

## FOREST CURTAINS - ONE OF THE SHIELDS AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGES IN ROMANIA'S AGRICULTURE

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**Abstract.** *The paper highlights the importance of forest curtains in Romania and especially in Dobrogea region, Constanta County and Oltenia region, Dolj county where agricultural crops are deeply affected by climate changes: long and severe drought, soil degradation and desertification. The paper presents the affected surfaces, and a history of protection curtains giving examples of research results of the experiments and good practices carried out in the year 2020 and 2023 at Amzacea Sport Agra Ltd. regarding the economic effect in terms of yield and production obtained from cultivated crops on areas protected by forest curtains compared to non protected crops. The results proved that the protected crops have performed production gains varying between 25-30% in the good agricultural years and between 29-40% in the bad dry years. The main conclusion is that forest curtains have to be planted on larger surfaces to protect agricultural crops and sustain production performance. They are urgently needed in the regions where irrigation systems are not operating.*

**Keywords:** forest curtains, agricultural crops, production gains, Sport Agra Ltd. Amzacea

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### 1. Introduction

Forests are "the lungs of the planet", a real treasure which produces oxygen and clear the air, a shield against strong winds, soil erosion, landslides, and degradation, air, soil and water pollution, for protecting agricultural crops and animals, settlements, transport ways, for preserving biodiversity, for providing shelter, jobs, food, fuel, medicines and incomes to the population.

Deforestation has a negative impact on human and animal life, increasing the risk of soil erosion, desertification, loss of animals habitats, diseases and destroying the balance within the ecosystems [22].

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