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CHAPTER 27

CEAGESP in the far west of the state of São Paulo as an integral agent of the horticultural productive spatial circuit

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ABSTRACT

The Companhia de Entreposto e Armazéns Gerais de São Paulo (CEAGESP) was created in 1969, currently has the largest public network of warehouses in the State of São Paulo and a complex of 13 wholesale units, being a mixed economy company linked to the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Supply (MAPA). The objective of this work is to analyze the three units of the Companhia de Entreposto e Armazéns Gerais de São Paulo (CEAGESP), namely: Araçatuba, Presidente Prudente and São José do Rio Preto and their spatial circuit of fruit and vegetable production. The analyses were undertaken based on the notion of spatial circuits of production, developed by Milton Santos in 1986. To achieve the objectives of the investigation, documentary and bibliographic research was carried out on technical objects, supply centers and horticultural productive spatial circuits and data collection in publications of the National Supply Company (CONAB), in addition to CEAGESP itself.

Keywords: CEAGESP, Supply, Fruit and Vegetables, Space circuits.

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INTRODUCTION

This work was prepared for the discipline: Socio-spatial formation, productive circuit and hybrid regulation of the territory, of the Graduate Program in Human Geography, Faculty of Philosophy, Letters and Human Sciences of the University of São Paulo, which we attended as a special student.

The work was configured in a text about the horticultural productive spatial circuits, which permeate the Companhia de Entreposto e Armazéns Gerais de São Paulo (CEAGESP), that is, the supply centers of the west of São Paulo as a technical object and their respective productive spatial circuits, the objective of the work goes through three units of CEAGESP in the interior, namely: Araçatuba, Presidente Prudente and São José do Rio Preto and their spatial circuit of fruit and vegetable production, which was the object of research of the master's degree and gave rise to a dissertation and is currently part of the object of research for the subsequent elaboration of a doctoral thesis.

It was after the Second World War that the advent of the technical-scientific-informational environment took place, which established the computerization of the territory, the connection between agricultural activities and scientific knowledge in Brazil, giving rise to the new locations of industries, agro-industrial expansion, globalized scientific agriculture and modernization of transport, although the technical-scientific-informational environment was only instituted in 1970. The emergence of supply centers also occurred in the 1970s in Brazil, through an initiative of the federal government, their function was to facilitate the connection between primary producer and final consumer and regulate the prices of fruit and vegetable products.

The work was configured in a text containing introduction, methodology, theoretical framework, results and discussion and final considerations. In the theoretical framework, the concept of space used in the text is addressed, as well as the elements that constitute it, such as fixed and flows, the notion of technical object, the advent of the technical-scientific-informational environment and the innovations derived from it; In the Results and Discussion section, the emergence of supply centers and their relationship with globalized scientific agriculture, derived from the technical-scientific-informational environment, were analyzed; in addition to the concept of cooperation circle and the spatial circuits of production linking both to the supply centers.

METHODOLOGY

The work was configured in a text about the spatial productive circuits, constituting as a technical object the supply centers of the far west of São Paulo and their respective spatial productive circuits, the objective of the work lies in the units of the Companhia de Entreposto e Armazéns Gerais de São Paulo (CEAGESP) in the interior and its spatial circuit of horticultural production.

For the development of the work, the theories of Milton Santos were used, that is, the concept of technical-scientific-informational means developed in the works of 1986; 1996 and 2006; the theory of spatial circuits of production in the works of the same author in 1986, as well as in the works of Milton Santos and María Laura Silveira, 2001; the authors were also used for the discussion of productive spatial circuits and circles of cooperation: Raimundo Edson Pinto Botelho and his 2010 dissertation and Ricardo Abid Castillo and Samuel Frederico, with the 2010 work.

For the discussion of technical objects, as well as their definition, the works of Milton Santos, entitled "The Nature of Space", from 2006 and Gilbert Simondon with his work "El modo de existência de los objetos técnicos", from 2007, were used.

For analysis, contextualization and discussion about the supply, the 1979 work of Maria Yedda Leite Linhares and Francisco Carlos Teixeira da Silva, the 2014 thesis of Danton Leonel de Camargo Bini and the 2012 article by Viviane Vedana were used.

For the discussion about supply centers, as well as their definition and historical contextualization, the dissertations of Thiago Augusto Nogueira Queiroz and Larissa Oliveira Dionisio, respectively 2014 and 2021, were used.

