

Geographical analysis of viticulture: Racha-Lechkhumi

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The process of forming vine varieties in Georgia has long history. Agricultural varieties are local vine varieties that are adapted to climatic and soil conditions. Due to changes of natural conditions unique varieties of vines have been created over the centuries that are closely related to the area of origin.

According to some geographical (soil, climatic and economic) conditions Georgia is divided into five viticulture zones, one of them is the Racha-Lechkhumi zone, Where the subzones of Kvemo Racha and Lechkhumi and Khvanchkara and Tvishi microzones, which are known for their existing Aboriginal, unique vine varieties. Demand is increasing every year for the wines produced here and for both microzone vine varieties, wich determine the socio-economic sustainability of the local population and prevention of migration processes.

Nowadays the vineyards in Racha - Lechkhumi are cultivated up to 1000 hectares, however, this indicator is significantly lower than in previous decades, which happened because of spread of disease and negative migration. Agricultural vineyards are cultivated 400–800 meters above sea level.

References

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