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## **ORGANIZATIONAL-ECONOMIC MODELS FOR ASSESSMENT OF ECONOMIC EFFECTS OF INTENSIVE CARP PRODUCTION**

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**Summary:** *The constantly growing population of the planet Earth is setting new demands on the needs for production of larger quantities of food. Fish and other water organisms for human consumption participate considerably in the food balance on a global level whereby the aquaculture products, due to the limited natural resources, are gaining more and more in significance. Thus the intensive aqua culture systems are especially important mostly because of the possibility to yield large quantities of food in limited areas. Of the total produced quantity of cyprinid fish in the world, carp production is at a relative level of approximately 18% and in the last ten years it has ranged between 2,4 and 3 million tons. In Europe, apart from salmon and rainbow trout, carp represents one of the most significant farmed fish species. Carp is the most farmed fish species in Serbia. Production is conducted in a proportionally large number and areas of carp ponds in semi-intensive and intensive methods with increasing application of complete compound feeds. Intensive carp production systems are gaining more and more in importance, primarily due to smaller areas necessary for construction of ponds and greater yield per area unit. With the purpose of determining the cost effectiveness of investments in fish ponds for intensive carp production two organisation-economic models have been analysed in the study. The models have been formed in line with the specific features of the Serbian carp fishery, which has been analysed both on the basis of official statistical data and the data obtained from the scientific and specialist literature but also from the production practice. Models of intensive carp production in technical and production sense have been defined in the study and production plans have been prepared. Therefore, based on such defined models, dynamic methods have been prepared for assessment of economic effects of the investments. The results of the analysis have demonstrated that investment in intensive carp production on 10ha fish farm is not, and on 50ha fish farm is barely economically justifiable, as well as methods for improvement of economic effectiveness.*

**Keywords:** *carp ponds, economic effects, models, intensive production systems, investments JEL classification: Q120.*

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

Agriculture with fishery occupies an important position within the Serbian economy. Fishery consists of farming fish in ponds, catching fish in open waters and fish processing. Within fishery, carp fishery occupies the most important place, both in terms of fish produced and in terms of its value.

Apart from the importance the carp fishery has within the Serbian fishery, its connection to other activities is very important. The food which is used to feed the carp and accompanying species originates from local production. Apart from the traditionally used grains produced at the territory of Serbia, in the last decade there has been a sudden development in production of complete compound feeds for carp feeding. The need to intensify production has been a precondition for this. Based on this

need, significant production capacities for extruded feed have been constructed, its use has been expanded and even export has been initiated.

Increase in production of freshwater fish led to the beginning of a stronger development of processing activities, whereby significant processing capacities have been constructed for fish processing in line with the most up-to-date global standards.

Based on everything above, it may be said that in the last five years we have been witnessing an accelerated development of carp fishery in Serbia with accompanying related activities.

If alignment with the European Union is taken into account, as well as the annual production in carp fish ponds of 10 to 15 thousand tons with the concurrent development of production of feed for intensive carp farming and development of processing capacities, the level of importance this production may have within the European market may undoubtedly be observed.

Due to everything mentioned above, the importance of analysis of economic effects of construction and exploitation of the fish ponds for intensive carp farming is evident.

## **2. SOURCES OF DATA AND WORKING METHODS**

Different method procedures have been used in this study, both during the research and during the analysis and the presentation of the obtained research results.

Above all, the general scientific model has been used in the research, the application of which enables one to explain and foresee the relation between certain relevant inputs, results and achieved effects in carp production.

The analytic-synthetic method has been used in generalising those concepts which are relevant for assessment of economic effects of construction and exploitation of carp ponds.

During the analysis of the production conditions in carp ponds in Serbia and the analysis of the present condition, as well as during the presentation of the obtained results, statistical methods have been used in treatment of the collected material such as tables.