A survey of documentary data was also carried out in publications of the National Supply Company (CONAB), in addition to the Company of Warehouses and General Warehouses of São Paulo (CEAGESP).

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

Space is made up of distinct flows, of varying levels, which can be slow or agile, with greater or lesser efficiency, according to Santos (1994), global space is made up of flows and objects, which its scale, both material and immaterial, is greater, thus establishing evidence of a higher innovation. It will be from the technique that the relationship between man and the environment will take place, the techniques constitute social resources that will allow both to realize life and to create space.

Material and immaterial flows have gained more importance since the First Industrial Revolution, between the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, integrating fundamental elements of the production process, an example is the exchanges and exchanges that occurred between places, as well as the development of technical objects.

The technical object is part of a whole, dealing with a continuity in time and space, aggregating its historicity and transformations throughout its historical context, that is, "the technical object is that which is not prior to its becoming, but is present in each stage of this becoming; the technical object is a unit of becoming" (Simondon, 2007, p. 42). The author also mentions the industrial objects that hold the power to shape a civilization, in contrast to abstract technical objects

that promote the possibility for the emergence of other objects, not being fundamentally essential, being in a system of requirements.

Therefore, technical objects can be divided, as well as converge in their definition, and can vary between abstract technical objects at their beginning, transforming themselves into industrial technical objects, as Simondon (2007) points out, constituting a unified and coherent system. It is necessary to highlight that there was and is inequality in the dissemination of techniques, "in the same piece of territory, differently dated technical subsystems coexist, that is, technical elements from different times." (Santos, 2006, p. 25). The author also delimits that the arrangements of technical systems need to be adequate to their various parts that constitute it, otherwise there would be no effectiveness in the system.

In the case of Brazil, it is from the 1960s onwards that the regions begin to demonstrate significant differences, in which the Southeast becomes more modernized, with a more salient urbanization process; in the 1980s, the Southeast region became preeminent compared to the others, Santo (2005) points out that the distinction between urbanization rates is proportional to the division of labor that occurred in the regions, that is, the difference lies in the way they were affected by the inter-regional division of labor. Therefore, material and social innovations correspond to the expansion of the development process.

With regard to the social division of labor, according to Arroyo (2012), São Paulo was of fundamental importance, because it promoted the expansion of economic activities, as well as concentrating public and private investments, while such economic activities accelerated the construction of engineering systems, which served as a material base. The new relations between city and countryside influenced the development of the metropolis, according to Santos (2008), through the combination of the agglomeration added to the city-field and interurban relations inherited by São Paulo, there was the development of this into a metropolis of metropolises.

The dynamics between the South and Southeast regions were different from the other regions, because their urban networks were more advanced, demonstrating a process of acceleration of the territorial division of labor through the interaction between the cities, there was a broad incentive to reach another level of the international division of labor, incorporating the area designated by Santos (2005) as a concentrated region.

With the accelerated propagation of information, promoted by the technical-scientific-informational environment, there was an increase in local productivity, it is from the functional specialization of the subspaces that there was a tendency to create a more homologous creation of everyday life, Santos (2006) points out that this occurred through the interdependencies that are constituted horizontally, in the case of cities, this specialization is visible in the industrial production

or services, In the countryside, some areas turned to the production of one or more agricultural products.

There are areas where the production of a certain product is more profitable, which gave rise to the need for greater exchange, according to Santos (2006), this expanded the circulation of goods and people between different states and regions, since productive specialization allowed the regions not to need to produce everything for their subsistence, that is

> Before this possibility, most regions produced almost everything they needed for their reproduction; almost everything was produced everywhere; people lived practically in autarchies. Today, we are witnessing the functional specialization of areas and places, which leads to the intensification of the movement and the growing possibility of exchanges. That is why not only large cities, but also medium-sized cities are growing. The greater the insertion of science and technology, the more a place specializes, the more the number, intensity and quality of the flows that arrive and leave an area increases (Santos, 1988, p. 57).

