

The Exploration of Socialist Agricultural Cooperatives from The Perspective of New Economy

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Abstract. Nowadays, under the fierce merger and competition in the agricultural market, Marx 's historical assertion of " the demise of small farmers " has been fulfilled. However, under the historical needs of building socialized mass production, how to narrow the gap between the rich and the poor and solve the " three rural " issues since the reform and opening up at the same time has become the biggest problem. As all forms of public ownership, agricultural cooperatives are an important part of China 's social economy with public ownership as the main body. It has decisive advantages in resource integration, docking market, promotion technology and other aspects. As a form of production, the cooperation and collectivization in the field of agriculture have great prospects in promoting agricultural modernization, industrialization, increasing farmers ' income and driving regional industrial economic development. The purpose of this paper is to discuss the feasibility of agricultural cooperatives as a solution to the " three rural issues " in the new era by combining Marx and Engels ' vision of rural collective economy, the historical practice of agricultural cooperatives and the current objective conditions and policy support.

Keywords: Three rural issues; Agricultural cooperatives; Cooperative economic theory; Marxism-Leninism.

1. Introduction

Since the reform and opening up in 1978, the implementation of the household contract responsibility system has greatly liberated rural productivity, solved the problem of food and clothing for farmers, and laid a solid foundation for the take-off of China 's economy. As Qu Jingdong and his colleagues concluded: 'The large amount of surplus labor accumulated in rural areas before the reform, including land adjustment and family management, coupled with the organizational form of social enterprises and foreign capital before the reform, promoted the rise and development of township enterprises in the 1980s [1]. However, with the in-depth development of the socialist market economic system and the intensification of global competition, the family-based " small-scale peasant economy " model has gradually exposed its historical limitations. In the new era, the issues of agriculture, rural areas and farmers (i.e., agriculture, rural areas and farmers) are highlighted in new forms : the fragmentation of agricultural production leads to low production scale and operating efficiency, and it is difficult to resist market risks and capital shocks ; advanced agricultural technology promotion has high cost and low efficiency ; there is a lack of effective connection between small farmers and large markets, and it is difficult for farmers to increase their income ; the outflow of rural young and middle-aged labor force leads to the phenomenon of " hollowing out. " The interweaving of these problems has become a short board that restricts China 's realization of comprehensive modernization and common prosperity.

The old contradictions need new solutions. On the basis of adhering to and improving the household contract management, how to innovate in the form of agricultural management organization and solve the contradiction between small production and large market has become the core issue of deepening rural reform in the new era. In this context, agricultural cooperatives, as a form of collective economic organization based on voluntary mutual assistance, have re-entered the field of theoretical and policy research. It is not a simple return to the past ' people 's commune ' and ' collective farm ' model, but in the new historical conditions, the re-practice of Marx and Engels ' collective economic theory is an inevitable choice to conform to the law of development of

agricultural modernization. This paper will systematically demonstrate the feasibility and superiority of agricultural cooperatives as the key path to solve the " three rural issues " in the new era from the three dimensions of theoretical origin, historical practice and contemporary innovation.

2. Marx and Engels ' Theory of Agricultural Collective Economy

Although Marx and Engels did not directly design a specific blueprint for the concept of " agricultural cooperatives, " they profoundly expounded the basic laws of agricultural development in their criticism of the capitalist mode of production, and accurately predicted its future direction, which provided a solid theoretical foundation for the subsequent practice of agricultural cooperation and collective ownership transformation in socialist countries.

2.1. The Historical Inevitability of the Demise of ' Small Farmers'

On the basis of historical materialism, Marx and Engels deeply analyzed the fate of small-scale peasant economy for thousands of years. In their works such as *Capital*, they pointed out that the small-scale peasant economy based on private ownership of small land had played an active role in history (feudalism period), but it was essentially a backward and conservative mode of production. It not only excludes the accumulation of means of production, but also excludes collaboration, the division of labor within the same production process, the rule and domination of society over nature, and the free development of social productive forces [2].

