Study on the Development Countermeasures of Sugarcane Industry Land Stock Cooperatives in Central Guangxi

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Abstract. With the development of China's secondary and tertiary industry and the large transfer of rural young labor force, the operating efficiency of small-scale production of agricultural land is low. The birth of land stock cooperatives not only made up for this defect to a certain extent, but also played an important role in realizing large-scale land management and the construction of agricultural modernization. However, when exploring the new business model of land joint-stock cooperatives, its feasibility and problems have attracted extensive attention in the academic community. Therefore, taking the sugarcane industry in the economically underdeveloped areas of Central Guangxi as the research object, this paper explores the development status of land joint-stock cooperatives, and puts forward corresponding countermeasures for the existing problems, so as to provide an effective path for the development of local sugarcane industrialization.

Keywords: Land stock cooperatives; Sugarcane industry; present situation; countermeasure.

1. Introduction

Land share cooperation can increase the scale of agricultural operation, realize the unification of production and operation with the processing and sales of agricultural products, thereby reducing the cost of agricultural production and increasing the income of farmers [1-2]. With the development of China's secondary and tertiary industries and the acceleration of the urbanization process, a large number of young and middle-aged workers in rural areas began to gradually flow into non-agricultural industries. The aging of rural areas and the phenomenon of "hollow villages" have become increasingly serious. The originally advantageous household contract responsibility system can not adapt to the modern production of agriculture for a time, and the efficiency of land management has decreased, which restricts the development of agricultural modernization and the adjustment of agricultural industrial structure [3-4]. Therefore, while keeping the household contract responsibility system unchanged, how to transfer the land contract management right of farmers to agricultural enterprises or large-scale planting households through effective channels has become a trend of future land development [5]. In view of this, as an effective way of land transfer, land share cooperatives have emerged as the times require and achieved good research results in coastal and other developed cities [6]. Since the Guangxi Autonomous Region officially launched the construction of sugarcane "double high" base in 2004, the whole region has been actively exploring a new business model and striving to build a high standard demonstration base for large-scale operation and high-quality development. As the main planting area of sugarcane in China, the development of sugarcane industry in Central Guangxi has been widely concerned. According to the survey, the local sugarcane industry is restricted by factors such as small plot and large slope, which restricts the large-scale operation of the local sugarcane industry and greatly reduces the effective utilization rate of land [7]. It can be seen that the continuous driving effect of land share cooperatives on the sugarcane industry in Central Guangxi is not very obvious [8]. Therefore, it is of great significance for the revitalization of local villages [9] and the high-quality development and large-scale operation of sugarcane industry to deeply explore the development status of local land share cooperatives and put forward corresponding strategies for the problems in the development [10].
2. Summary of the survey site

Central Guangxi mainly refers to the central region of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, located in the lower reaches of Hongshui River. The climate belongs to subtropical monsoon climate. It is dry in winter and spring, rainy in summer and autumn. Sugarcane is one of the main local industries, and has become an important way for farmers to get rid of poverty and increase local fiscal revenue. At the same time, the local government has also actively implemented and promoted the integrated development of agricultural product processing industry and rural primary, secondary and tertiary industries. Centering on sugarcane as the leading industry, the local government has accelerated the modernization and scale of sugarcane processing by establishing a regional agricultural product processing cluster. At present, the farmers in this area mainly grow sugarcane, and sugarcane production has become the main channel for the majority of farmers to increase their income. Therefore, the industrial development of sugarcane is of great significance to the local people.

