

The goal of the diploma thesis „Ownership of agricultural and forest land in the Czech Republic“ is to introduce in complexity legal status of the agricultural and forest land owners in the Czech Republic, to encompass important moments in history of land ownership in the Czech Republic, to advise of specific legal titles considering the character of the land as the subject of ownership and to describe owner's rights and obligations while managing his agricultural or forest land.

Agricultural land is a primary human livelihood; forests have a range of important ecological functions. Regarding the value of the agriculture and forest land, it is necessary to legally regulate ownership relations to it as well as set limits to the individual property right execution with a view to public interests protection.

Specific to Czech conditions is that the ownership of agricultural and forest land went through several historic reversions during 20<sup>th</sup> century. During the past socialistic regime, the state aimed to own all agricultural and forest land. After its fall in 1989, the land ownership relations are being restored.

Important instrument of land resources protection is the land categorization according to its purpose. Land type changes require official approval.

Other important instrument of land resources protection as well as of environment protection is the land consolidation process, optimizing spatial and functional land arrangement in the public interest in order to rationalize the land utilization and to protect environment. It is necessary to finish land consolidation process all over the Czech Republic territory as soon as possible. The main obstacle is a lack of financial funds for projects and realisation of land arrangements, so it is necessary to design high quality projects to acquire the money from EC funds. After that it will be possible to set long-term use relations to the agricultural and forest land. Also new farmers' generation must grow up after historic interruption.

Sustainability and environment protection are accented permanently in agricultural and forest soil management. Also damages from the past need to be repaired. Czech landscape needs to regenerate the scenic nature, suppressed by past large-area high farming.

The crucial economic instruments enabling to manage and regulate agricultural land use are grants, especially from the EC funds from the Common Agricultural Policy. Grant programmes must be precisely developed to effectively regulate the land management towards defined aims. The support of rural development, ecological farming, energetic crops production and other agricultural activities alternative to large-scale food production should continue.