Under the impact of capitalist industry and production relations, the small-scale peasant economy will inevitably disintegrate. Individual farmers cannot compete with large agricultural enterprises based on capital accumulation, technological innovation and large-scale operation, and the small-scale peasant class will eventually be divided into agricultural bourgeoisie and rural proletariat. This process is regarded by Marx and Engels as a ' historical inevitability '. However, they do not simply explain the tragic fate of small farmers but aim to show that the way to solve the problem is not to maintain this backward mode of production, but to replace it with a more advanced and socialized form of production organization, so as to save the individual farmers in the capitalist era from poverty and bankruptcy.

2.2. The Worker-peasant Alliance and Collectivization Under the Leadership of the Proletarians

So, what is the future prospect of replacing the small-scale peasant economy? Marx and Engels put forward the idea of ' cooperative ' and ' collective ownership ' as solutions. Engels made the most systematic exposition of this in the ' Franco-German peasant problem '. He firmly opposed the use of violence to deprive small farmers, emphasizing the need to guide farmers to voluntarily join cooperatives through demonstrations and social assistance. This proposition laid a solid foundation for Lenin 's ' voluntary cooperation ' in the future.

Engels put forward a progressive plan: first, the proletarian state power should deprive the land owners of their land and turn it into social property, and on this basis, establish a modern farm operated collectively by agricultural workers as a demonstration; secondly, for small farmers, it is not compulsory, but to ' turn their private production and private possession into the production and possession of cooperatives [3]. Through the form of cooperatives, farmers are organized to prove the benefits of collectivization through the advantages of large-scale operation (such as using machines, saving labor, scientific rotation, etc.), so as to attract farmers to join voluntarily.

Without an alliance with the peasants, the working class will be left alone. As the key to consolidating the alliance of workers and peasants, the voluntary collectivization of agriculture must be carried out under the leadership of the proletarian party. Cooperatives are not only a tool for economic development, but also a bridge to transform society and guide farmers to socialism. It aims to eliminate the differences between workers and peasants, so that peasants will eventually become workers in line with the interests of the working class, rather than isolated small private owners. To

sum up, the core of Marx and Engels ' theory of agricultural collective economy lies in voluntariness, demonstration, gradualism and state support. Its ultimate goal is to realize the modernization of agriculture and socialized production, and guide farmers to socialism while liberating and developing rural productivity.

3. The Historical Achievements and Research of Internal and External Cooperatives

Theory needs to be tested by practice. From the perspective of historical materialism, a careful analysis of the development history of cooperatives is of great help to us to get the universal law. The success and failure of agricultural cooperatives in the history of nearly two hundred years around the world provides us with valuable experience and lessons.

3.1. The Origin and Development of Foreign Agricultural Cooperatives

The ideological trend and practice of the modern cooperative movement first emerged in the European Industrial Revolution in the 19th century. It was a direct response and self-rescue attempt to the social injustice and disorderly competition caused by the primitive accumulation of capitalism, especially to the exclusion and exploitation of the majority of workers and small producers. In 1844, 28 textile workers in the town of Rochdale founded the ' Rochdale Society of Equitable Pioneers ', marking the beginning of the modern cooperative movement. They formulated the famous ' Rochdale Principles ', which mainly include voluntary membership, democratic management (one person, one vote), rebates based on transaction volume, limited capital compensation, education of members, cooperation between cooperatives, etc. These principles not only provided a framework for the operation of cooperatives at that time, but also were adopted and continuously developed by the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) and became the general guidelines of the global cooperative movement. The core spirit of these principles - ' human cooperation ' is superior to ' capital cooperation ' is still the essential characteristic of cooperatives different from other forms of enterprises.

In the course of more than a hundred years of development, agricultural cooperatives in Western developed countries have successfully modernized and enterprised this form of mutual assistance, making it an indispensable pillar in their modern agricultural system.