From the modernization of transport, there was a greater connection between the command centers, allowing some stages of agricultural production to be spatially dispersed, as Silva (2013) points out, the modernization of transport was relevant because it provided the spatial ramification of fruit and vegetable production, since it would be deciphered from the perspective of the territorial division of labor, even if it added stages to which production passes until it reaches the thin consumer, resulting in an increase in the value of the product.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

FOOD CRISES AND THE CREATION OF SUPPLY CENTERS

According to Santos (2006), a technical object can be one or more artificial elements, as well as one or more natural elements, if the use intended for these elements is considered, Simondon (2007) points out that it is difficult to define the genesis of all technical objects, since their individuality changes in the course of their trajectory, distinguishing only in abstract and concrete technical objects, Although for the author concrete objects, because they are further away from nature, are more perfect, since they allow a more efficient human dominion over them, constituting themselves more perfect than nature itself, however "each time the object is inserted in a set of objects and its operation is included in a set of operations - all of this forming a system - the hypertelia of the concrete technical object becomes conditioned" (Santos, 2006, p 23), in the same way, technical objects must be studied together with their surroundings, since space is formed by objects, however, it is space that determines and organizes objects, that is,

> It is the space that redefines technical objects, despite their original vocations, by including them in a coherent set where contiguity obliges them to act together and in solidarity. This discussion must be approximated to Simondon's idea of *naturalization of the concrete object,* that is, its complete imimisation in the environment that welcomed it, which he calls the

> process of adaptation-concretion. It is in this way that what he will call a technogeographic environment is created. This technogeographical environment is only possible, in his view, by virtue of man's intelligence and always suggests the presence of an inventive function of anticipation. This anticipation is not found, he says, in nature, nor in the technical objects already constituted (1958, 1989, p. 56).
> In reality, according to Simondon, it would not be a simple addition of the technical environment to the natural environment, but the production of something else, in such a way that the technical object appears as a condition for the existence of a mixed environment, which is technical and geographical at the same time, (p. 55). This is what Simondon will call *the associated medium.* Simondon's proposal should help us to construct an adequate notion of geographical environment, previously as a technical environment and now as a technical-scientific-informational means. (Santos, 2006, p 24).

The technical-scientific-informational environment was responsible for the computerization of the territory, through investments in infrastructure, Santos (2005) points out that it is in this period that information expands and becomes instantaneous, objects are endowed with informational content and space gains fluidity due to the integration of the territory, which culminates in production gaining mobility. It is from the technical-scientific-informational environment that the circles of cooperation will have a broader action, according to Santos and Silveira (2006), the circles of cooperation are incorporated on broader geographical scales, with a wider degree of complexity, resulting in more selective and intense flows, but it is the circulation that regulates production.

However, until the 1960s, food crises were frequent, even though there had been a process of industrialization and urbanization accentuated in the 1950s, this only culminated in the worsening of these crises. In Brazil, there were three major crises that resulted in the adoption of measures by the State, aimed at restructuring, they were: the crises of 1910, 1937 and 1962.

The first crisis in 1910 was the result of obstacles in the circulation of food transport to large urban centers, Queiroz (2014) points out that as a measure adopted to overcome this crisis, there was the emergence of the Public Food Commissariat in 1918, which became the Superintendence of Supply, in addition to the practice of minimum price policies.

There was a reduction in time and costs provided by the modernization of the transport of goods and people, also resulting in production, since an area would no longer need to produce everything for its maintenance and subsistence, as mentioned above, Harvey (2004) points out that this would provide adjustments in both production and consumption, although, as Santos (1988) points out, the reduction in transport time and costs did not cause an increase in quality, nor diversity and quantity.

The second crisis, which occurred in 1937, was due to the economic crisis of 1929 that affected several global sectors, according to Linhares and Silva (1979), the measure adopted by the federal government was the advent of the Regulatory Commission for Tariffs, whose function was to analyze the food markets, as well as their prices, inspecting the quality and quantity of production.

The third crisis of the food system occurred in 1962, also a result of circulation, differing from the first no longer by the problem of transportation, but by the obstacle of products reaching

consumers. It should be emphasized that from the 1970s onwards, there was a significant advance in science and technique, as evidenced by Santos (2005), this advance took place in the process of integration of the territory, marking the establishment of the technical-scientific-informational period in the remodeling of the territory, since the territory would be used to facilitate circulation, as well as information would be a driving agent of the social process.