During the economic analysis of the exploitation of different fish pond models as well as the effects of investments in carp fishery, the method of constructing organisation-economic models has been used. After the model has been defined and all technical and technological characteristics of the defined model described, the following methods of economic analysis have been applied:

- Calculation based on variable costs (Direct Costing Method), which has been done for all age categories of the farmed fish within the defined models;

- Investment calculation, which has served for assessment of the cost-effectiveness of construction of certain organisation-economic models of carp ponds. Economic efficiency of invested funds in certain defined models has been tested on the basis of dynamic methods of investment calculation such as the Capital investment value method, Internal interest rate method and Return of investment term method.

Data from several sources have been used in preparation of this study.

The first group consists of statistical data related to Serbian fishery obtained from the Republic Statistical Office, based on which the analysis of the present condition of carp fishery in Serbia has been conducted. Those are the data related to quantities of cultured and produced fish, consumption of material, facilities, technical devices, etc.

The second group of data includes the data from practice. They include production plans, fish catch balances and analyses of production from several carp ponds in Serbia within a longer period. This source of data is especially important in determining the average values over several years for the quantities of farmed fish, caught fish, losses, conversion, etc. i.e. the most important data for compiling the production plans for the defined models.

The third group consists of data related to the area of fishery in general and to the special area of carp fishery. These data are related to research studies, construction of fish ponds, various technical parameters and problems, production technology, etc. Also, scarce in number sources and data related to costs of carp and other fish farming are included in this group.

### 3. CARP PRODUCTION IN SERBIA

Production of carp and accompanying species is conducted in Serbia at around 11,5 thousand hectares (Ćirković et al, 2002; Bugarčić, 2007) where approximately 8,7 thousand hectares represent the water mirror area (Republic Statistical Office, 2013). Fish farming is conducted in semi-intensive and intensive farming systems. Carp ponds are supplied with water from different sources: canals, open waterways – rivers and from wells.

**Table 1:** Supply of fish ponds with water in Serbia

Recipient	Active fish pond area (ha)	Number of fish ponds (units)	Share of fish pond area (%)	Share of number of fish ponds (%)
DTD - canal system	4.344	19	37,6	25,3
Rivers	6.178	25	53,5	33,3
Wells	363	18	3,1	24
Canals	332	10	2,9	13,3
Other	340	3	2,9	4,0
Total	11.557	75	100	100

Source: Calculated on the basis of the data from the studies by Ćirković et al (2002) and Bugarčić (2007), the data are related to total areas under fish ponds

The fish ponds engaged in active carp production are supplied with water mainly from the wells and from the canals, while the supply of large fish ponds is conducted from rivers and the DTD canal system.

The carp ponds in Serbia vary greatly in terms of their size and their classification may be done in several ways. The total number of fish ponds is 75, while the areas vary from several hectares to several thousand hectares.

Smaller sized fish ponds have mainly been constructed during the last 20 years and production in them is in some extent undertaken according to the intensive farming system. Contrary to them, almost all large carp ponds have been built before and production is conducted in the semi-intensive farming system there.

Considerable difference between the fish ponds where production is conducted in the semi-intensive system and those where farming is conducted in the intensive system is present in the accompanying fish species farmed alongside carp. Thus, in the intensive systems, carp is farmed as the only species – in monoculture while in the semi-intensive fish ponds it is customary to farm carp in polyculture with other fish species.

**Table 2:** Classification of Serbian carp ponds according to size

Fish pond size (ha)	Number of fish ponds (units)	Share of number of fish ponds (%)	Fish pond area (ha)	Share of fish pond area (%)
≤ 10 ha	13	16,2	92	0,8
from 10 to 50 ha	25	33,8	542	4,7
from 50 to 150 ha	12	16,2	1.075	9,3
from 150 ha to 500 ha	19	25,7	5.460	47,2
> 500 ha	6	8,1	4.395	38,0
Total	75	100,0	11.564	100,0

Source: Čanak, 2012.

Out of fish species which are farmed as accompanying to carp in the semi-intensive fish ponds the most represented ones are silver and bighead carp and grass carp, while share of other fish species is negligibly small. In Table 3, the production structure in fish ponds in Serbia for the period 2009-2012 may be seen. The data are related to the total produced fish, i.e. fish progeny and fish for consumption.



