since yields are lower than those found in other Eastern Bloc countries. In addition, Polish agriculture faces a serious lack of infrastructure which inhibits the flow of products from the farm to market shelves.

The economic policies of the second half of 1989 and 1990 constitute a peculiar combination of some bold institutional changes transforming many crucial aspects of the formerly centrally planned economy, and of conservative, and mostly politically-motivated policy measures.[14]

In a country where the price of wheat had been higher than the price of bread, where farm inputs were subsidized and where any distortion in the economic system was absorbed by the central government, allowing the market overnight to establish its own supply, demand and therefore prices has thrown Polish agriculture into a serious crisis. These events in Poland have left the nation with an unusual and difficult environment, especially in agriculture were the upstream and downstream marketing are still significantly linked to stated-owned or state monopoly enterprises. Consequently, it is expected that agricultural production will drop this year, after having seen record production of rapeseed and other commodities in 1989.

The implementation of market prices has been bad news for farmers in Poland. Commodity prices increased by 90% from Jan - June 1990, but agricultural input prices rose by more than 170% in the same period.[15] As a result farmer's income have been reduced

---

[14]Rosati & Rembisz, p 4.

[15]Rembisz, & Rosati, p 12.