Therefore, with the food crises, the federal government intended to institute a new organization to facilitate the commercialization of fruit and vegetable products, at the end of the 1960s, through the implementation of logistical marketing platforms, the State Supply Center Sociedade Anônima (CEASA) was established, but it was only in the 1970s that the model began to be implemented on a large scale. The advent of the technical-scientific-informational environment and the faster dissemination of information allowed an increase in local productivity, also resulting in the specialization of areas, so the regions would no longer need to produce everything for their own subsistence.

Linhares and Silva (1979) point to the emergence of the Brazilian Food Company (COBAL), the Brazilian Storage Company (CIBRAZEM) and the National Supply Superintendence (SUNAB) in the 1960s and 1970s. According to Hespanhol (2010), State intervention was essential for underdeveloped countries after 1945, with the end of World War II, however the objective was not to offer basic public services to the population, but to favor the process of economic expansion, which ended in the early 1970s, with the emergence of the oil crisis. Queiroz (2014) points out that the food crisis was intensified by the oil crisis that had a global impact in 1973.

According to Linhares and Silva (1979), the third supply crisis resulted in the creation of supply centers during the 1970s. Silveira (2010) points out that the informational technique promoted the constitution of a technical system with a tendency to uniqueness, in addition to providing the circulation of information inherent to the way of working, enabling the movement of speculative money in large quantities.

As mentioned above, at the end of the 1960s, the federal government, aiming to regulate and organize the commercialization of fruit and vegetable products, through logistical marketing platforms, created the State Supply Center Anonymous Company (CEASA), however its large-scale implementation only took place in the 1970s. The Company of Warehouses and General Warehouses of São Paulo (CEAGESP) emerged from the merger between the State Supply Center (CEASA) and the Company of General Warehouses of the State of São Paulo (CAGESP) in 1969, the two companies were state-owned and São Paulo, the objective of both was to store grains and sell fruit and vegetable products.

In the 1990s, there were privatizations and the reduction of the presence of the federal government, the CEASAs became the responsibility of the states and municipalities, remaining so to

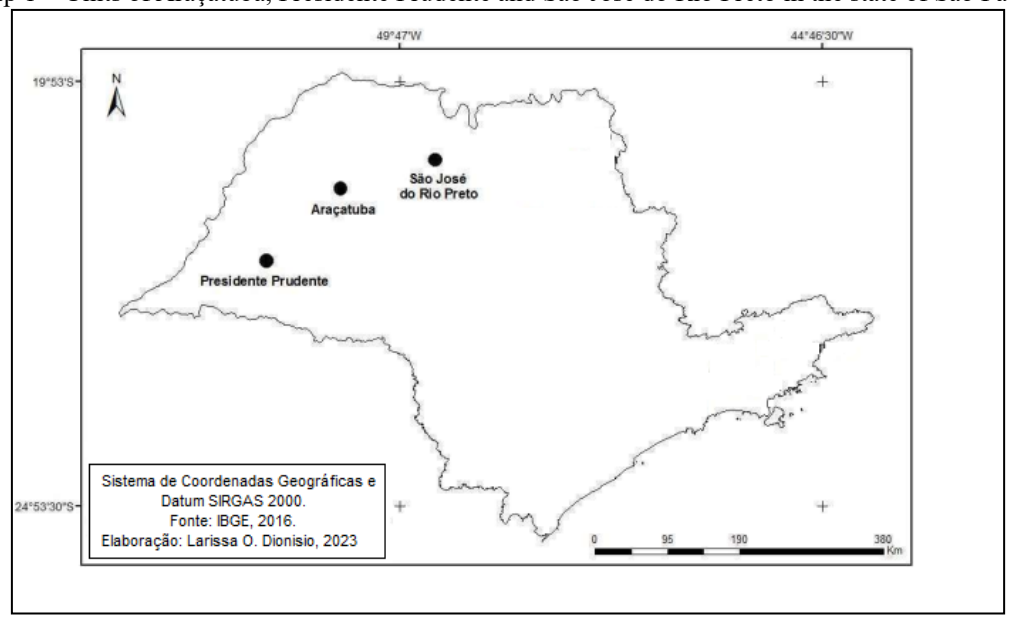
the present day. The exceptions were CEAGESP, in the state of São Paulo and CeasaMinas, in the state of Minas Gerais, which remain federalized.