**Table 3:** Production structure in fish ponds for the period 2009-2012.

Fish species	Production structure per years (%)				
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2009-2012
Production (kg)	12,515,036	12,794,057	11,227,276	12,345,524	48,881,893
Carp	82.7	83.4	82.1	79.9	82.1
Catfish	0.3	0.4	1.5	2.2	1.1
Silver and bighead carp	12.7	9.7	7.7	10.0	10.1
Grass carp	2.7	5.0	3.3	2.5	3.4
Pike	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Zander	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1
Other	1.4	1.3	5.3	5.3	3.2
Total	100	100.0	100.0	100.0	100

Source: calculated from the data by the Republic Statistical Office

The results shown in Table 3 present the summary results for Serbia as a whole, whereby it must be stressed that the production results vary considerably from fish pond to fish pond. The differences are the greatest between the fish ponds where the production is conducted in the semi-intensive system of farming and fish ponds where the carp is farmed by the intensive method.

Therefore, the yield per hectare with the semi-intensive systems of carp farming ranges between 1000 kg/ha and 2000 kg/ha, depending on whether and to what extent the extruded carp feed is used and whether the agro-technical measures have been implemented. Similar information may also be found in works of other authors (Horvat et al, 2002). In the fish ponds for intensive farming, the production per hectare is approximately 3000 kg/ha which represents the average for several years (Čanak, 2012). The intensive carp farming is conducted in Serbia almost exclusively in earth fish ponds. The Law on protection and sustainable development of the fish resources (“Official gazette RS“, no. 36/2009) prohibits the placement of cages for fish farming.

The fish ponds for intensive carp farming differ from the fish ponds where production is conducted in a semi-intensive system in several features. The main difference is in the manner of feeding and possibility of complete control over the quality of water. Other differences are in the area of the farming pond, depth of the lake, more intensive application of the agro-technical measures, the need for more frequent removal of the pond sludge, better technical equipment, etc. Definitions of the fish ponds for intensive carp farming and differences between them may be found with different authors (Bohl, 1999, Čirković et al, 2002) whereby a difference must be made between the intensive and super intensive farming systems, the latter including water recirculation and its heating (Horvat et al, 2002). Čirković et al (2000) have provided more detailed requirements for facilities for intensive carp production in Serbian conditions, where they have stressed the need to ensure additional quantities of water for re-filling and refreshing the pond facilities during the summer months.

Other information may be found about the intensive fish farming in the region (Gospić, 2009), but the processed data and models in this study are related to what has been the most represented manner of intensive carp production in Serbia so far.

#### 4. MODELS OF INTENSIVE CARP PRODUCTION

Based on the previously stated, and the data about the fish ponds where carp production is conducted in the intensive system in Serbia, the organisation-economic models may be defined.

A fish pond for intensive carp production in Serbia is an earth pond, filling is done with water and refilling during the summer is done by means of pumps while emptying is gravitational. Water from wells is used as a water source. Fish ponds are equipped with aerators for enrichment of the water with oxygen during the summer months. Construction of ponds is done on the land which has been leased from the state.

Organisation-economic models have been prepared for two fish farms of different usable areas, i.e. for 10ha and 50ha.

Model M1. Intensive carp farming on a fish pond with usable area of 10ha

The average size of the lake is 2,5ha, while the total usable area is 10ha. The water depth is 2,5m. Aerators are used between July and September during the night. Catching is done at the end of the season, in November. A container for temporary placement for workers is foreseen at the fish pond as well as a canopy for equipment, feed, etc. 100m long access road and internal transport routes in the fish pond in the length of 100m should also be present. Connecting the electric energy to the facility is foreseen in the length of 100m. It is not necessary to obtain a power substation. Carp farming is done in monoculture, by applying pure carp culture.

Model M2. Intensive carp farming on a fish pond with usable area of 50ha

The average size of the lake is 5ha, while the total usable area is 50ha. The water depth is 2,5m. Aerators are used between July and September during the night. Catching is done at the end of the season, in November. A total of 600m roads need to be constructed and electric energy connected in the length of 300m. Procurement of a power substation for supply of power to the fish pond is mandatory. Carp farming is done in monoculture, by applying pure carp culture.

