Dunarea de Jos University of Galati, Romania, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration

13. Liptac, P.A., Bratoveanu, D.B., Tatiana Sedlețchi (Ceban), Silviu Stanciu, *Labor Force in Romanian Agriculture. An Analysis of the Southeast Region*, CSSD UDJG 2022

14. Liptac P.A., Bratoveanu, D.B., Stanciu, S., *Labor force in Romanian agriculture. A brief analysis of the impact of European projects*, CSSD UDJG 2022

15. Bratoveanu, D.b., Silviu Stanciu: *Determining the factor of buyers' choices*, The Scientific Conference of the Doctoral Schools of “Dunărea de Jos” University of Galati (SCDS-UDJG), *Perspectives and Challenges in Doctoral Research* 10th- 11th of June 2021

16. Bratoveanu, D. B., Nicula, M.D., Liptac, P.A. Stanciu, S., Innovation and patenting in Romanian Universities, CSSD, UDJG 2021

17. Liptac. P. A., Bratoveanu D.B., Stanciu. S., Food patents and technology transfer. are universities involved? 11th Edition of SCDS-UDJG, 8th and 9th of June 2023, Perspectives and challenges in doctoral research

PATENT APPLICATION

RO137212 (A2) — 2023-01-30 – Carrot-based snack with added lactic acid bacteria

Inventor(a):

Stănciuc Nicoleta [RO];

Turturică Mihaela [RO];

Bolea Carmen-Alina [RO];

Bahrim Gabriela Elena [RO];

Cotârleț Mihaela [RO];

Bratoveanu Dumitrache Bogdan [RO]

Applicant: "Dunarea de Jos" University of Galati [RO] +

Patent application number: RO20210000407 20210715

Priority number(s): RO20210000407 20210715

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București



(11) **RO 137212 A2**
(51) Int.Cl.
A21D 13/04 (2006.01)

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(22) Data de depozit: **15/07/2021**

(41) Data publicării cererii:
30/01/2023 BOPI nr. **1/2023**

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COMUNA ȘENDRENI, GL, RO

(64) GUSTARE PE BAZĂ DE MORCOV CU ADAOS DE BACTERII LACTICE

(67) Rezumat:

Invenția se referă la o gustare pe bază de morcov cu adaos de culturi lactice, cu activitate antioxidantă ridicată, și la un procedeu de obținere a acesteia. Gustarea conform invenției este de tip chips, are formă neregulată cu grosimea de 2 mm și o greutate după uscare cuprinsă între 0,03...1 grame, iar pentru obținerea unei cantități de 100 g de chips-uri se folosesc 1000 g de morcov și 34 ml de culturi lactice din genul *Lactobacillus*, chipsurile având următoarea compoziție: umiditate maximă de 32,82%, carbohidrați totali de maxim 71,61 g/100g produs, conținut maxim de proteine de 4...5%, conținut maxim de fibre de 37...48%, conținut maxim de minerale cuprins între 4...5% și o valoare energetică cuprinsă între 360...387 kcal/100g produs. Procedeu de obținere conform invenției are

următoarele etape: recepția calitativă și cantitativă a morcovului, curățarea, spălarea, felierea în rondelule cu grosimea de max. 2 mm și apoi uscarea morcovului la o temperatură de 150°C timp de 20 minute, urmată de răcire până la temperatura camerei de 25°C pentru a asigura supraviețuirea bacteriilor lactice, imersarea chips-urilor în cultura de bacterii lactice, uscarea chips-urilor cu bacterii lactice la o temperatură de 37°C timp de 12 ore, ambalarea acestora în pungi din folie și depozitarea la o temperatură cuprinsă între 15...20°C la o umiditate relativă de maxim 65%, ferite de lumină.

Revendicări: 1
Figuri: 1

Cu începerea de la data publicării cererii de brevet, cererea asigură, în mod provizoriu, solicitantului, protecția conferită potrivit dispozițiilor art.32 din Legea nr.64/1991, cu excepția cazurilor în care cererea de brevet de invenție a fost respinsă, retrasă sau considerată ca fiind retrasă. Întinderea protecției conferite de cererea de brevet de invenție este determinată de revendicările conținute în cererea publicată în conformitate cu art.23 alin.(1) - (3).