Among modern agricultural cooperatives, agricultural cooperatives in the Netherlands are famous for their high degree of specialization and seamless connection with the market. For example, in the flower industry, Flora Holland Aalsmeer is the world 's largest flower trading center and is itself a cooperative of thousands of flower farmers. The auction market uses an advanced ' clock price reduction ' auction system to achieve extremely efficient transactions. In the field of dairy industry. As Jos Bijman pointed out: ' Dairy cooperatives have existed in the Netherlands for more than 130 years. They hold a joint market share of more than 80 % since the 1950s. This suggests that cooperatives are durable organizations in the dairy industry of the Netherlands [4]. For example, Friesland Campina is the largest dairy co-operative multinational corporation formed by the merger of Friesland Foods and Campina, which is jointly owned by more than 16,000 Dutch dairy farmers. It is not only responsible for the acquisition and sale of milk, but also deeply involved in the whole industry chain from pasture management, quality inspection, breeding research and development to product processing and brand marketing.

Agricultural cooperatives in the United States are equally large. The Sunkist Cooperative is jointly owned by citrus growers in California and Arizona. It has more than 6000 members of citrus growers. Through a unified brand, quality standards and global marketing network, ' Sunkist ' has become a benchmark for global orange brands. Members share profits based on the quantity and quality of the fruits they deliver. Sunkist successfully expanded the market by using its own brand known for ' high quality control '. Therefore, its annual exports and actual membership income are growing. Sunkist growers announced at the company's annual meeting on February 17,2016 that the

cooperative 's revenue reached \$ 1 billion for the sixth consecutive year. In addition, for the first time in history, Sunkist has paid more than one billion dollars to growers for two consecutive years. Sunkist is a good case, showing that the combined fruit farmers and cooperatives are not inferior to large enterprises.

The success of American agricultural cooperatives such as Sunkist is also inseparable from the complete industrial chain of American agricultural cooperative economy. Farm Credit System is a borrower-owned financial cooperation system specially designed for farmers and agricultural cooperatives, which effectively solves the financing problems in agricultural production. Just like the pioneering financial cooperation system, the innovative development of the cooperative economy in different countries has continuously added to the traditional cooperative model in the past and made new answers to the problems in the operation of cooperatives in the past.

3.2. The Origin and Development of Domestic Agricultural Cooperatives

China 's cooperative economic thought and practice also has a long history. In modern times, under the background of national peril and social change, a group of intellectuals tried to save the declining countryside through cooperative movement. In the 1920 s and 1930 s, in the ' rural construction movement ' promoted by Yan Yangchu and Liang Shuming, cooperatives were an important practical content, aiming to improve farmers ' livelihoods through credit cooperation, transportation and marketing cooperation. Although these explorations failed due to war and social unrest, they sowed the seeds of cooperative economy.

The movement of agricultural cooperation and collectivization did not stagnate after liberation. It effectively integrated the limited production resources in rural areas and played a decisive role in restoring and developing agricultural production and supporting national industrialization.

At the beginning of the founding of the People 's Republic of China (1949-1957), although farmers received land through land reform, they generally faced the dilemma of lack of means of production and thin labor force. The transition from mutual aid group to primary agricultural production cooperatives follows the principle of voluntary mutual benefit and typical demonstration. Through the mutual assistance and cooperation of labor, animal power and agricultural tools, these difficulties have been effectively overcome and the development of agricultural production has been promoted.

According to statistics, China 's total grain output increased from 113.18 million tons in 1949 to 163.92 million tons in 1952 (the year when the land reform was basically completed), and then to 195.05 million tons in 1957 (the year when agricultural cooperation was basically completed). In 1958, grain production further reached 197.65 million tons. In less than ten years, China 's total grain output has increased by nearly 75 million tons, an increase of more than 70 %. This great achievement fully proves the positive role of the transformation of agricultural production relations in liberating and developing productive forces. Cooperatives improved the land output rate through agricultural technical measures such as water conservancy construction, promotion of improved varieties, and rational close planting, which laid a solid material foundation for solving the problem of hundreds of millions of people eating at that time.

