

6. A hegyvidéki erdőgazdálkodás, erdei legeltetés, a patak völgyek és kismedencék irtványföldjein folyó földművelés a Bükk, az Upponyi-, a Rudabányai- és a Szalonnai-hegységre jellemző. A 18. században kialakuló bányászat és manufaktúraipar átalakítja a korábbi környezetgazdálkodás (= erdőlés) formáit, s a nagy, összefüggő erdőrengtetegben izoláltan megjelennek a szántóföldek és a legelők. Az ipari kolóniák nyersanyag- (hamuszsír-) és energiaszükséglete (faszén) miatt a fakitermelés hatalmas méreteket ölt, de az Északi- és Déli-Bükkben a szántóföld- és legelőnyerés céljából is jelentős az erdőirtás. Pl. 1715-től 1720-ig Nagyvisnyón az erdőirtás révén 77%-kal nő a szántó- és 223%-kal a rét- és legelőterület. A Bükk magasan fekvő massa- és hutatelepülésein (pl. Bükkszentkereszt és Répáshuta) a szántóföld a 18–19. században alig néhány %, az alacsonyabb peremtájakon is többnyire 20% alatt marad. A mészkő- és palafelszínen kialakult talajok gyenge termőképességűek.

A hegyvidéki erdőgazdálkodás területein a települések gazdálkodására az ún. *kárpáti-jelleg* jellemző, vagyis a mezőgazdaság nem biztosítja a helyi lakosság élelmiszer-szükségleteit. Az erdőgazdasági falvak népességét a 18–19. században az erdészet és a montánipar (pl. fakitermelés és -feldolgozás, mész- és szénégetés, hamuszsírőzés, üveggyártás, vaskohászat, szekérfuvarozás stb.) foglalkoztatja. A hegyvidéki falvak élénk gazdasági kapcsolatban állnak a domb- és síksági előtér településeivel (áruccsere és munkaerő-migráció).

UTILISATION OF THE ARABLE LANDS IN BORSOD COUNTY IN THE 18TH AND 19TH CENTURIES

The old Borsod County came into being at the area where the Highlands meet the Great Plains. Approximately one third of the 3,600 km² is flood area, filled up with alluvial conic deposit, whereas the rest is hilly and mountainous region (the difference between the highest and lowest points is 871 m). In the varied geographical environment a wide range but limited quantity of resources are available. The available resources have always served as a dynamising factor for economy. This was the case in the 18th and 19th centuries, too. The population involved in farming and silviculture, used the agro-economic resources available in the area.

In the early 18th century the scarce population made only use of a small part of the available lands as ploughland (approximately 6–7%). At the end of the 18th century farming and silviculture was extended to 91% of all the available lands of the county. This was the result of the reorganization of the local economy and the immigration, as a result of which new settlers appeared in the region.

34,2% of the land was *ploughland*, 2,4% *vineyard*, 30,9% *vegetable garden*, *pasture* and *orchard*, and 35% was covered with *forest* (Figure 1).

According to quality examinations, in the 18th century the highest quality wheat in Hungary was produced around Miskolc and in the Borsod-Mezőség area.

The rational ways of utilizing the arable lands were consolidated by the 1780s and 1790s. At the same time the product range altered, following the requirements of the market. Various grains occupied 88–90% of the ploughlands in the 1780s (within this, wheat represented to 50–54%). 10–12% of the ploughland was used for growing potato

and industrial plants. The extensive grassy areas served as a basis of natural fodder for animal husbandry.

The contribution of the Borsod agriculture to the product range of the market-centres in the North consisted of wheat, cattle and wine.

The subregions of the county were usually dominated by one single branch of economy. They usually made efforts to be self-supporting but, in accordance with their economic potentials, they sent some excess produce to the domestic and foreign markets. The small subregions did not end at the borders of the county, but they were integrated into the larger region (= the Highlands). It is possible to identify six different regional forms of agriculture and silviculture (Figure 9): 1. diversified flood area farming with monocultural animal husbandry and fishing (the Borsod flood areas), 2. Monoculturelike grain growing and animal husbandry on the conic deposit plains (Borsodi-Mezőség, Miskolc), 3. Policultural agriculture with significant wine and fruit production on the hills (Bükkalja area), 4. Silviculture and forest management on the hills (the hills and basins around Ózd, Galyaság, and the western part of the Cserehát Mountains), 5. Terraced river valley with transitory farming (Sajó valley), 6. Mountain silviculture, animal husbandry, ploughing in the clearings in the forests along the creeks and rivers (Bükk Mountains, Upponyi-, Rudabányai- and Szalonnai Mountains).

In the 18th and 19th centuries Borsod County was one of the dynamic areas of intra- and interregional economic connections.

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