RO 137212 A2

RESEARCH AND BUSINESS PROJECTS

1. POCU 379_6_21_124388_Antre_S - „Măsuri active pentru creșterea participării la învățământul terțiar antreprenorial a studenților din medii defavorizate” contract 47331/DGPECU/26.06.2019 – Expert responsabil resurse materiale și subvenții,
2. Inovare prin Cercetare de Excelența - CEREX_UDJG CNFIS-FDI-2020-0451 Domeniul 6: Susținerea cercetării de excelență din universități – Expert
3. 14PFE/17.10.2018 - Excelență, performanță și competitivitate în activități CDI la Universitatea "Dunărea de Jos" din Galați, EXPERT
4. CNFIS-FDI-2019-0309 - Competențe și abilități antreprenoriale pentru studenți – CAAS – expert
5. Proactive Health Without Borders 2SOFT/4.1/104, Contract 14998/21.02.2020 - responsabil patrimoniu
6. Excelența academică și valori antreprenoriale - sistem de burse pentru asigurarea oportunităților de formare și dezvoltare a competențelor antreprenoriale ale doctoranzilor și postdoctoranzilor – ANTREPENORDOC, Contract nr. 36355/23.05.2019 POCU/380/6/13 - Cod SMIS: 123847, membru GT
7. POCU/464/3/12/128219, Competențe și aptitudini sporite în domenii inteligente de activitate, contractul de finanțare nr. 17418/05.12.2019 Coordonator formare profesională
8. POCU/626/6/13/133256 / Stagii de practică inovative în domenii de specializare inteligentă Contract 3687/18.02.2021 Organizator stagii de practică
9. CNFIS-FDI-2020-0451 „Inovare prin Cercetare de Excelența - CEREX_UDJG”.
10. CNFIS-FDI-2021-0443 - Măsuri active de creștere și eficientizare a capacității de cercetare, dezvoltare, inovare și transfer tehnologic în Universitatea „Dunărea de Jos” din Galați”, Expert învățământ
11. BSB1108 - 2020 Escapeland - Dezvoltarea și promovarea turismului activ în Bazinul Mării Negre, Reprezentant UDJG comisii formare
12. CNFIS-FDI-2022-0205, Susținerea cercetării de excelență în Universitatea „Dunărea de Jos” din Galați - CEREX_UDJG 2022, Domeniul 6: Dezvoltarea capacității instituționale pentru cercetare în universități, Responsabil organizare evenimente și planuri învățământ RNPT
13. CNFIS-FDI-2023-F-0171, „Acțiuni concrete de dezvoltare și stimulare a cercetării, dezvoltării, inovării și transferului tehnologic la Universitatea „Dunărea de Jos” din Galați – CEREX_UDJG 2023”, Responsabil proceduri didactice.

COURSES AND SPECIALISATIONS DURING THE DOCTORAL STUDIES

A) Postgraduate training and lifelong professional development programs level 6 EQF:

1. Innovative didactic strategies
2. Bibliographic reference management
3. Writing and publishing scientific articles
4. Educational mentoring in academia
5. Initiation in the use of the MySMIS IT application
6. Marketing of scientific research units
7. General entrepreneurial skills
8. Increasing the international visibility of institutional research
9. Entrepreneurship in the bioeconomy
10. Academic ethics and deontology
11. Specific financing measures for national and international projects
12. Technology transfer management

B) Lifelong education courses:

1. Marketing and capitalizing on professional skills
2. Alternative interdisciplinary teaching methods
3. English for the business environment

CITATIONS OF STUDIES PUBLISHED DURING THE DOCTORAL RESEARCH

Cited study	Publicati on year	Citati ons
Stanciu, S., Radu, R.I., Sapira, V., Bratoveanu, B.D., Florea, A.M., 2020, Consumer Behavior in Crisis Situations. Research on the Effects of COVID-19 in Romania, Annals of "Dunarea de Jos" University of Galati, Fascicle I. Economics and Applied Informatics, Years XXVI – no1/2020, pp. 5-13, ISSN-L 1584-0409, ISSN-Online 2344-441X, https://doi.org/10.35219/eai1584040975 .	2020	119
Stanciu, S., Iordăchescu, G., Sârbu, R., Bratoveanu, B.D., 2022, Traditional Foods Market. Evolution, Concentration, and Growth Potential in Romania. In: Proceedings of 8th BASIQ International Conference on New Trends in Sustainable Business and Consumption (Graz, Austria, May 25-27, 2022), Eds. R. Pamfilie, V. Dinu, C. Vasiliu, D. Pleșea, L. Tăchiciu 2022, Bucharest: ASE, pp. 841-848, DOI: 10.24818/BASIQ/2022/08/111, https://www.conference.ase.ro/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/22111_Final.pdf .	2023	1
Bratoveanu, B.D., Nicula, M., Sarbu, R., Stanciu, S., 2020, The Beer Market in Romania. Situation and Outlook, Proceedings of 2020 BASIQ International Conference: New Trends in Sustainable Business and Consumption (Messina, Italy, Jun 04-06, 2020), Ed. Dinu, V., ISSN: 2457-483X, pp. 532-539, WOS: 000630165800115, https://www-webofscience-com.am.e-information.ro/wos/woscc/full-record/WOS:000630165800115	2020	1
Bratoveanu, B.D., Zungun, D., Stanciu, S., 2018, Agro-Food Brands – Survival and Success on Romanian Market, Proceedings of The 32 IBIMA Conference: Vision 2020: Sustainable Economic Development and Application of Innovation Management from Regional expansion to Global Growth, (Seville, Spain, Nov. 15-16, 2018), Ed. Soliman, K.S., ISBN: 978-0-9998551-1-9, Vol. XII, pp. 8104-8113, WOS: 000508553209009, https://apps.webofknowledge.com/full_record.do?product=WOS&search_mode=GeneralSearch&qid=1&SID=E2UXWnELhrh9PUAUwlc&page=2&doc=51	2020	1
Stoica Dinca, C., Dumitriu Ion, I.M., Bratoveanu, B.D., Stanciu, S., 2020, Aspects Regarding Maize Crops in the Southeast Region of Romania, Economics and Applied Informatics, "Dunarea de Jos" University of Galati, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, (26)2, pp. 122-128, DOI: https://doi.org/10.35219/eai15840409115	2020	1
Stanciu, S., Vochin, O.A., Sârbu, M.A., Bratoveanu, B.D., 2019, Food Retail in Romania. Market Overview, Proceedings of 2019 BASIQ International Conference: New Trends in Sustainable Business and Consumption (Bari, Italy, May 30-Jun. 01, 2019), Ed. ASE București, pp. 785-792, ISSN: 2457-483X, Ed. Dinu, C., WOS: 000478861800100, https://www.webofscience.com/wos/woscc/full-record/WOS:000478861800100 .	2019	1
TOTAL CITĂRI 124		

Source:

https://scholar.google.com/citations?view_op=list_works&hl=en&hl=en&user=DJcgy8AAAAJ

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