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# AGRÁRGAZDASÁGI KUTATÓ INTÉZET

BULLETIN  
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U.S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE  
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No 54  
1983

ИССЛЕДОВАТЕЛЬСКИЙ ИНСТИТУТ ЭКОНОМИКИ СЕЛЬСКОГО ХОЗЯЙСТВА  
RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS  
FORSCHUNGSINSTITUT FÜR AGRARÖKONOMIK  
BUDAPEST

AGRÁRGAZDASÁGI KUTATÓ INTÉZET  
RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Bulletin No. 54.

STUDIES IN AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS  
SELECTED PAPERS FROM THE OEUVRE OF  
FERENC ERDEI

No. **54**  

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1983

BUDAPEST

1983

RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

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HU-ISSN 0541-9417

Edited by

Ádám BISZTRAY

MÉM Kutatás és Oktatás Ellátási Központ Szolgáltató Üzeme  
(Kellás)

1024 Budapest, Kitaibel Pál u. 4.

Felelős vezető: Sztási György

Készült Rotaprint eljárással

az MSZ 5601-59 és 5602-55 szabvány szerint

83.228

Megjelent 400 példányban

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## PREFACE

Ferenc Erdei, founder of our Institute, an outstanding personality of the Hungarian literature in agricultural economics, started the series of Bulletins in foreign languages twenty years ago. The present issue is intended to pay homage to his memory on the occasion of the coming 30-year jubilee of the Research Institute for Agricultural Economics. Besides, it is to call the attention, among others, to the scientific achievements and practical conclusions arrived at by Ferenc Erdei in the course of the last period of his life-work when he was active in our Institute. His statements concerning the development of the Hungarian farmers' co-operative movement, the small-scale farming, the place and role of the household farming, the social and economic transformation of the village, are of particular importance and timeliness in comparison to the progress that has taken place. Due to the purpose of our Bulletins, being the dissemination abroad of the results of researches conducted in this Institute, and to the technical limitations as well as to the size of these publications, it is not possible for us present and evaluate the oeuvre of Ferenc Erdei. In the near future the 12-volume series, published by the Publishing House of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences in Hungarian language, will be completed, a uniquely great achievement that will contain but a part of the life-work of Ferenc Erdei. In line with the interest shown by our international scientific and information partners, foreign professional circles, agricultural economists, these few studies in agricultural economics and the attached bibliography are intended to supplement the achievements of the publishers. If it is true that the interest in our series of Bulletins is related to the results of the Hungarian food economy, then it is also true that we can get acquainted with the antecedents of the development of our agriculture and of our present situation by our studying the works of Ferenc Erdei, an authority of the subject. We hope that his papers will reach not only our partners numbering more than three hundred, but also colleagues and aspirants from abroad staying and studying in this country.

Budapest, January 1983

The Editor