During the period of cooperation, Chairman Mao proposed that " small cooperatives have less land and less capital, can carry out large-scale operations, and cannot use machines. This small community is still bound to the development of productive forces, cannot stay too long, should be gradually merged [5]. Since 1958, the vigorous people 's commune movement has gradually swept the country. This movement was not the decision of Chairman Mao alone, but the result of the " three-way joint promotion and interaction " of central and local cadres and ordinary farmers [6]. According to the idea of the early collectivization, the people 's commune mainly has four principles: ' one big and two public ', ' integration of government and society ' (cadres at all levels have considerable power), supply system as the leading (average principle) and ' militarization of organization, combat of action and collectivization of life '. These early system assumptions with strong egalitarianism and wartime communism largely led to many problems in the early stages of the movement.

From 1958 to the beginning of 1962, there were serious "left" errors in various parts of China, mainly manifested as "exaggerated wind," "communist wind" and "blind command wind."

In the "Great Leap Forward" movement, all over the country scrambled to falsely report, exaggerate grain production, and put "high-yield satellites" (such as claiming to produce 10,000 jin per mu). Based on these false figures, the state has mobilized more forces from agriculture to develop industry and formulated excessive food procurement tasks, which are far beyond the actual affordability of rural areas. As a result, many cooperatives' rations and seed grains have been requisitioned, seriously damaging rural productivity and paving the way for the 'three-year natural disaster' in the early 1960s.

Under the guidance of the "Resolution of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China on the Establishment of People's Communes in Rural Areas" passed in August 1958, various regions began to formulate two "transition" plans, and some regions even proposed the "two-year transition to communism." At the same time, under the guidance of the idea of eager to transition to a more advanced form, the one-sided pursuit of "one large and two public" and the free adjustment of the means of production, means of living and labor of cooperatives and members have seriously undermined the socialist principles of "equal exchange" and "distribution according to work." Changtu County, Liaoning Province, for example, according to the county party committee office in the old Siping, Bamiancheng and other five communes survey incomplete statistics, as of December 1961, the county from the commune, the commune from the brigade, the brigade from the production team and members, free to occupy the land 148 Shang, the transfer of 1358 labor, the call of 158 head of livestock, rubber truck 70, a variety of agricultural machinery and equipment 2209, transferred 90,000 kilograms of food, 105 pigs, occupying more than 5400 houses [7]. This is actually a deprivation of farmers, damage the nature of collective ownership of cooperatives.

From the primary society to the senior society, and then to the transition of the people's commune, the speed is too fast. One form of organization has not yet been consolidated, and the effectiveness has not yet been fully demonstrated, it has quickly been replaced by another form. The change of production relations is divorced from the actual level of productivity development, violates the economic law of voluntary mutual benefit, and leads to the chaos of production order. These confusions and mistakes are directly reflected in food production: in 1960, China's food production plummeted to 143.5 million tons, down more than 50 million tons from 1958 and back to 1951 levels. The reasons for the difficult times that followed were complex (including factors such as natural disasters), but mistakes in the work were undoubtedly an important factor in exacerbating the difficulties.

The mistake of the late 1950s was a serious setback on the road to exploration, but its duration was short relative to the entire history of collectivization. The Communist Party of China realized the problem in time, passed the "Regulations on the Work of Rural People's Communes" (Amendment Draft) in 1962 and began to adjust (such as establishing a "three-level ownership, team-based" system, emphasizing distribution according to work), so that agricultural production can be gradually restored. By 1965, grain production had rebounded to 194.53 million tons, close to 1957 levels. Since then, with the continuous iteration of system standardization and agricultural science and technology, until the reform of the people's commune in 1982, China's grain output has always maintained a steady upward trend.

During the people's commune movement, 70,000 and 80,000 reservoirs and corresponding irrigation canal networks were built in rural China. Nowadays, almost all the artificial lakes in China are built in this period. China's irrigation area increased at a rate of 17 million mu (3.5%) per year before 1980. By 1980 it had reached 733 million acres.

The irrigation system brought by the people's commune with centralized manpower is a qualitative leap in the conditions of agricultural production. The appearance of agriculture 'eating by the sky' is almost invisible. By the 1970s, it basically ended the history of 'great drought and flood will be great disaster' in China for thousands of years. 1978 was a year of severe drought. China not only avoided the possible famine, but also increased the total agricultural output value by 9.8%

compared with the previous year, and the grain output exceeded 300 million tons for the first time. The key water conservancy projects built since the establishment of a number of people's communes have played a key role in responding to the drought and preserving the agricultural harvest [8].