The supply centers aimed to promote direct commercialization between primary producers and final consumers, however, according to Vedana (2012), both in São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro, a significant part of the commercialization is done by middlemen, Santos (2008) points out that the intermediaries, truck owners or wholesalers, make the connection between demand and supply, which did not occur at the same time as the quantity, nor quality, let alone over time, this placed them in a privileged and strategic position, resulting in speculation, since they were the only ones to have bank credit.

Currently, the main function of supply centers, according to CEAGESP (2022), is to provide an infrastructure so that agribusinesses, wholesalers, cooperatives, exporters, importers, rural producers, and retailers can develop their activities with qualified services, efficiency, and safety. It is also important to highlight that CEAGESP has the largest public network of warehouses and silos, used for the deposit and conservation of agricultural products, in addition to bulk carriers, which are places for the storage of bulk goods.

The CEASAs are important for regulating supply, as they are responsible for the commercialization of a large part of the vegetables, according to Dionisio (2021), in cities in the far west of the state of São Paulo, such as São José do Rio Preto, Presidente Prudente and Araçatuba, according to Map 1, the supply centers supply the fairs significantly, as well as some neighborhood markets and supermarkets, it is also the support of some hypermarkets when there is a lack of vegetables in stock, as is the case of Presidente Prudente, Firetti *et al.* (2011) points out that the supply centers are responsible for supplying industrial kitchens, supermarkets, hotels, penitentiaries, etc.; Bengozi (2007) states that the supply centers also maintain the stability of the quantities sold, constituting an important regulator.

Map 1 – Units of Araçatuba, Presidente Prudente and São José do Rio Preto in the state of São Paulo.



Source: IBGE (2016).

In the Brazilian case, the State was of fundamental importance in the process of economic development, according to Lima and Simões (2010), the activities developed between 1950 and 1980 had very strong State intervention,

> The equipping of ports, the construction of railroads and the new forms of the country's participation in the industrial phase of the capitalist mode of production allowed the beneficiary cities to increase their command over the regional space, while navigation, much more important for the outside, only gave rise to a minimum of contacts between the various regional capitals, as well as between ports of importance. In this way, the regency of "natural" time was broken to give way to a new mosaic: a slow time inside the territory that was associated with a fast time outside. This was embodied in ports, railways, telegraphs and mechanized production (Santos; Silveira, 2006, p. 37).

The supply centers also allow greater fluidity in the distribution and circulation of goods, promoting the integration of the territory, making the territory gain a new perspective starting from fluidity, according to Santos and Silveira (2006), due to the possibility of broader production and the circulation of inputs, the territory imposes new behaviors, as well as receives new contents, As information and finance become essential in the space of a country, it becomes a support in all segments of the territory, becoming equal to the market.

PRODUCTIVE SPATIAL CIRCUITS AND CIRCLES OF COOPERATION

With the development, mainly and fundamentally, of transport and communications, material and informational flows were expanded, according to Castillo and Frederico (2010), it was from this increase in flows that the distance between the places of production and consumption gradually occurred, leading different stages of production to different places.

Through the exchange of these flows of objects, the formation of productive circuits took place, which were previously constituted as regional, with the expansion of the demand for these flows, the regional circuits, limited spatially, did not institute a care support between the circles of cooperation and the circuits of production, consequently, resulting in isolation, thus succeeding in the replacement by spatial circuits. According to Joly (2007), the added value occurred through circulation, ensuring spatial selectivity, which, in turn, resulted in the increasing decrease in the importance of regional circuits, culminating in the emergence and expansion of spatial circuits.

One of the factors that made it possible to replace regional circuits with spatial circuits was the limitation of the former with regard to scientific content in its production process, Botelho (2010) points out that both the fluidity of the flow and the command and information were unsatisfactory, which ended up restricting production to a local scale and horizontally, turning only to commerce.

Another essential fact was globalization, since it influenced and expanded the productive spatial circuits, as well as the circles of cooperation, according to Elias and Pequeno (2007), the city-country relations became more complex proportionally to globalization, that is, the more globalized, the more heterogeneous the relations, so a new arrangement of the urban system occurred, resulting in a new articulation of the territory. With the increase in the number of medium and small cities, fundamental places for the proliferation of globalized agribusiness, there was an expansion of the so-called "agribusiness city" that resulted in social exclusion and socio-spatial inequality.