In Table 4 the necessary investments are presented for fish ponds construction defined by M1 and M2 models.

**Table 4:** Necessary investments for M1. and M2

Monetary expenses during construction of fish ponds	M1		M2	
	€	%	€	%
Documentation (designs and licences)	10,350	9.6	19,750	5.0
Hydro-construction facilities	82,190	76.0	313,670	79.5
Buildings, machines and devices	10,140	9.4	54,690	13.9
Equipment din	5,400	5.0	6,470	1.6
Total €	108,080	100.0	394,580	100.0
Total €/ha	10,808	-	7,892	-

Source: modified according to Čanak et al, 2013.

The necessary funds for construction of fish ponds and procurement of equipment are 108.080 € for M1, i.e. 10.808 €/ha and 349.580€, i.e. 7.892 €/ha for the model M2.

Carp production in monoculture according to the models M1 and M2 is conducted in a two-year plant. The production cycle starts with procurement of carp alevins and ends with production of a two-year old fish for consumption.

In order to prepare the production plans, the key data are related to the density of the culture, initial mass, losses and final mass, as well as the feed conversion ratio. Other indicators of successful production may be calculated on the basis of these data.

Density of the carp culture mostly depends on the age category of the progeny and the farming system. For production of one-month carp progeny (Cm) the density of the culture should be 500.000 pcs/ha in order to have 30-day old progeny at between 1,5g and 2,5 g. (Marković, 2010). Čirković (2000) states that the larvae culture for production of month-olds may not be greater than 600.000 pcs/ha if the intention is to produce month-olds with average mass of 2g. Production of one-month carp progeny may not be, regardless of the type of additional food (grains or extruded mixtures) considered completely intensive due to the fact that the natural food (zooplankton) plays a very important role in this phase of farming.

Production of one-year carp progeny (C1) from one-month old ones as well as production of two-year carp for consumption (C2) is conducted in such culture densities so that the natural food plays an insignificant role, while the entire yield is provided from the complete extruded food. During farming of the one-year carp progeny (C1) the culture density should range between 15.000 pcs/ha and 30.000 pcs/ha, whereby it may be expected for the one-year progeny (C1) to have an average mass over 100g

(Marković, 2010). According to other data, the culture density for production of one-year progeny should range from 20.000 pcs/ha to 30.000 pcs/ha (Milošević, 2013).

During the production of the two-year carp for consumption (C2) with mass between 1,3kg and 2kg, it is necessary to cultivate 2.000 – 3.000 pcs/ha of one-year carp progeny (C1) (Milošević, 2013). Production of about 3 t/ha of both one-year and two-year carp is a characteristic example of intensive carp production in Serbia. (Đanić, 2010).

Death rate during production of month-old fish ranges between 30% and 70% (Marković, 2010), while other authors state examples where the death rate has been 35 % (Ćirković et al, 2002). During production of one-year carp, the losses range between 20% and 40% (Marković, 2010). During farming of the two-year carp one must expect losses between 20% and 40%, according to the same author.

The overwintering losses represent a special category of losses and consist both of fish dying during the winter months and the weight loss of fish. This category of losses has not been sufficiently elaborated in literature, although there are important pieces of information to be found with several authors (Schäpperclaus und Lukovics, 1998). Data and experiences from certain fish ponds are also of great importance.

Based on the previously mentioned data, the production plans for M1 and M2 models may be defined.

