



Technical University of Moldova

GLOBAL FOOD SAFETY CERTIFICATION SCHEMES FOR FOOD SAFETY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

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**GLOBAL FOOD SAFETY CERTIFICATION
SCHEMES FOR FOOD
SAFETY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS**

MBA Management in Agribusiness thesis

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CONTAINED

MASTER'S STUDENT'S STATEMENT.....	5
ANNOTATION	7
ADNOTARE	8
INTRODUCTION.....	9
1. THEORETICAL-SCIENTIFIC APPROACHES TO FOOD SAFETY AND FOOD SAFETY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS.....	12
1.1. Food safety - concept, principles and importance in protecting public health	12
1.2. The concept and components of the food safety management system: the HACCP approach and the ISO 22000 standard in the context of integrated management systems.....	17
1.3. The regulatory and institutional framework of food safety in the European Union and the process of harmonizing the legislation of the Republic of Moldova with European requirements	23
2. INTERNATIONAL FOOD SAFETY CERTIFICATION IN THE CONTEXT OF GLOBAL MARKET REQUIREMENTS.....	33
2.1. The role of certification in the context of the globalization of the food chain	33
2.2. Certification in production primary agri-food – GlobalG.AP.	36
2.3. Scheme of BRCGS Global Food Safety Standard certification in industry food.....	39
2.4. IFS Food standard in Industry food	42
2.5. Safe Quality Food (SQF) – scheme of certification for safety and quality food	45
2.6. FSSC 22000 - scheme of systems certification of management of security of feeding.....	47
3. STUDY ON THE APPLICABILITY OF CERTIFICATION SCHEMES AND IMPLEMENTATION OF FOOD SAFETY REQUIREMENTS WITHIN THE WINE CHAIN IN THE SOUTHERN REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA	51
3.1. Characteristics and positioning of the Valul lui Traian wine-growing region in the wine-growing sector of the Republic of Moldova	51
3.2. General presentation of the company "VINIA TRAIAN" SA.....	57
3.3. Economic and financial diagnosis of the main indicators of the enterprise	63
3.4. Analysis Sistema of management of security of feeding in the Vinia Traian	71
CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	80

BIBLIOGRAPHY 82

ANNOTATION
to the thesis of MBA Management in Agribusiness GLOBAL FOOD SAFETY
CERTIFICATION SCHEMES FOR FOOD SAFETY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS ”
developed by Todos Irina

The master's thesis is structured and includes: annotation, introduction, three chapters, thirteen subchapters, conclusions and proposals, bibliography, annexes .

Keywords used in the thesis: food safety, food safety management system, HACCP, ISO 22000, certification, GlobalG.AP ., BRCGS, IFS Food , SQF, FSSC 22000, traceability, compliance, food chain, food industry, wine sector.

The field of study of this thesis is the analysis of international food safety certification schemes and the evaluation of their role within food safety management systems, as well as the examination of the applicability of the specific requirements of these schemes in the agri-food sector and within enterprises in the wine industry.

The purpose and objectives of the thesis:

The purpose of the paper is to analyze global food safety certification schemes and evaluate their applicability within food safety management systems, in order to increase organizational performance, ensure compliance with international requirements and strengthen the competitiveness of agri-food enterprises.

Tasks were formulated : *analysis of the concept of food safety and its role in protecting public health; examination of the HACCP principles and the ISO 22000 standard as fundamental elements of food safety management systems; analysis of the regulatory and institutional framework of food safety in the European Union and the process of harmonizing the legislation of the Republic of Moldova with European requirements; assessment of the role of certification in the context of the globalization of the food chain and the increasing demands of the international market; comparative analysis of the main international food safety certification schemes: GlobalG.AP., BRCGS Global Food Safety Standard, IFS Food, SQF and FSSC 22000; examination of the applicability of certification schemes and food safety requirements within the wine sector in the south of the Republic of Moldova; analysis of the food safety management system implemented within the enterprise "VINIA TRAIAN" SA and formulation of improvement directions.*

The scientific novelty and originality of the results obtained consists in: the analysis and systematization of international food safety certification schemes, as well as in highlighting their particularities within food safety management systems. The paper provides a comparative approach to the main schemes and an assessment of their applicability in the agri-food and wine sector of the Republic of Moldova.

The theoretical importance of the work lies in strengthening the conceptual framework regarding food safety management systems and the role of international certification schemes in ensuring compliance and performance in the agri-food sector. The conclusions and recommendations of the thesis contribute to deepening the theoretical foundations regarding the implementation of these schemes and to understanding their impact on the functioning of food safety management systems in the context of current international requirements.