Through the replacement of regional circuits by spatial circuits, there was a greater intertwining between different regions, Santos and Silveira (2006) point out that this intertwining resulted in the articulation of production processes. Although it also fostered a more divergent territorial division of labor, which was fundamental for the emergence of new forms of cooperation and control over the scales.

It is from the existence of cooperation circles that productive specialization originated, according to Antas Jr. (2014), industrial firms were able to overcome dependence on local and regional demands, that is, productive specialization depends on the so-called cooperation circles, since their formation

> [...] It belongs to the logic of capitalist production itself, and they are often identified with public (state or autarchy) and private institutions in the creation of spatial contexts that stimulate cooperation between different productive agents. Here we argue that, in addition to these two legal figures, the organizations of certain social groups also end up stimulating production, by claiming certain rights. Although it is secondary in their struggles, this effect on the expansion of cooperation cannot be ignored, given the strategic importance it assumes in the current period, especially due to the volume of production it engenders (Antas Jr., 2014, p. 39).

It is a fact that circulation is fundamental in the production process, so that, according to Catillo and Frederico (2010), the indispensable element to analyze the flows of the productive

circuits is logistics, because it assimilates the different stages of the production process, covering scales from the local to the global, while each place contains different stages of the spatial circuits of production, which provides the identification of the hierarchy between places, as well as their temporality. The spatial circuits of production still have an influence on the reduction of time, although, as Joly (2007) points out, different ways of traveling distance are not proportional to the necessary reduction of time, however access to the ways of traveling distance is restricted, demonstrating a type of hierarchy organized through the uses of these systems.

Productive specialization has provided different spatial circuits with divergent degrees of production. Bini (2014) points out that the products organized from the most modern space circuits are mostly directed to the international market or to more elite markets in metropolitan regions, as products whose space circuits are not so modern can be captured by other markets before being sold in the producing region, which raises the price and makes it difficult for the lower-income population to access the products.

The technical-scientific-informational environment promoted the incorporation of cooperation circles on a larger geographical scale, Santos and Silveira (2006) point out that the technical-scientific-informational environment increased the complexity of the cooperation circles, which began to command production, making the flows more selective and with greater intensity. The productive spatial circuits, as well as the circles of cooperation, have facilitated the analysis of the hierarchy of places at different scales, from regional to global.

According to Catillo and Frederico (2010), both the circle of cooperation and the spatial productive circuits allow the understanding of the interdependence of the productive spaces, as well as the understanding of the circularity and uniqueness of the movement, distinguishing the phases of production, thus promoting their understanding, while the spatial circuits of production are based on the concept of centrality of circulation and the spatial relationship of the different stages of production, The circles of cooperation are based on the relationship between agents and places through information flows, constituting fundamental elements in the connection of the different stages of the productive process that are separated and distributed spatially, organizing various agents and places that integrate the spatial productive circuits.

The two authors also scrutinize the two concepts, differentiating them as: the circles of cooperation are based on communication, that is, demonstrated by immaterial flows, which provides the organization of both places and agents distributed geographically; Spatial circuits of production, on the other hand, have the particularity of the flows of materials disseminated in instances with continuous movements, that is, production, distribution, exchange and consumption, and with geographical differentiation.

Catillo and Frederico (2010) also mention that it is through cooperation circles that there is the overcoming of the territory, made up of financial agents and international companies, and effective logistics is essential, given the expansion of spatial production circuits, while there is a vast grouping of regions and agents integrated in spatial circuits, and it is crucial to establish norms that facilitate and systematize the circulation of goods, Bini (2014) points out that this vastness can bring disadvantages, so that the wider circuits have steps, often unnecessary, which will result in greater expenditure of time and space, causing an increase in the final price of a product.

The above premise can be analyzed in the case of São Paulo, since many vegetables pass through the CEAGESP unit in São Paulo before being relocated to the warehouses in the interior, even if their origin is the municipalities in the interior themselves, demonstrating an illogical double circulation, in the same way that, according to Castillo and Frederico (2010), There is a hierarchy in the spatial productive circuits in which those who command circulation and create a movement of production are the true holders of power.

CEAGESP organizes and participates in the spatial circuits of production, as its function is to facilitate access to horticultural products, consequently establishing a connection between consumers and producers, according to Santos and Silveira (2006), CEAGESP regulates the circulation of goods through the issuance of *warrants*[3] and storage time, which directly interferes in the spatial circuits of production and in the cooperation circles.