**Table 5:** Production plan for the M1 model

Cat	STOCKING						PRODUCTION				
	Bk (pcs/ha)	Mp (g)	Mnj (kg)	A (ha)	Mnu (kg)	Bku (pcs)	U (%)	Bkp (pcs)	Mp (g)	Jp (kg/ha)	Pu (kg)
Cm	583,333	-	-	0.5	-	350,000	40	175,000	2.0	700	350
C1	23,077	2.0	46	2.0	92	46,154	35	30,000	200	3,000	6,000
C2	2,353	170	400	8.0	3,200	18,824	25	14,118	1,700	3,000	24,000
Total				10	3,292	414,977		219,118		3,035	30,350

Source: author's calculation. Note: Cm is farmed at the same facilities as C1

Cultivating is conducted with appropriate progeny in densities per hectare (Bk) depending on the age category. Average mass of the cultivated (Mp) fry is 2g for the production of one-year carp fingerlings and 170g for production of fish for consumption. Based on the previous two data, the total necessary quantity of the progeny for cultivation per hectare (Mnj) may be calculated, which, multiplied by the area of the lake where a certain age category of progeny (A) is being cultivated gives the total necessary quantity of progeny for cultivation on an entire pond (Mnu). If the total necessary number of progeny of certain age categories for cultivation on an entire pond (Bku) is reduced by death rate during farming (U) the total number of remaining progeny is obtained (Bkp), which multiplied by the final average mass (Mp) gives the total production at the fish pond (Pu). Data about the unit production (Jp) i.e. production of some of the carp age categories per hectare may be obtained from the data about the total production (Pu) by dividing it with the area on which a certain age category has been cultivated.

**Table 6:** Overwintering losses for the M1 model

Categ.	Overwintering losses		Fish after overwintering				
	Kz (%)	Un (%)	Bk (pcs)	Mp (g)	Um (kg)	Bz (pcs)	S (kg)
Cm	0	0	175,000	2.0	350	46,154	258
C1	15	3	29,100	170	4,947	18,824	1,747
C2	5	1	13,976	1,615	22,572	-	22,572
Total	-	-	43,076	-	27,519	-	24,577

Data about the total production is related to the quantity of the caught progeny at the end of the farming season i.e. in November and December. Due to overwintering losses, this quantity shall not be

equal to the quantity which may be sold and it is necessary to take these losses into account as well. In Table 6, the overwintering losses are presented for the M1 model.

Overwintering losses consist of overwintering weight loss (Kz), which represents the loss in the mass of surviving specimens and fish death rate during overwintering (Un). Based on these data, the surviving number of pieces is obtained after overwintering (Bk) and average fish mass after overwintering (Mp). Month-old carp fry (Cm) does not go in overwintering but is used for production of one-year carp fingerlings, while some time is necessary for sale of fish for consumption (C2) where smaller losses may occur. The quantity of fish which is at disposal at the end of overwintering is in the column designated with Um and this quantity shall serve to calculate the production value. One part out of that quantity shall be used for direct sale (S) and another one for cultivation in own pond (Bz = Bku).

The production plan for the M2 model is very similar to the M1 model production plan, the difference being that production of one-month progeny is conducted at an area of 1ha, production of one-year progeny at 7ha and production of fish for consumption at 43ha, thus the quantities of the produced different age carp categories (Cm, C1 and C2) are proportionally higher.

Calculations have been made on the basis of variable costs for the M1 and M2 models, by means of production plans.

**Table 7:** Calculation on the basis of variable costs for the M1 model

	Cm				C1				C2			
	Qty	Unit	Price (€)	Value (€)	Qty	Unit	Price (€)	Value (€)	Qty	Unit	Price (€)	Value (€)
Value of production (€/ha)	700	kg	6,6	4.620	2.474	Kg	2,86	7.074	2.822	kg	2,20	6.207
Area surface (ha)	0,5	ha	-	-	2,0	Ha	-	-	8	ha	-	-
Variable costs (€/ha)												
Stocking	700.000	100 pcs	100	700	46	Kg	6,6	305	396	kg	2,86	1.133
Feed	840	kg	0,9	756	4.431	Kg	0,6	2.658	4.420	kg	1	2.652
Compost	3	t	20	60	0	T	20	-	0	t	20	-
Lime	500	kg	0,06	30	1000	Kg	0,06	60	1000	kg	0,06	60
Medicine, chemicals	theoretical	€	-	50	theoretical	€	-	100	theoretical	€	-	100
Var. mach. costs	*	€	-	202	*	€	-	606	*	€	-	808
Working variable costs	*	€	-	87	*	€	-	203	*	€	-	290
Electricity VT	*	€	-	114	*	€	-	194	*	€	-	194
Vet fees	0	%	-	-	0	%	-	-	0.2	%	-	12,41
Summary VC (€/ha)				1.999				4.126				5.249
Contribution margin CM (€/ha)				2.621				2.948				958
Summary CM (€)				1.310				5.896				7.664