3. Development status of land stock cooperative

Inheriting the in-depth promotion of the reform of "Three Rights Separation" of land contracting, Laibin City in Central Guangxi is also actively exploring the participation of rural land contracting and management rights. In 2019, Laibin City issued the work plan on the development of agricultural industrialization operation pilot by the participation of land management rights (lainong Fa [2019] No. 49), It is pointed out that the general policy of "fully considering regional differences, economic basis and rural labor transfer, properly carrying out land management right equity participation in combination with the actual situation, exploring and developing in an orderly and gradual manner, and not carrying out forced orders and one size fits all" is to steadily carry out land management right equity participation and develop agricultural industrialization operation pilot, and cultivate a batch of enterprises with outstanding agricultural role and strong market competitiveness. The land management right with obvious comprehensive benefits has become the main body of agricultural industrialization and injected new vitality and new kinetic energy into agricultural and rural economic development [11]. For example, Xingbin District, as the main sugarcane production area of Laibin City, the local government is also actively exploring this new type of business entity, so as to solve the current situation of small, scattered and disorderly management of rural land, and further promote the development of moderate scale and intensive production and management of agriculture. According to the understanding and the inquiry of Tianyan search platform, there are many sugarcane professional cooperatives registered in Xingbin District, but few new land share cooperatives. On the whole, the scale of sugarcane professional cooperatives is generally small. Even after small pieces are combined with large pieces, they are still distributed to farmers for planting. It is difficult to ensure the uniformity of planting and the consistency of management, which seriously affects the effective utilization rate of land. It can be seen that the driving effect of the land share cooperative on the local area is not obvious, and the later development lacks sustainable power [8].

4. Problems in the development of land stock cooperatives

4.1 The phenomenon of aging in rural areas is serious and talents are increasingly scarce

In the industrial development of Laibin sugarcane District, the labor force is mainly middle-aged and old people. Most of the young people choose to go out to work, and the aging phenomenon is increasingly serious. With the development of China's secondary and tertiary industries and the acceleration of the urbanization process, more and more young people will pursue non-agricultural work and choose to live in the city. This will lead to more and more young and middle-aged workers in the sugarcane area transferring to cities and towns. Labor shortage and labor cost will become a difficult problem that needs to be solved for a long time now and in the future. In addition, the cultural level of sugarcane farmers in this region is generally low, mainly at the primary and junior high school
levels, and their understanding of new policies and new things in the sugarcane area has certain limitations, which is not conducive to the learning and promotion of new sugarcane technologies, which will limit the improvement of sugarcane management efficiency and the development of sugarcane industry.

4.2 Farmers' willingness to participate in cooperatives is not high

In the exploration of land stock cooperatives in Central Guangxi, it is found that the overall participation of farmers is generally not high due to the influence of small-scale farmers. With the transfer of a large number of young labor to the secondary and tertiary industries, most of the rural areas are left behind by the elderly, and there is a general lack of technical training. Therefore, the cooperative will only hire local farmers to do some relatively easy non-technical work, and mainly recruit external personnel to do high-tech work, such as mechanized operation and field management. In terms of supervision, although the articles of association of the cooperative are also relatively perfect and there are members' congresses of democratic institutions, there are still some difficulties in the operation in practice [12]. Due to the imperfect supervision and management system, it is difficult to meet the wishes and demands of sugarcane farmers, so they are indifferent to the operation of cooperatives. In addition, when the farmers' land management rights become shares, they rarely participate in the production activities of cooperatives in the actual operation process, so they do not play the role of cooperatives in solving employment. Due to inadequate supervision, it is difficult to solve the problems in a timely manner, which induces the internal contradictions between farmers and cooperatives [13]. The study found that the farmers' satisfaction with the land share cooperatives is generally not high, and the proportion of farmers willing to join the land share cooperatives is very small. The farmers think that the cooperatives can not provide them with security in life or employment, so they think that their own land will be more secure [14-15].