More than 80 % of China's existing water conservancy facilities in the 21st century are still built before the 1970s. Due to the lack of organized manpower and poor management, water conservancy facilities have been seriously aging, more and more disease, dangerous and silt reservoirs, and the ability to resist natural risks and disasters has been greatly reduced. The "Red Flag Canal" in Linxian County, Henan Province, which was once known throughout the country, was also on the verge of drying up in July 87 due to years of disrepair, serious cracks and leakage, as well as water interception, water skimming and water grabbing by farmers in the upper reaches.

Throughout the process of agricultural cooperation in China, this study must adhere to the view of historical materialism, not only to fully affirm its historical inevitability and great achievements, but also to learn the profound lessons from it realistically. The collectivization movement successfully transformed China's traditional agricultural socio-economic structure, realized the rapid recovery and development of agricultural production, basically solved the problem of hundreds of millions of people eating, and accumulated huge funds for the country's industrialization. Its historical achievements are dominant. Without the foundation of water conservancy and farmland laid by collectivization, there will be no successive harvest after the implementation of the household contract responsibility system. Similarly, this period of history warns us that the adjustment of agricultural production relations must be compatible with the level of productivity development. We must respect the objective economic laws and respect the voluntary and material interests of farmers. We must not engage in "one size fits all" and forced orders and must not be anxious and exaggerated [9].

4. Today's Cooperative Types, Policies and Their Practical Application

4.1. Today's Cooperative Types

At present, China's farmers' professional cooperatives show a diversified and compound development trend, and their cooperation fields have gradually expanded from the initial production links to the whole industrial chain of capital, technology, processing, circulation, brand marketing and so on. According to the comprehensive estimation of public data such as the "China New Business Entity Development Index Survey Report" issued by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, by the end of 2022, the total number of farmers' professional cooperatives registered in accordance with the law in the country exceeded 2.2 million, with more than 100 million farmers joining the cooperative, driving nearly half of the country's farmers. Its main types can be divided into:

Production and service cooperatives: This is the most basic and most numerous types, accounting for the highest proportion (the industry usually estimates between 40 % and 50 %). They mainly provide members with unified agricultural machinery operations, pest control, technical training, production materials procurement and other production services, aiming to reduce production costs and improve production efficiency.

Integration of production, processing and marketing cooperatives: This type of cooperatives has realized the integrated operation from production to processing and sales and is a key form to increase the added value of agricultural products. The number accounts for a considerable proportion (estimated at about 30 %). Through the establishment of self-built or joint processing plants, the creation of their own brands, the establishment of direct sales channels (such as community supply, e-commerce platform), etc., they will retain more industrial chain profits within the cooperatives and directly increase the income of members.

Land stock cooperatives: as a deeper exploration of property rights system reform, it shows a rapid development trend in economically developed areas and suburban areas. Farmers invest in land management rights. Cooperatives carry out unified planning, collation and management of land.

Members pay dividends according to share guarantees and can obtain wage income from working in cooperatives. This model effectively solved the problem of land fragmentation and cleared the way for the modernization of agricultural scale.

Credit Mutual Cooperatives: Funding mutual cooperation within members effectively alleviates the problem of small and short-term financing for members, and operates in specific pilot areas, with a relatively small overall number. Its operation under strict supervision is an important supplement to rural financial inclusion.

Other types (such as rural tourism, homestay cooperatives, etc.): a small number but rapid development, is a vivid manifestation of the integration and development of rural primary, secondary and tertiary industries, and broadens the channels for farmers to increase their income.

This diversified pattern shows that China's new agricultural cooperatives have gone beyond the simple 'group heating' stage and are evolving towards a professional, entrepreneurial and comprehensive modern agricultural market player.

