

HO CHI MINH NATIONAL ACADEMY OF POLITICS

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**APPLYING HO CHI MINH'S THOUGHT ON
AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE CURRENT
RENOVATION PROCESS IN VIETNAM**


**DOCTORAL THESIS
MAJOR: HO CHI MINH STUDIES**

HANOI - 2026

**This thesis was completed at
Ho Chi Minh National Academy of Politics**

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**The thesis will be defended before the Academy-level Thesis Evaluation
Council convened at Ho Chi Minh National Academy of Politics
at..... hour(s)..... on....., 2026**

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INTRODUCTION

1. Rationale for the Study

Born and raised in an agricultural country, Ho Chi Minh possessed a profound understanding of the issues concerning agriculture, farmers, and rural areas in Vietnam. He observed that Vietnam was a country dependent on agriculture, where the overwhelming majority of the population were farmers and the economy was fundamentally based on agriculture. Therefore, he asserted that: “If our farmers are prosperous, our country will be prosperous. If our agriculture flourishes, our country will flourish.” Based on this perception, Ho Chi Minh always paid special attention to agricultural development. Throughout his revolutionary activities and leadership, he regarded agriculture not only as a fundamental sector of the economy, but also as a field directly associated with the material and spiritual life of the majority of the people, with social stability, and with the long-term foundation for national development. For a country originating from an agricultural economy, agricultural development plays an especially important role in ensuring food security, improving people’s living standards, consolidating the rear base, serving the resistance war and national construction, and creating the preconditions for the development of other sectors and fields.

During his lifetime, Ho Chi Minh did not leave behind a separate monographic work on agriculture; however, through numerous speeches, writings, directives, and letters addressed to cadres, farmers, and local authorities, he formed a system of viewpoints of profound value regarding agricultural development. These viewpoints encompassed the position and role of agriculture; the subjects and forces participating in agricultural development; as well as the contents, methods, and measures for organizing production, improving farmers’ living standards, and building rural areas. A prominent feature of his thought was that agricultural development was always placed in close relationship with the interests of the people, with the task of national liberation, with the building of a new regime, and with national development. Ho Chi Minh’s thought on agricultural development became an important theoretical and practical foundation for our Party in formulating lines, guidelines, and policies on agriculture in accordance with the requirements of each revolutionary period. During the early years of the revolutionary government, this thought contributed to orienting the task of eliminating “hunger,” restoring production, ensuring the people’s livelihood, and serving the resistance war and national construction. In the current cause of national renovation, industrialization, and modernization, his guidance still retains its full value, continuing to provide direction for the development of a modern, efficient, and sustainable agriculture associated with improving farmers’ living standards and building new rural areas. Therefore, Ho Chi Minh’s thought on agricultural development constitutes an important component of his ideological legacy and possesses enduring value for our Party, State, and people.

After nearly 40 years of renovation, Vietnamese agriculture has undergone an important transformation from a predominantly self-sufficient production model to commodity production increasingly closely linked to the demands of both domestic and international markets. The process of applying science and technology, renewing production organization methods, and developing high-tech agriculture, green agriculture, ecological agriculture, and sustainable agriculture has generated positive changes in the productivity, quality, and value of many agricultural products. As a result, agriculture continues to affirm its role as a key productive sector of the economy, ensuring national food security, creating livelihoods and income for millions of people, contributing to social stability, and maintaining the foundation for national development. In many difficult periods, agriculture has also demonstrated its role as a “pillar” of the economy, while contributing to enhancing Vietnam’s position in global agricultural trade and consolidating the country’s image and prestige in the international arena.

However, alongside these achievements, Vietnamese agriculture still faces numerous limitations and shortcomings. Production scale remains generally small, fragmented, and scattered; the formation of large-scale, modern production systems and sustainable agricultural

value chains has yet to meet development requirements. The productivity, quality, added value, and competitiveness of many agricultural products remain low; a number of agricultural products still depend heavily on raw exports and preliminary processing and have yet to establish strong brands in the international market. Although the application of science and technology, digital transformation, mechanization, and automation in agriculture has shown progress, it remains uneven and has not yet become a sufficiently strong driving force for improving the growth quality of the entire sector. The capacity to adapt to climate change, market fluctuations, and increasingly stringent requirements concerning green, clean, safe, and traceable standards remains limited. Infrastructure serving agricultural production, preservation, processing, and consumption in many areas has not kept pace with development demands; linkages among enterprises, cooperatives, farmers, and other actors within value chains are not yet truly sustainable. Many localities have yet to effectively exploit their potential and advantages in terms of land, climate, labor, indigenous knowledge, and markets. Therefore, although Vietnamese agriculture has achieved many important accomplishments, it has not yet developed commensurately with its inherent potential and advantages; nor has it truly become a modern, efficient, high value-added, and sustainable agriculture as required by the country's development in the new period.