Pursuant to calculations on the basis of variable costs, the values of contribution margins for production of different carp age categories have been obtained, which enables the total contribution margin for the model as a whole to be obtained. The quantities of unit production per hectare after overwintering (Bz) are the same for both models, M1 and M2 and thus the values of production per hectare shall be equal. Difference in the value of production between the M1 and M2 models originates from different pond areas. Variable costs, on the other hand, differ due to different costs of manpower, electric power and variable machine costs, so the contribution margins for different age

categories of progeny (Cm, C1 and C2) shall be different. Data for variable costs of manpower and variable portion of the costs of electric power are calculated in separate tables.

Data about the value of production, variable costs and contribution margin for models M1 and M2 are presented in Table 8, both for fish ponds as a whole, and per carp age categories.

**Table 8:** Contribution margins for M1 and M2 models

	Fish category	Production value (€/ha)	Variable costs VB (€/ha)	Contribution margin CM (€/ha)	Summary CM (€)
Model M1	Cm	4,620	1,999	2,621	1310
	C1	7,074	4,126	2,948	5896
	C2	6,207	5,249	958	7664
	CM Total (€)				14870
Model M2	Cm	4,620	1,961	2,659	2659
	C1	7,076	4,199	2,877	20137
	C2	6,207	5,061	1,146	49272
	CM Total (€)				72068

The total contribution margin for the M1 model is 14.870€ and for the M2 model it is 72.068€. Based on these data and data about other monetary expenses for acquiring an investment facility, i.e. construction of the fish pond for intensive carp farming, as defined in M1 and M2 models, an investment calculation may be prepared in order to calculate the annual yield from an investment.

**Table 9:** Investment calculation

ELEMENTS / MODELS	M1 (€)	M2 (€)
Initial investment	108,080	394,580
Production value	66,117	321,063
Variable costs	51,247	248,995
Contribution margin	14,870	72,068
Land lease	275	1,375
Water allowance	683	3,414
Operating costs	4,940	27,988
Property tax	329	1,255
Electricity	500	1,000
Fuel	1,320	1,760
Maintenance	1,249	5,896
Annual allowance for inv.	60,543	291,683
Annual investment yield	5,574	29,381
Liquidation value	65,752	250,936

Source: Modified acc. to Čanak, 2012

The value of carp production after overwintering is the annual investment yield, whether the fish has been sold or used for own culture. Apart from variable costs, lease of the land for construction of fish pond, allowance for water consumption, operating costs for full time employees, property tax, electricity allowances which do not have variable character, allowances for fuel, as well as maintenance of pond facilities, construction facilities, other capital assets and equipment are included in the category of annual investment allowances. Liquidation value of an investment facility has been estimated at 80% of the initial value.

With the aid of previously calculated indicators from investment calculation for sole annual investment yield, initial investment for construction of a pond and procurement of the necessary equipment the indicators of cost effectiveness of investments may be calculated by previously known dynamic methods (Andrić et al, 2005). A period of 20 years is adopted as an investment term while the rate of 4% has been used for the calculating interest rate. The same moment is used for calculation of

economic effectiveness indicators and for the moment of calculation, that being the moment immediately prior to first investments.

#### 4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Based on the calculated data from the investment calculation (Table 9.) the calculation of all dynamic indicators of cost effectiveness of construction and exploitation of carp ponds for intensive farming has been conducted. In Table 10 dynamic economic indicators for M1 and M2 models may be seen.

