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PRIJAVITE SE



Arhiva vesti

Arapi u Zobnatici prodali svinje, dižu plantažu borovnica

sreda, 02. novembra 2016.

The owners of the agricultural company "Zobnatica", the Arab company "Yugo Elite Agro" (*Yugo Elite Agro*), ie "Elite Agro LCC", sold all the pigs and closed the farm that existed within the Zobnatica agro-tourist complex. decades ago and which annually delivered 11,000 fatteners, "Agrosmart" finds out. At the same time, according to our information, a blueberry plantation has been raised on the fields cultivated by "Zobnatica", on about a hundred hectares.

Investments in new production were significant considering that blueberries do not like the land in Bačka, so peat was imported from Latvia. Foils and irrigation systems came from Turkey, and mechanization was also invested.

This information was not confirmed to us in AD Zobnatica, ie "Jugo elit agru" because the management was not in the mood to talk or answer the questions we sent. Thus, we were not able to find out how much the investments were worth, nor to get an answer about the number of employees in the agro-tourist complex in Bakčko-Topla. According to the information from "Agrosmart", since the Arabs arrived in "Zobnatica", a lot of new workers have been brought, whose salaries are many times higher than the incomes of the employees who are in this company from before.

From the fall of 2014, when "Jugo elit agro" owned by the company "Elit agro LCC", established in accordance with the laws of the United Arab Emirates, bought "Zobnatica" until three months ago, a pig farm was operating, and then animals evicted, that is, put up for sale that was only open for two days. When the Arabs came, there were 600 sows on the farm, or 4,000 fatteners. The pig breeding is over, and the new owners, according to the information from "Agrosmart", are reducing the number of sheep and horses, so that now there are 200 sheep and about 115 horses left on the farm.

On the basis of cattle breeding, *according to the right of first refusal*, "Zobnatica" was given state agricultural land on lease, and the fact that this time the fields were not obtained for conditional heads of these animals shows that the pig breeding was extinguished. The office of the mayor of Bačka Topola, Gabor Kišlinder, did not answer our questions regarding the provision of municipal or state fields to the company "Jugo elit agro", but the Annual Program for Protection, Arrangement and Use of State-Owned Agricultural Land for 2016 states that "Zobnatica" uses 45.6 hectares on the basis of livestock and 1,305.22 hectares on the basis of infrastructure, ie irrigation systems.

Republic Veterinary Inspector, AD "Zobnatica" had a total of 92.5 conditional heads, of which 71 conditional heads for horses and 21.5 conditional heads for sheep - the Ministry of Agriculture told "Agrosmart". - The Municipality of Bačka Topola has determined the area of 45.6 hectares with the Annual Program for the Protection, Arrangement and Use of Agricultural Land of AD "Zobnatici". The decision to lease on the basis of the right of first refusal on the basis of livestock was made by the municipality of Bačka Topola on June 13, 2016. year, and the lease agreement was concluded on August 9, 2016.

As we were told in the Ministry of Agriculture, AD "Zobnatica" received a contract in the lease of state-owned agricultural land for one year, ie from November 1, 2016 to October 31, 2017. The annual rent is 8,661.27 euros.

Let us remind you, "Zobnatica" had several bad privatizations that left devastation behind and reduced its value. Unlike other agricultural combines, it was sold at auction. The first auction was soon annulled in 2008. In the same year, after the Privatization Agency changed the conditions of the auction sale, it was sold again to the company DOO "New Company" from New Belgrade.

Due to the dubious privatization and the manner in which this plant was sold, the Anti-Corruption Council also dealt with it and included it among the 24 disputed privatizations. Police were given the task of investigating the privatization, but the result of the investigation was never announced.

According to the [report on the privatization of AD "Zobnatica", the](#) buyer of 70% of the social capital at the second auction was a consortium of legal and natural persons, Petris Hristoforos from Greece and "New Company" from Belgrade. The founder of "New Company" is the offshore company "Northgate Finance" in Liberia. As the only participant in the second auction, the buyer bought the capital at the starting price for 169 million dinars or about 1.8 million euros. Although it is a company from an African country, the Privatization Agency did not ask the Directorate for the Prevention of Money Laundering to check the origin and flows of money.

"Zobnatica" was taken over in 2014 by the company "Yugo Elite Agro" doo with its registered office in Belgrade. In 2014, that domestic company submitted a [request to the Commission for Protection of Competition](#) to approve the concentration on the market that arises from the acquisition of direct control over the company "Zobnatice", which was approved. As stated in the explanation of the Commission, "Jugo elit agro" is a newly formed company, registered in 2014 for the activity of growing cereals (except rice), legumes and oilseeds.

"Al Rawafed" fields for twenty years

According to the [Annual Program for the Protection, Arrangement and Use of State-Owned Agricultural Land for 2016, the](#) Arab-Serbian company "Al Ravafed" of the municipality of Backa Topola received a lease of state-owned fields in the Backa Toplo area for twenty years.

According to the conclusion of the Government of Serbia, she leased arable land in the Cadastral Municipality of Bajša for the period from 2016 to 2036. It is about 112 hectares of state agricultural land, and the total amount of the annual rent under the contract is 28,011 euros. The income of the local self-government is 40 percent, ie 11,204 euros, it is stated in this document.

Also, in Gornja Rogatica, "Al Ravafed" leased 372.8 hectares for twenty years. The annual rent for these fields is 93,205.5 euros, of which 37,282 will go to the local self-government.

What about horse racing?

"Jugo elit agro" rarely appears in public, and in March this year, at the Business Forum on Kopaonik, Zobnatica CEO Suvaidi Al Saed announced large investments in new technologies, adding that a large number of hectares of land will be covered with greenhouses. Instead of greenhouses, there are hectares under blueberries. There is still nothing from the famous Zobnatica horse races, although Suvaidi Al Saed said at the time that "Zobnatica" is known for its stables and good horses, and that this year we plan to continue the tradition of horse races to attract tourists.

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