Although many studies in recent years have addressed Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development as well as the application of this thought in Vietnamese practice from different perspectives, the number of works approaching this issue in a comprehensive, systematic, and in-depth manner remains relatively limited. In particular, insufficient attention has been paid to clarifying the content, value, and orientational significance of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development under new conditions. Consequently, awareness of his thought in this field has at times and in certain places remained incomplete and has yet to fully highlight the necessity of continuing to thoroughly grasp, apply, and creatively develop Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development in the country's new era of development.

In the coming period, agricultural development in Vietnam will take place in a context of profound changes that both create opportunities for development and pose severe challenges. Globalization and international economic integration continue to promote market expansion, attract investment, and facilitate access to managerial knowledge and modern scientific and technological achievements; however, they also intensify competitive pressures, requiring Vietnamese agricultural products to meet increasingly stringent international standards concerning quality, food safety, traceability, environmental protection, and sustainable development. The Fourth Industrial Revolution provides conditions for agriculture to apply digital technology, biotechnology, artificial intelligence, big data, and automation in agricultural production, processing, management, and consumption; yet it also imposes major demands in terms of investment capital, human resources, technical infrastructure, and technological mastery, etc.

Under the leadership of the Party, our country is entering a new era of development with higher requirements regarding growth quality, competitiveness, sustainable development, and the improvement of the people's living standards. This context poses new tasks for all sectors and fields, in which agriculture continues to hold a particularly important position, serving not only as the foundation for ensuring people's livelihood, national food security, and social stability, but also as a space for the livelihood, culture, and development of millions of farmers. Therefore, continuing to comprehensively study and deeply understand the content and value of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development, and thereby creatively apply it to current conditions, is of practical significance to the process of building a modern, comprehensive, efficient, ecological, and adaptive Vietnamese agriculture in line with the requirements of the era. Such application not only contributes to maintaining the foundational role of agriculture within the economic structure, but also aims to safeguard the legitimate interests of farmers, build a modern peasantry, and improve the material and spiritual life of the people, especially residents in rural areas.

For the above reasons, the doctoral candidate has chosen the topic: *“Applying Ho Chi Minh’s Thought on Agricultural Development in the Current Renovation Process in Vietnam”* as the official title of this Doctoral Thesis, majoring in Ho Chi Minh Studies.

2. Research Purpose and Research Tasks

2.1. Research Purpose

To study Ho Chi Minh’s thought on agricultural development and its application by the Party and the State in the renovation process in Vietnam, thereby proposing orientations and solutions for agricultural development in our country in the new era.

2.2. Research Tasks

To achieve the above-mentioned purpose, the thesis is assigned the following tasks:

First, to provide an overview of studies related to the topic, summarizing the achieved results and identifying the issues that require further research in the thesis.

Second, to analyze and clarify several theoretical issues concerning the application of Ho Chi Minh’s thought on agricultural development.

Third, to assess the current situation and identify the issues arising from the application of Ho Chi Minh’s thought on agricultural development in the renovation process in Vietnam during the 2011 - 2025 period.

Fourth, to identify influencing factors; determine orientations; and propose solutions for continuing to apply Ho Chi Minh’s thought on agricultural development in the new era.

3. Research Object and Scope

3.1. Research Object

Ho Chi Minh’s thought on agricultural development and the process of applying Ho Chi Minh’s thought on agricultural development in the renovation process in Vietnam.

3.2. Research Scope

- Scope of content: The thesis focuses on studying and interpreting the fundamental contents of Ho Chi Minh’s thought on agricultural development; the current situation of applying Ho Chi Minh’s thought on agricultural development in the renovation process in Vietnam; and the orientations and solutions for agricultural development in our country in the new era.

- Spatial scope:

Content scope: Ho Chi Minh’s thought on agricultural development covers a broad range of contents, including cultivation, animal husbandry, forestry, fisheries, salt production, traditional occupations, and secondary occupations. Within the scope of this topic, the thesis focuses on studying several fundamental fields of agricultural development, such as cultivation, animal husbandry, forestry, and fisheries.

Scope of application: In the field of agricultural development in our country.

- Temporal scope: Vietnam’s renovation process began in 1986; however, within the scope of this thesis, the research focuses on the period from 2011 to the present. The thesis takes 2011 as a milestone associated with the Resolution of the 11th National Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam and the Platform for National Construction during the Transition Period toward Socialism (supplemented and developed in 2011), in which the Party put forward important orientations for agricultural development.

- Scope of the applying subjects: The thesis approaches the subjects applying Ho Chi Minh’s thought on agricultural development primarily as the Communist Party of Vietnam, in its role as the leading subject formulating lines and guidelines on agricultural development, farmers, and rural areas; with the participation in implementation by the State, the political system, Party committees at all levels, local authorities, cadres, Party members, enterprises, cooperatives, and farmers.

4. Theoretical Basis, Practical Basis, and Research Methods

4.1. Theoretical and Practical Basis

4.1.1. Theoretical Basis

The thesis is based on the theoretical foundations of Marxism-Leninism, Ho Chi Minh thought, and the lines and viewpoints of the Communist Party of Vietnam on agricultural

development, as well as the Party's summary reports on theoretical issues related to agricultural development.