Applicative value. The scientific and practical approaches in the thesis are useful and practical regarding food safety certification schemes in the activity of enterprises in the agri-food sector, in order to improve management systems and increase compliance with international requirements. The research results can be used to substantiate managerial decisions regarding the implementation and selection of appropriate certification schemes.

ADNOTARE

la teza de MBA Management în agrobusiness „SCHEME GLOBALE DE CERTIFICARE A SIGURANȚEI ALIMENTARE PENTRU SISTEME DE MANAGEMENT AL SIGURANȚEI ALIMENTARE”

elaborată de Todos Irina

Teza de master este structurată și include: adnotare, introducere, trei capitole, treisprezece subcapitole, concluzii și propuneri, bibliografie, anexe.

Cuvinte cheie utilizate în teză: siguranță alimentară, sistem de management al siguranței alimentare, HACCP, ISO 22000, certificare, GlobalG.A.P., BRCGS, IFS Food, SQF, FSSC 22000, trasabilitate, conformitate, lanț alimentar, industrie alimentară, sector vitivinicol.

Domeniul de studiu al prezentei teze îl constituie analiza schemelor internaționale de certificare a siguranței alimentare și evaluarea rolului acestora în cadrul sistemelor de management al siguranței alimentare, precum și examinarea aplicabilității cerințelor specifice ale acestor scheme în sectorul agroalimentar și în cadrul întreprinderilor din industria vitivinicolă.

Scopul și obiectivele tezei:

Scopul lucrării constă în analiza schemelor globale de certificare a siguranței alimentare și evaluarea aplicabilității acestora în cadrul sistemelor de management al siguranței alimentare, în vederea creșterii performanței organizaționale, asigurării conformității cu cerințele internaționale și consolidării competitivității întreprinderilor agroalimentare.

În vederea realizării acestui scop au fost formulate următoarele **sarcini**: *analiza conceptului de siguranță alimentară și a rolului său în protecția sănătății publice; examinarea principiilor HACCP și a standardului ISO 22000 ca elemente fundamentale ale sistemelor de management al siguranței alimentare; analiza cadrului normativ și instituțional al siguranței alimentare în Uniunea Europeană și a procesului de armonizare a legislației Republicii Moldova la cerințele europene; evaluarea rolului certificării în contextul globalizării lanțului alimentar și al creșterii exigențelor pieței internaționale; analiza comparativă a principalelor scheme internaționale de certificare a siguranței alimentare: GlobalG.A.P., BRCGS Global Food Safety Standard, IFS Food, SQF și FSSC 22000; examinarea aplicabilității schemelor de certificare și a cerințelor de siguranță alimentară în cadrul sectorului vitivinicol din sudul Republicii Moldova; analiza sistemului de management al siguranței alimentare implementat în cadrul întreprinderii „VINIA TRAIAN” S.A. și formularea unor direcții de perfecționare.*

Noutatea și originalitatea științifică a rezultatelor obținute constă în: analiza și sistematizarea schemelor internaționale de certificare a siguranței alimentare, precum și în evidențierea particularităților acestora în cadrul sistemelor de management al siguranței alimentare. Lucrarea oferă o abordare comparativă a principalelor scheme și o evaluare a aplicabilității lor în sectorul agroalimentar și vitivinicol din Republica Moldova.

Importanța teoretică a lucrării constă în consolidarea cadrului conceptual privind sistemele de management al siguranței alimentare și rolul schemelor internaționale de certificare în asigurarea conformității și performanței în sectorul agroalimentar. Concluziile și recomandările tezei contribuie la aprofundarea fundamentelor teoretice referitoare la implementarea acestor scheme și la înțelegerea impactului lor asupra funcționării sistemelor de management al siguranței alimentare în contextul cerințelor internaționale actuale.

Valoarea aplicativă. Abordările științifice și practice din teză sunt utile și practice privind schemele de certificare a siguranței alimentare în activitatea întreprinderilor din sectorul agroalimentar, în scopul îmbunătățirii sistemelor de management și creșterii conformității cu cerințele internaționale. Rezultatele cercetării pot fi utilizate pentru fundamentarea deciziilor manageriale privind implementarea și alegerea schemelor de certificare adecvate.

INTRODUCTION

Food safety is one of the major concerns of contemporary society, being closely linked to the protection of public health, the sustainable development of the agri-food sector and the efficient functioning of national and international markets. Given the expansion of global food trade and the increasing complexity of supply chains, ensuring food safety has become a shared responsibility of all actors involved in the production, processing, storage and distribution of food products. The emergence of biological, chemical and physical risks associated with food, as well as the increasingly high demands of consumers and trading partners, have led to the development of modern management systems and certification schemes capable of demonstrating the compliance of organizations with international food safety requirements.