4.2. Today's Cooperative Policy and Legal Protection

The vigorous development of new agricultural cooperatives is inseparable from the increasingly perfect policy and legal support system constructed at the national level. This system is not achieved overnight, and its logic of origin, development and function is clear, which provides a solid guarantee for the healthy operation of the cooperative economy.

The fundamental law for the development of cooperatives in China is the 'Law of the People's Republic of China on Farmers' Professional Cooperatives', which was formally implemented on July 1, 2007. The introduction of the law marks that China's farmers' professional cooperatives have entered a new era of development according to law. Its legislative origin is directly derived from the spontaneous practice of the new rural cooperative economy after the reform and opening up. It aims to solve the new problems faced by small farmers after the "contract production to households." It confirms its legal person status through legislation and regulates its organizational behavior and internal governance structure (such as the democratic management of one person and one vote, and the return of surplus mainly according to the principle of transaction volume (amount)), which fundamentally guarantees the democratic rights and economic rights of farmers. In 2017, the law was revised for the first time, which further expanded the scope of legal adjustment (including professional cooperatives in the fields of rural folk crafts and products, leisure agriculture and rural tourism), enriched the content of cooperation, strengthened financial support policies, and reflected the characteristics of the law and the development of the times.

Around the "Farmers' Professional Cooperative Law," the state has constructed a multi-dimensional and systematic policy support framework to provide multi-angle protection and support for modern agricultural cooperatives. First of all, in the part of direct financial support, the central and local finances set up special funds to support cooperatives to carry out information, training, agricultural product standards and certification, agricultural production infrastructure construction, marketing and technology promotion and other services through 'awards instead of subsidies', project support and other forms. This policy directly reduces the start-up and operating costs of cooperatives, encourages them to improve production conditions and enhance service capabilities.

Secondly, in terms of taxation, the State Administration of Taxation exempts value-added tax on the sale of agricultural products produced by members of the farmers' professional cooperatives as agricultural producers' own agricultural products; agricultural film, seeds, seedlings, pesticides and agricultural machinery sold to the members of the Association shall be exempt from value-added tax. These preferential tax policies have greatly reduced the burden on cooperatives and enhanced their market competitiveness and the ability to provide services to members at an affordable price.

In the face of the problem of 'financing difficulties and expensive financing' often encountered by cooperatives, the state encourages financial institutions to take various forms to provide multi-channel financial support and financial services for cooperatives. It includes carrying out credit rating

evaluation of farmers' professional cooperatives, providing credit loans to cooperatives with good credit, and encouraging the development of rural credit mutual assistance business.

This policy orientation fully reflects the state's support for the form of public ownership and enthusiasm for solving the problems in the process of cooperative economic development, and effectively injects financial living water into the expansion of cooperative reproduction and industrial upgrading in China.

Finally, the development of cooperatives has been deeply integrated into the 'Rural Revitalization' national strategy. In the 'Rural Revitalization Strategic Plan (2018-2022)' and subsequent policies, cooperatives are clearly defined as an important link to drive small farmers to integrate into the development of modern agriculture. The policy encourages them to participate in the integration and development of primary, secondary and tertiary industries in rural areas, and to build projects such as cold chain logistics of agricultural products, processing and warehousing, and leisure agriculture, so as to transform them from simple agricultural producers to the leaders and beneficiaries of rural industrial integration.

4.3. Application Prospects and Practical Cases

The effectiveness of theory and policy ultimately needs to be tested through practice. The successful case of Baolv Vegetable Professional Cooperative in Cixi City, Zhejiang Province, shows the organizational model, great achievements and broad application prospects of the new cooperative.

Baolv Green Cooperative was established in 2006 and was originally initiated by seven vegetable farmers. At present, there are 128 members of the cooperative, with a registered capital of CNY 1.08 million, driving more than 2,100 surrounding farmers to join the cooperative management system, and the average annual net income of the members reaches CNY 32,000. The core of its success lies in the construction of a 'cooperative + base + farmer + supermarket' close integration organization model.