The integration of a market in a territory is essential, according to Santos and Silveira (2006), this would guarantee the frequency of both industrial and agricultural production, so it is through a territory that the distribution and consumption circuits are carried out, as an example, the two authors use the case of the supply centers, CEASA, which were spread over twenty states of the Federation, in the 1970s, according to data from CONAB (2017), supply centers are now distributed in twenty-seven states of the Federation.

In addition to constituting an agent of the spatial circuit of fruit and vegetable production, the supply centers are also responsible for intermediating the relationship with the two circuits of the urban economy. According to Dionisio (2021), supply centers are part of the circulation process, resulting in the integration between the two circuits of the urban economy. Sposito (1999) defines that the upper circuit includes activities that benefit from more advanced technologies and more abundant capital, such as the storage of products and the workforce; according to Santos (2008), the lower circuit, on the other hand, has simpler activities, such as traditional manufacturing, provision of services, handicrafts and traditional transportation.

CEAGESP in both Araçatuba, Presidente Prudente and São José do Rio Preto are essential for supplying the lower circuit of the urban economy, according to Dionisio (2021), the lower circuit

[3] "Special Credit Securities that enable the financing of inventories of stored products" (CEAGESP, 2021).

comprises fairs and small markets as integral agents of this circuit, the study demonstrated absolute dependence on CEAGESP units in the interior for activities that are part of the lower circuit, in the three municipalities studied. The upper circuit, on the other hand, would comprise supermarkets and hypermarkets, which do not have so much dependence on these warehouses, occasionally using them when something is missing from stock.

Distribution has a relevant participation when analyzing the production process, Marx (2008) emphasizes that distribution is integrated between product and producer due to social laws, not being an inert process, while through circulation and distribution the emergence of circuits occurs, even if production reproduces consumption, being part of the production process. Therefore, supply centers are part of the spatial circuits of fruit and vegetable production, since they are used for the distribution of fruit and vegetable products from different regions, as well as establishing the relationship between final consumers and primary food producers, as well as their respective distributors. By understanding the integration between the productive spatial circuits and the theory of the two circuits, it is possible to scrutinize the social implications generated in the circulation, distribution and trade that a given product obtains, while this results in a differentiated structuring of space.

FINAL CONSIDERATIONS

The supply centers were created in the 1960s and 1970s, in response to the food crises that occurred in the twentieth century, their purpose was to solve distribution problems and facilitate access to fruit and vegetables, as well as facilitate circulation. Over time, these centers were restructured, becoming important for the supply of Brazilian capital.

Its function is currently to accelerate or reduce the distribution flows of fruit and vegetable products, which pass through agents that are part of the spatial circuit of production, such as the primary producer, the middleman or intermediary, the supply center itself, markets, supermarkets, fairs and other establishments to the final consumer. This reduces possible food supply crises and circulation problems, even if they promote a higher price of fruit and vegetable production, where the added value does not remain with the producer and the high price is disadvantageous to final consumers.

CEAGESP integrates different agents and varied spatial circuits of production at different scales, circulating between local, regional and even national; The local scales are more expressive in the units in the interior, since the flow in the regions themselves is greater than in others. In addition, the supply centers have a wide influence on the definition of prices, launching the CEAGESP Price Index on a monthly basis, which is nothing more than a record of the variation in the values practiced

in the sector of fruits, vegetables, fish, fish and various (such as garlic, potatoes, eggs, among others) in the wholesale sector.

In the warehouses in the interior, the supply centers maintain a hierarchical relationship with the lower circuit, such as fairs and neighborhood markets, simpler activities that are absolutely dependent on the warehouses, allowing merchants easier access to fruit and vegetables, essential to replenish stocks, in addition to defining the prices that will be practiced in these circuits, It also has a geographical distribution that promotes logistics and expands the access of the final consumer, although it also strengthens the presence of the middleman, by determining minimum quantities to be sold in the warehouse, adding another step in the productive spatial circuit, influencing a higher price to production.

Therefore, the supply centers are part of the cooperation circle and are agents of the horticultural productive spatial circuit, because they facilitate access to fruit and vegetable products, as well as regulate the price of these products and systematize circulation, in addition to integrating the two circuits of the urban economy.

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