The topicality of the topic is determined by the increasingly important role of certification in strengthening consumer confidence, facilitating access to international markets and increasing the competitiveness of organizations in the agri-food sector. Currently, many companies implement food safety management systems and adopt globally recognized certification schemes, such as GlobalG.AP., BRCS, IFS Food, SQF and FSSC 22000, to meet legislative, commercial and social requirements. At the same time, the European integration process of the Republic of Moldova and the harmonization of national legislation with the European Union acquis require the development and strengthening of food safety assurance mechanisms at all levels of the agri-food chain.

The motivation for choosing the topic derives from the need to deepen knowledge about the role and applicability of international certification schemes within food safety management systems. In an economic environment characterized by intense competition and increasingly stringent requirements for product quality and safety, certification is an important tool for demonstrating compliance and strengthening the position of organizations on the market. At the same time, the analysis of the applicability of these schemes within the wine sector of the Republic of Moldova is of particular interest, given the strategic importance of this sector for the national economy and its pronounced export orientation.

The paper is devoted to the analysis of global food safety certification schemes and their role within food safety management systems. The research covers both the theoretical and normative foundations of food safety, as well as the specifics of the main international certification schemes recognized worldwide. The paper also includes an applicative analysis of the implementation of food safety requirements and the applicability of certification schemes within a representative enterprise in the wine sector of the southern region of the Republic of Moldova.

Purpose of the research is to *analyze international food safety certification schemes and evaluate their applicability within food safety management systems in the agri-food sector.*

Research **objectives** were formulated:

- ❖ *Analysis of the concept of food safety and its importance in the protection of public health;*

- ❖ *Examination of the principles and components of food safety management systems based on HACCP and ISO 22000;*

- ❖ *Analysis of the regulatory and institutional framework of food safety in the European Union and the process of harmonization of the legislation of the Republic of Moldova;*

- ❖ *Highlighting the role of certification in the context of the globalization of food chains;*

- ❖ *Comparative analysis of the main international food safety certification schemes: GlobalG.AP, BRCGS, IFS Food , SQF and FSSC 22000;*

- ❖ *Assessing the applicability of food safety requirements and certification schemes within the wine sector in the south of the Republic of Moldova;*

- ❖ *Analysis of the food safety management system implemented within the enterprise "VINIA TRAIAN" SA;*

- ❖ *Formulation of conclusions and recommendations regarding the development and improvement of food safety management systems in the agri-food sector.*

The research methodology is based on the use of analysis and synthesis methods, the comparative method, documentary analysis, the systemic method, as well as on the examination of normative acts, international standards and official documents related to the certification schemes studied. In the application part, statistical data, internal documents of the analyzed enterprise, as well as relevant information regarding the activity of the wine sector in the Valul lui Traian region were used.

The purpose and objectives of the research determined the logical structure of the paper, which includes: introduction, three chapters, conclusions and recommendations, bibliography and annexes.

The **Introduction** presents the topicality and importance of the topic, the purpose and objectives of the research, the methodology used, as well as the general structure of the paper.

CHAPTER I. THEORETICAL-SCIENTIFIC APPROACHES TO FOOD SAFETY AND FOOD SAFETY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS is devoted to the theoretical foundation of the concept of food safety, the presentation of the principles and components of food safety management systems and the analysis of the existing regulatory and institutional framework at European and national level.

CHAPTER II. INTERNATIONAL FOOD SAFETY CERTIFICATION IN THE CONTEXT OF GLOBAL MARKET REQUIREMENTS examines the role of certification within modern food chains and analyzes the main international certification schemes applicable to the agri-food sector, including GlobalG.AP., BRCGS Global Food Safety Standard, IFS Food , SQF and FSSC 22000.

CHAPTER III. STUDY ON THE APPLICABILITY OF CERTIFICATION SCHEMES AND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF FOOD SAFETY REQUIREMENTS WITHIN THE WINE CHAIN IN THE SOUTHERN REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA has an applicative character and includes the analysis of the wine sector in the Valul lui Traian region, the presentation of the enterprise "VINIA TRAIAN" SA, the economic and financial diagnosis of the main indicators of the enterprise and the evaluation of the food safety management system implemented within it.

Finally, the general conclusions of the research and recommendations regarding the application and development of food safety certification schemes within modern food safety management systems are formulated.

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