Baolv Cooperative carries out unified production management. The cooperatives have established a strict quality traceability system, provided seeds, organic fertilizers and bio-pesticides to all members in a unified manner, and formulated standardized production technical regulations. Members must operate in strict accordance with the procedures, and the products are uniformly accepted by the quality inspection department of the cooperative.

Not only that, Baolv Cooperative also has a unified brand for marketing. The cooperative has registered the 'Baolv' trademark, and all the standard products are uniformly packaged, uniformly identified, and uniformly sold under the 'Baolv' brand. It has successfully established a long-term direct supply cooperation relationship with Yonghui Supermarket, Hema Fresh and other large-scale commercial supermarkets in East China, realized the 'agricultural supermarket docking', and skipped multiple intermediate links.

In addition, the cooperative adopts the model of 'guaranteed purchase + secondary rebate'. Vegetables produced by members according to standards are purchased by cooperatives at a guaranteed price of 5% -10% higher than the market price to ensure their basic income. At the end of the year, the cooperative will process and sell more than half of the profits generated by the members of the transaction volume of the 'secondary rebate'. In 2008, the average member of the implementation of the "second rebate" per capita 0.35 million yuan, the highest income of 1.37 million yuan. Through this model, Baolv Cooperative has made remarkable achievements. As reported in the relevant journals, 'The cooperative has achieved remarkable results in the past six years and has been fully praised by government departments and members at all levels. It has won the advanced collectives of Cixi City in 2004 and 2007, and the first batch of standardized farmers' professional cooperatives in Cixi City in 2006. In 2006 and 2007, it was rated as the 'Top Ten Farmers' Professional Cooperatives in Cixi City' for two consecutive years. In 2008, it was recognized by the China Product Quality and Safety Supervision and Evaluation Center as the 'Leading Demonstration Base for Provincial High-quality Vegetable Cultivation' and other honorary titles and certifications.

The model of Baolv Cooperative accurately interprets the application prospect of agricultural cooperatives in solving the problems of agriculture, rural areas and farmers in the new era:

First, connect small farmers with large markets. Its ' Farming-Supermarket Docking ' model perfectly solves the problems of ' difficult selling ' and price fluctuation of agricultural products and provides stable and reliable sales channels and price guarantee for small farmers, which is the embodiment of the core value of cooperatives.

Secondly, promote agricultural modernization and production standardization. Strict standardized production and management have forced traditional vegetable farmers to transform into modern agricultural industrial workers, accelerated the promotion of advanced technology and management concepts, and promoted the transformation and upgrading of agricultural production methods.

Again, enhance industrial competitiveness. The ' unified brand ' strategy creates a public brand of regional agricultural products, enhances the added value of the industry through brand premium, and enhances the ability of the entire industry to cope with market risks.

Finally, to achieve common prosperity: the interest linkage mechanism of ' minimum guarantee + rebate ' ensures that the growth income mainly flows to producers (farmers), rather than middlemen, effectively promotes the increase of farmers ' income and narrows the income gap between urban and rural areas, which is an effective path to achieve common prosperity.

The success of Baolv Cooperative provides a replicable and replicable model for tens of thousands of cooperatives across the country. Its future application prospect is that this model can be copied to more categories and regions, and further combined with intelligent agriculture, digital e-commerce, deep processing, etc., continue to evolve into a more advanced form, and ultimately become the backbone of China 's agricultural modernization.

5. Conclusion

Through the triple demonstration of theoretical traceability, historical review and realistic analysis, this paper fully shows that agricultural cooperatives are not a simple return of the old system, but a great institutional innovation under the guidance of Marxist collective economic theory, based on China 's national conditions and agricultural conditions, and conforming to the development law of agricultural modernization. It effectively realizes the breakthrough of agricultural management mode ' innovation ' and provides one of the most feasible solutions to solve the problem of ' agriculture, rural areas and farmers ' in the new period.