**Table 10:** Investment cost effectiveness indicators of the M1 and M2 models

Indicators/models	M1	M2
Investment capital value	- 2.317 €	119.235 €
Internal interest rate	3,82 %	6,51 %
Dynamic return period	□ 20 yrs.	at year 20

Indicator of the capital value of intensive carp production investment at 10 ha (M1) has a negative value, which means that the investment defined by this model is not economically justified. Internal interest rate is smaller than the calculative interest rate and stands at 3,82%, while the dynamic period of investment return is after a period of 20 years.

In the case of construction of a pond for intensive carp farming at 50 ha (model M2) the indicators prove economic justifiability. Capital value of the investment is 119.235 €, upon return of the invested funds at the rate of 6,51%. Dynamic return period is in the 20<sup>th</sup> year of the investment term. It should be stressed that the economic justifiability of an investment does not depend on the liquidation value of the investment facility in the 20<sup>th</sup> year but that, during making a decision on potential investments, negative scenarios should be additionally considered where a decrease of annual benefit from investment may occur and investment may turn to the zone where they are not economically justified.

Even though the intensive carp production model at 50 ha (M2) shows its economic justifiability, based on the dynamic indicators of economic efficiency it may be observed that the investment defined by this model is very close to the limit where it is not economically justified. That is why a possibility of improvement of economic indicators should be considered for both models. That may practically be achieved by increase of the annual investment yield, whether by increase of annual investment yield (production value) or by decrease of the annual investment allowances.

The easiest way to increase the production value in practice is sale of portion of the produced fish for consumption at retail prices and greater presence of progeny in the production structure, so these two scenarios have been additionally reviewed.

If within the M1 model 25% of fish for consumption (5.643 kg) is sold at retail price of 3 €/kg (to unions for example), the annual yield from investment shall be increased to 10.080 € whereby the capital value of investments has the value of 58.912 € with internal interest rate of 8,52% and period of investment return in the 15<sup>th</sup> year, thus making the investment economically justifiable.

Within the M2 model it is not realistic to assume that sale of 25% fish for consumption at retail price is possible so we assume the sale of 10% of fish for consumption at those prices. With sale of 10 % of fish for consumption (12.132,5 kg) at retail price of 3 €/kg it is possible to increase the annual investment yield to 39.267 €, whereby the capital investment value of the investment of 250.878 € is obtained, with internal interest rate of 9,21% and the period for investment return moved to the 14<sup>th</sup> year.

If the production structure is changed at a fish farm with an area of 10 ha (M1) and one-year fingerlings (C1) are produced at 4ha and fish for consumption (C2) at 6 ha, there is an increase in the annual investment yield to 9.554 € whereby the capital investment value of the investment is 51.769 €, with internal interest rate of 7,98% and the period for investment return in the 16<sup>th</sup> year of the investment term.

In case the same decision is made on the M2 model, and 12 ha is cultivated for production of one-year fingerlings (C1) and the remaining 38 ha are used for production of fish for consumption (C2), there is an increase in capital value of the investment at 353.961 €, with internal interest rate of 11,27% and the period for investment return in the 11<sup>th</sup> year.

It must be noted that one should decide to increase the production of one-year progeny only in case it may be sold. Also, it is realistic to assume that certain quantity of fish for consumption may be sold at retail price to restaurants, unions and at market places.

## 5. CONCLUSION

In order to estimate the economic effects of construction of fish ponds for intensive carp farming in Serbia, two organisational-economic models have been prepared and defined in terms of construction and production. Models differ in the usable area of fish ponds (10 ha and 50 ha), as well as in a range of other characteristics (choice of pumps, necessary power, work force, etc.). Cost effectiveness has been tested in such defined models by means of dynamic methods for assessment of economic effectiveness of investments.

Economic analysis has demonstrated that investment in an intensive carp production model on a pond with an area of 10 ha (M1) is not economically justifiable, while in the case of a pond with an area of 50 ha is economically justifiable, but close to the point of not being economically justifiable.

The possibilities for improvement of economic efficiency of investments have been considered and demonstrated that it is possible to improve considerably the dynamic economic indicators if the production structure is changed by greater presence of one-year fingerlings and if portion of the fish for consumption is sold at retail prices.

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