



## STATE OF VETERINARY SERVICES IN THE UZBEK SSR IN THE 50S AND 60S OF THE 20TH CENTURY

Djurayev Ravshan Xurramovich

National University of Uzbekistan

**Abstract:** *This thesis analyzes the state and development processes of veterinary services in the territory of the Uzbek SSR in the 1950s-1960s. It highlights the role of the livestock sector in state policy, the legal and regulatory framework for veterinary services, measures to combat epizootics, and issues of training qualified specialists. Also, based on archival documents, official government decisions, and periodical press materials, the role of the veterinary system in socio-economic life is revealed. The research results will serve as a scientific analysis of the historical experience of the development of agriculture in Uzbek society, ensuring food security of the population, and preserving local breeds.*

**Keywords:** *Uzbek SSR, veterinary service, animal husbandry, epizootics, agricultural policy, specialist training, healthcare, archival documents, historical analysis.*

By 1949, agriculture in Uzbekistan, in particular in the Karakalpak ASSR, was developing within the framework of the planned economy of the Soviet Union. During this period, veterinary and zootechnical services played an important role in the stable supply of livestock products. After the Second World War, due to the intensification of food shortages in the USSR, the health of animals was of great importance for both the population and industry. Therefore, the government has strengthened measures to protect livestock from diseases.

It goes without saying that the effectiveness of animal husbandry directly depends on the health of the animals. If livestock gets sick, the volume of products such as meat, milk, and wool decreases, which harms the economy. The planned inspection of 1752 head of cattle indicates that livestock farming is quite developed in these regions. Also, the work of veterinary services and zootechnicians is part of the planned economy and is considered as an undertaking for the sustainable development of the livestock sector.

Examination and vaccination of livestock are very important for the prevention of animal diseases. In 1949, special attention was paid to veterinary and zootechnical services because the activities of large livestock farms (collective and state farms) were expanding during this period. The distribution of veterinary personnel in districts and regions may depend on the volume of local livestock. For example, there are 2 veterinarians in Kuybyshev district, and 1 veterinarian and 3 zootechnicians in Karauzyak district. This distribution is based on the number of livestock in those areas and the need for veterinary services. The inspections were aimed at ensuring the health of the animals, as well as the export of agricultural products or the supply of high-quality products to the domestic market.



As indicated in the archival data, the grazing of livestock was to be completed by May 1. Therefore, it was instructed to complete the vaccination and protection of livestock taken to pastures from various infectious diseases by April 15[1].

As mentioned above, during this period, the Soviet Union operated on the basis of a planned economy, and agriculture was under state control. Livestock products had strategic importance, which was important not only for the food supply of the population, but also for the needs of industry (leather processing, meat industry, dairy production). In 1949, the process of collectivization in the USSR's agriculture was completed, and collective and state farms became the main production system. For this reason, livestock was kept on large state farms, and the spring grazing season was regulated, which was part of centralized management.

As reflected in this archival information, the grazing of livestock was planned to be completed by May 1, and vaccination and medical examinations were to be completed by April 15. This was an important measure aimed at preventing infectious diseases in livestock farming. In the first half of the 20th century, diseases such as erysipelas, tuberculosis, brucellosis, and cholera were widespread among livestock, causing significant damage to both the quality of livestock products and the economy. Therefore, veterinary services have been systematically developed, and disease prevention measures have been strengthened. The specific dates set by the state (vaccination by April 15, grazing by May 1) indicate that the planned management of agriculture was carried out under strict regulation. This system placed specific responsibilities on veterinary services and agricultural specialists.

This historical fact is one of the important proofs of how the Soviet Union organized veterinary supervision for the development of animal husbandry in agriculture. The main goal of this system was to ensure the stability and quality of agricultural products, reduce economic losses by preventing diseases, reduce feed costs, and maximize profits from livestock. This demonstrates the importance of measures related to checking livestock health and releasing them to pastures within clearly defined timeframes under planned economy conditions.

On September 7, 1949, the USSR Council of Ministers adopted a resolution "On Measures to Improve the Activities of Veterinary and Sanitary Work in the USSR"[2].

This resolution After the end of the Second World War is one of the important documents aimed at restoring and improving the agricultural system of the Soviet Union. In the Soviet Union, veterinary supervision and sanitary measures were gradually developed from the beginning of the 20th century. But during the Second World War (1941-1945), the system of veterinary services suffered serious damage, and as a result of the war, the country's livestock sector suffered great losses. Livestock diseases (brucellosis, tuberculosis, chickenpox, plague, and other infectious diseases) have become widespread as a result of declining livestock numbers, feed shortages, and inadequate veterinary services.

In the process of post-war economic recovery, the provision of the population with food became an important issue. Therefore, it was necessary to improve the quality of livestock products and increase productivity. After the war, the shortage of many veterinary



specialists and the weakness of the existing infrastructure contributed to the rapid spread of diseases. The USSR planned to export livestock products, which required the production of products that met veterinary and sanitary requirements in the international market. It should be noted that the economy of the Soviet Union was managed on the basis of centralized planning, therefore it was necessary to improve veterinary work at the state level.

This resolution is aimed at increasing the efficiency of agriculture through the reform of veterinary services. By improving veterinary and sanitary measures, it became possible to prevent diseases. This made it possible to obtain more meat, milk, wool, and leather products from healthy livestock. It laid the foundation for improving the processes of storage and processing of livestock products. The number of low-quality products in the domestic market has decreased, and food security has been strengthened.

Based on this decree, several important reforms in veterinary and sanitary affairs were carried out in the USSR. In particular, the number of veterinary institutes and technical schools in the Union republics and regions was increased. The state has introduced special training programs for the training of veterinarians, zootechnicians, and sanitary specialists. In each region, the mandatory vaccination and medical examination of livestock will be carried out.

Special scientific centers for the diagnosis and treatment of diseases have been created. The number of veterinary laboratories has been increased, and diagnostic methods have been improved. Special programs have been developed to combat such dangerous diseases as brucellosis, tuberculosis, and tetanus.

Quarantine measures have been strengthened, and a system for isolating livestock in areas where the disease has spread has been introduced. The procedure for conducting veterinary control of agricultural products has been strengthened. Veterinary and sanitary control has been established in livestock markets.

#### REFERENCES:

1. NAUz, fund R.837, inventory 33, file 5920, sheet 9.
2. NAUz, fund R-837, inventory 33, file 5920, sheet 86.