4.3 The cooperative lacks talents and funds

As we all know, the healthy development of land share cooperatives cannot be separated from the support of talents and funds. Most of the current cooperatives are facing the embarrassment of insufficient talents and funds [16]. The education level and informatization level of the managers are generally low, and even some managers have insufficient understanding of the land share cooperative, which still has a large gap compared with the development needs of the cooperative. Although a small number of cooperatives employ professional managers from outside, due to the lack of profitability of the cooperatives, it is difficult for the cooperatives to bear the salaries required by the external employees, resulting in the loss of talents, and local college students are unwilling to return to the rural grassroots work [17]. Therefore, the lack of management personnel is an unavoidable severe challenge in the development of cooperatives, and this problem will become more and more serious, which is bound to hinder the healthy and sustainable development of cooperatives. On the other hand, as an important group, practitioners are generally older and less educated. With the process of industrialization, a large number of rural young labor force gradually flows to cities, and the elderly and left behind women naturally become the first employees of cooperatives, which also leads to the low effective utilization rate of land [18]. According to the survey, the average age of farmers in this area is too old. This situation has caused widespread concern in the academic community. Who will plant the land in the future? How to cultivate new management subjects and other issues has become an urgent task in rural areas.

4.4 The cooperative management is not standardized and the system is not perfect

The study found that the system of most cooperatives is not perfect. Nearly one-third of the cooperatives have not set up a member's Congress, and nearly one-half of the cooperatives have not set up a board of supervisors, a Council, or a professional manager. Most of the cooperatives lack the original system of the cooperatives. Even if some cooperative systems are perfect, some of them are only nominal and do not play their due role. Because of the non-standard management system of
cooperatives, the democratic management of many cooperatives has not been really implemented. What is more serious is that some managers of cooperatives abuse their power and often do things that are not conducive to the long-term healthy development of cooperatives and damage the interests of cooperative members from their own interests [19].

4.5 Poor publicity and low recognition

During the field visit, it was found that the farmers in sugarcane production areas are generally older and have a low education level, and there are certain difficulties in understanding and accepting new things. In fact, most of the farmers do not really understand the meaning of the land share cooperative and its specific operation process. Some even think that the land share cooperative and the farmer professional cooperative are the same in nature and are not trustworthy. The main reason is that the effect of farmers' participation in sugarcane cooperatives is not very obvious, and some farmers have been deceived. Therefore, the overall evaluation of the cooperative by the farmers themselves and their surrounding relatives and friends is generally low. They mistakenly believe that the nature of the land share cooperative and the sugarcane cooperative are the same, and they are not trustworthy at all, thus further contradicting the land share cooperative ideologically. This situation has seriously affected the development of the land share cooperative in the sugarcane production area and greatly reduced the effective use efficiency of the land in the sugarcane production area, It is not conducive to the promotion of land scale.

5. countermeasures and suggestions

5.1 Strengthen training to improve the cognitive ability of sugarcane farmers

The aging phenomenon of farmers in sugarcane area is serious, and the education level is generally low, so the understanding and acceptance of new things are limited. Therefore, the sugarcane district government needs to strengthen the training for farmers [11-12]. The training content can focus on the understanding of the new policies of the sugarcane industry, the sugarcane planting technology and the promotion of new sugarcane varieties. At the same time, it is necessary to strengthen the understanding of sugarcane farmers about other new business entities, such as sugarcane cooperatives, land share cooperatives, family farms, agricultural leading enterprises, etc. after the cognitive ability of sugarcane farmers has been improved, the planting experts of the sugarcane industry can be invited to visit the site to guide and learn the new sugarcane planting technology, exchange the challenges faced by the sugarcane industry and the future development trend, so as to expand the vision of sugarcane farmers, So as to make it easier to keep up with the new pace of industrial development ideologically [13]. In addition, the cultivation of new professional farmers can be carried out according to the institutions of higher learning and the sugar material system in the sugarcane supporting area, and the farmers in the sugarcane supporting area can be regularly trained in professional planting techniques, such as cost-saving and yield increasing cultivation techniques, disease and pest prevention techniques, and agricultural machinery field operation techniques [14]. At the same time, at the critical moment of sugarcane operation, technical personnel are assigned to assist and guide the field management of sugarcane farmers, so as to improve the planting willingness and comprehensive management level of sugarcane farmers and provide a strong talent guarantee for the long-term sustainable development of sugarcane industry.

