ABSTRACT: The accession to the European Union has opened new challenges for Romanian agriculture, which must implement the principles of the Common Agricultural Policy. These principles aim at achieving high performance agriculture, capable to ensure food security for the population and to adequately develop the rural area. The paper intends to analyse the performance of Romanian agriculture in relation to the agriculture in the European Union and to highlight the recorded regional disparities in order to fully exploit the potential of agriculture. Data Envelopment Analysis is the used method, which provides information for the relative assessment of performance in relation to the decision-making units, considered a gauge. The results of the analysis show the poor performance of agriculture in Romania, and the efficiency recorded at the level of the development regions varies.

Key words: agriculture, Data Envelopment Analysis, sustainable performance, efficiency frontier, developing regions

JEL codes: N50, O13, Q001