

**Information in Documents
about the Drought from Iași County in 1946**
(Abstract)

Radu FILIPESCU

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The year 1946 was overflowing with problems for Romania, mainly for Moldova. This territory was a front line during the Second World War, and destructions are still visible. Also, according to the Armistice Convention signed in 1944, the Soviet troops were still stationary in Iași county. These troops had to be first supplied by Iași authorities in the detriment of the local population. At the same time, drought caused problems within the county. The state took on its own the problem of nourishment of the natives, but supply mechanism had problems. Corruption and bureaucracy were spread along the country. Famine affected a large part of the county. Control measures were weak because of the complex political reality.

Vegetable production, an important local source of food, was confronted with serious problems caused by the insecticide and the poor quality of the seeds. Ancient methods of vermin annihilation and extensive crops were often useless. Cattle breeding was affected by the drought, as well. The lack of common fodder required extreme measures. Different surrogates – as leaves or reed – were collected. The government encouraged cattle sale or sending in the rich crops from the South. Many locals did not agree with these solutions, waiting for the fodder promised by the government, especially during the 1946 election campaign.

Political opposition still existed. It criticized the government for the famine related problems, corruption, and the still expected American and British arrival. The government used the supply lever also to gain local support. The year 1946 was ending in a strong uncertainty.