5.2 Improve farmers' willingness to participate

Decisions on major issues of land share cooperatives should give farmers the "right to speak" so that they can participate in the operation and management of cooperatives and feel that they are members of cooperatives. At the same time, it is necessary to regularly disclose the income and dividends of land share cooperatives, so that farmers can realize that their income is closely related to the operation and long-term development of cooperatives. In addition, cooperatives should regularly train farmers to promote their modern agricultural production skills, so that farmers can be
qualified and able to work in local land share cooperatives, and then have more opportunities to participate in the operation and development of land share cooperatives. At the same time, the government should encourage the establishment of local specialized agricultural technology service and agricultural machinery service institutions to provide comprehensive services for large-scale land management and provide more non-agricultural employment opportunities for farmers [20]. This can not only increase the income of farmers, but more importantly, it can avoid the illusion that the land is taken away by the government and the relationship between farmers and land stock cooperatives is simply rent collection. So as to deepen the relationship between farmers and land share cooperatives, make them develop in the same direction, and fundamentally enhance the willingness of farmers to participate in land share cooperation [21].

5.3 Improve the level of rural social security and enhance the economic strength of cooperatives

In economically underdeveloped areas, land is still an important guarantee for the survival and development of farmers, especially the older farmers, who even regard land as their lifeblood. It is difficult for farmers to take the land management right into the land share cooperative. Therefore, this deep-rooted concept of small farmers has seriously hindered the promotion and sustainable development of local land share cooperatives [22-23]. In order to ensure the smooth promotion and long-term stable development of land share cooperatives, the government departments should improve and perfect the rural social security system, improve the overall welfare level of farmers, and solve the problems of basic living security and pension of farmers, so as to reduce the dependence of farmers on land. At the same time, the government should vigorously support the development of land share cooperatives in the early stage. In addition to certain financial subsidies, it is more necessary to cultivate a number of new agricultural professional brokers to inject continuous power into the long-term and healthy development of cooperatives [24].

5.4 Strengthen the guidance and supervision of cooperatives

In the process of actively exploring the development of land share cooperatives, local governments should not only promote the implementation of relevant policies and increase the support for the financial policies of cooperatives, but also commend and reward the cooperatives in good operating conditions, so as to encourage them to play the leading role of model cooperatives and further strengthen the experience exchange and mutual learning between cooperatives. At the same time, it is necessary to focus on training the leaders and managers of cooperatives to improve their comprehensive management ability and technical application ability, so as to better meet the needs of modern agricultural development [25-26]. In addition, the establishment of land share cooperatives should be based on the actual local conditions and the voluntary participation of farmers. The local government can not arbitrarily assign tasks and indicators to forcefully promote the establishment of land share cooperatives under the pretext of developing modern agriculture and large-scale operation. Instead, it should promote land share cooperatives according to local conditions [27-28]. At the same time, it is also necessary to prevent some village collectives from blindly pursuing the number of land share cooperatives due to the need of political achievements or financial subsidies, which will lead to empty shell cooperatives, which will seriously affect the process of farmers' income generation and agricultural modernization development [29-30].

5.5 Strengthen publicity and create a positive and favorable external environment

As is known to all, farmers live in rural areas all the year round and have limited access to information. In addition, they are affected by feudal traditional ideas all the year round and have a weak ability to accept new things. Moreover, they are also vulnerable to the influence of the surrounding people and their relatives and friends. Therefore, their cognition of land stock cooperatives will be biased and limited to a certain extent. Therefore, it is necessary to strengthen the promotion and publicity of the government’s land share cooperatives in the sugarcane area, improve
the farmers' awareness of the land share cooperatives, change the traditional and conservative
concepts of the farmers, and let them fully understand the nature, system and economic benefits of
the land share cooperatives, so that the farmers can have a more comprehensive and objective
understanding of the land share cooperatives ideologically and win the ideological recognition of
the farmers, In order to create a positive and favorable external environment atmosphere, ultimately
improve the enthusiasm of sugarcane farmers to join the land share cooperatives, and provide
continuous power support for the steady development of local land share cooperatives.

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