The main conclusions of this study are as follows: First of all, the essence of Marx and Engels ' theory of " small-scale peasant transformation " is to guide farmers to cooperation through demonstration, voluntariness and state support, rather than coercion, which provides a theoretical guidance for the development of cooperatives in the new era. Secondly, the historical practice of Chinese and foreign cooperatives reveals that respecting the dominant position of farmers and following the law of market economy development is the key to the success or failure of cooperation. The development of cooperatives in the new era of China has fully learned this historical lesson. Finally, the in-depth analysis of the current types of cooperatives, policies and typical cases such as Baolv Cooperatives in China shows that a new type of agricultural cooperative ecosystem with law as the cornerstone, policy as the support, market as the guidance and farmers as the main body is taking shape. They show decisive advantages in integrating resources, docking markets, promoting technology, increasing income, etc., and are an indispensable core carrier for solving the production and operation difficulties of small farmers, ensuring the effective supply of agricultural products, improving the competitiveness of agricultural quality and efficiency, and comprehensively promoting rural revitalization.

However, it should also be clearly seen that the development of cooperatives still faces challenges such as irregular internal governance, shortage of talents, short industrial chain, and ' last mile ' in policy implementation. Looking forward to the future and promoting the high-quality development

of cooperatives, we must : first, adhere to quality first, optimize the internal governance structure, strengthen financial norms, promote supervision mechanisms, and eliminate ' shell cooperatives ' and ' listed cooperatives ' ; second, we should strengthen the support of talents, actively attract high-quality talents such as college students, returning migrant workers and entrepreneurs to join the cooperative cause, return to the countryside, and contribute to the rural revitalization of the motherland. Third, we should promote the integration and development, encourage cooperatives to expand to new formats such as deep processing of agricultural products, leisure agriculture, and rural e-commerce, deeply participate in the integration of rural primary, secondary and tertiary industries, and solve the three rural issues in an all-round way.

In the final analysis, the development of agricultural cooperatives is a road that is in line with China 's national conditions and full of bright prospects. It is not only a strategic choice to conform to the historical trend of agricultural production and the needs of economic development, but also to consolidate the party 's ruling foundation in rural areas, realize the common prosperity of hundreds of millions of farmers, and write a new chapter of rural revitalization in the new era. To continue to explore and improve the path of agricultural cooperation with Chinese characteristics will provide valuable ' Chinese plan ' and ' Chinese wisdom ' for the modernization transformation of small-scale agricultural countries around the world.

This study systematically demonstrates the feasibility and advantages of agricultural cooperatives in solving the problems of agriculture, rural areas and farmers in the new era, but there are still some limitations, which also point out the direction for further research in the future.

First, the limitations of data acquisition. In the analysis of specific issues such as the proportion of cooperative types and business performance, this study cited a lot of second-hand data, outdated data and research reports. Due to the large number and uneven levels of farmers ' professional cooperatives in China, and many internal financial and distribution data involving commercial secrets or non-standard management, it is difficult to obtain publicly. The statistical data of official and academic institutions may be lagging, incomplete or different. At the same time, China 's cooperatives have a long history of development, and some historical data statistics may not be completely referential, and some historical data may be outdated or imperfectly restricted by historical periods. The combination of these factors makes it difficult to describe the overall development of cooperatives in a completely accurate and real-time manner, which affects the depth of problem analysis to a certain extent.

Secondly, the limitations of the research perspective. This study mainly cuts in from the positive perspective of macro policy, economic efficiency and organizational advantages, and lacks discussion on the internal governance dilemma and potential negative effects in the development of cooperatives. For example, this paper fails to conduct in-depth research on issues such as ' big farmers eat small farmers ' (cooperatives are controlled by a few rich farmers, and the voice of poor farmers is weakened), ' elite capture ' (policy preferences are intercepted by leaders), and the possible competition and crowding-out effects between cooperatives and small farmers who are not enrolled in cooperatives. These internal contradictions are also important dimensions related to the healthy and sustainable development of cooperatives.

Acknowledging these limitations is not to deny the value of this study, but to advocate a more prudent and open attitude. Future research can focus on sub-regional comparative case studies, quantitative empirical analysis based on big data, and micro-mechanisms of internal governance of cooperatives, so as to provide a more comprehensive and profound perspective for us to understand the path of agricultural cooperation in China.

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