

MUNICH, 16 August 1962 (Non-Target Communist Area Analysis: Soviet Union).

The main crop in Lithuania's agriculture is grass - unlike most of the other Soviet republics it has no grain harvesting problem, for grass grows better than grain. And despite Khrushchev's anti-grassland program both the climatic conditions and the farmers favor the growing of grasses over grain to feed the livestock economy. Lithuania is the most intensified livestock republic in the Soviet Union, with highest yields per unit of livestock and land. Its foremost position can be traced to the advanced state of agriculture it developed before the Soviet take-over.

Now the official paper, Sovetskaya Litva (5 August 1962) admits to a serious lag in harvesting the decisive crop in the republic:

"In many districts preparations which are being carried out for harvesting the green feed are unsatisfactory, available means for a quicker gathering in of natural and sown grasses are not used, and at the same time the ensiling of green feed is badly organized.

By the 1st of August only 65% of the planned cutting down of natural grasses was fulfilled, and 86% of sown grass. 32% of hay has been stored and 6% in silos.

In some parts procurements were especially poor. Only 50-60% of the planned mowing of natural grasses was fulfilled.

In certain kolkhozes of the Varnyaisky district harvesting of grass was poorly organized and at the same time people were sent to mow hay in the region of Kaliningrad.

Not only the weather conditions were unfavorable but the "Litselkhoztehnika" Association of the republic and its district branches give insufficient help to the kolkhoz and sovkhoz as far as the repairs of the silos' machines are concerned."

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