4.1.2. Practical Basis

The practice of applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development in the current renovation process in Vietnam.

4.2. Methodology and Research Methods

4.2.1. Methodology

As the thesis topic belongs to the field of Ho Chi Minh Studies, the doctoral candidate bases the research on the methodology of Marxism-Leninism and Ho Chi Minh thought.

4.2.2. Research Methods

On the basis of dialectical materialism and historical materialism, the thesis employs a combination of specialized and interdisciplinary research methods in the social sciences and humanities, together with methods specific to Ho Chi Minh Studies. Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development is approached in its integrity and systematicity, situated within the specific historical context of the Vietnamese revolution and associated with the tasks of national liberation, socialist construction, and improving the people's living standards.

The thesis mainly employs the method of studying Ho Chi Minh's texts, the historical-concrete method, the method of unifying theory and practice, the systemic-integrated method, as well as methods of comparison and contrast with the Party's viewpoints on agricultural development, farmers, and rural areas. These methods help clarify the process of formation, contents, values, and requirements for applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development in contemporary Vietnamese practice.

Specifically:

The logical method, the historical method, and the combination of the logical and historical methods: The logical method is employed to systematize Ho Chi Minh's viewpoints on agricultural development, thereby forming a theoretical whole with fundamental contents such as the importance, subjects, forces, contents, and measures of agricultural development, through which its theoretical and practical values are clarified. The historical method is applied to situate Ho Chi Minh's thought within its specific historical context, while also identifying the process of formation, movement, and development of this thought through different periods. The combination of these two methods enables the thesis not only to generalize the core contents, but also to ensure authenticity and objectivity, avoiding speculation, modernization, or exaggeration, thereby highlighting the theoretical and practical values of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development.

Document analysis method: This method is used to study both domestic and foreign documents related to the thesis topic. On that basis, it helps identify issues requiring further research concerning Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development as well as its application in the current renovation process.

Analytical-synthetical method: The analytical method is employed to clarify each content of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development; to analyze the Party's and the State's guidelines and policies on agricultural development; and to examine the current situation of agricultural development in order to identify achievements, limitations, and causes. The synthetical method is used to generalize and systematize the core arguments in Ho Chi Minh's thought and the application of these viewpoints in agricultural development in our country; thereby presenting the current situation and proposing solutions for applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development in accordance with the current context and new conditions.

Statistical and comparative methods: These methods are used to collect documents, official papers, and works related to Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development in order to compare different historical periods and other theoretical viewpoints. Through this, the similarities, differences, inheritance, application, and development in Ho Chi Minh's thought are clarified, thereby affirming the theoretical and practical values of these viewpoints.

Forecasting method: This method is employed to identify trends, possibilities of change, and scenarios that may affect the process of applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development; thereby providing a scientific basis for determining orientations and proposing measures for applying his thought in accordance with the context of the renovation process in Vietnam.

Sociological survey method: This method is used to clarify the current situation of agricultural development in accordance with Ho Chi Minh's thought. The thesis surveys two groups of respondents: cadres and Party members (250 people) and citizens (1,600 people) through questionnaires. The quantitative survey results are processed using Excel and Google Forms as a basis for analyzing and evaluating the current situation, explaining causes, and thereby proposing solutions for applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development in our country in the new era.

Practical review method: The author employs this method to collect, analyze, and evaluate agricultural development models, movements, and policies in our country in recent years. On that basis, lessons of theoretical and practical significance are drawn for the future application of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development.

5. New Scientific Contributions of the Thesis

5.1. Theoretical Contributions

The thesis contributes to systematizing, analyzing, and further clarifying the contents of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development; and clarifies several theoretical issues concerning the application of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development in the renovation process in Vietnam from 2011 to the present.

5.2. Practical Contributions

The thesis clarifies the current situation of applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development in the renovation process in Vietnam from 2011 to the present; on that basis, it identifies issues arising in the application of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development. At the same time, the thesis analyzes influencing factors, identifies orientations, and proposes solutions for applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development in the new era.

6. Theoretical and Practical Significance of the Thesis

6.1. Theoretical Significance

The research results of the thesis contribute to further clarifying the understanding of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development, while also supplementing and developing theoretical issues concerning the application of Ho Chi Minh's thought in the current renovation process in Vietnam. The thesis also provides important scientific arguments for renewing thinking on agricultural development toward modernity, efficiency, and sustainability.

6.2. Practical Significance

The thesis may serve as a reference material for research, teaching, and learning activities at training and cadre development institutions. The research findings also contribute additional practical grounds for Party committees and local authorities in leading, directing, and applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development to the current renovation of agriculture, farmers, and rural areas. At the same time, the thesis contributes to raising the awareness of relevant subjects, especially farmers, regarding the significance of applying Ho Chi Minh's thought in agricultural development; thereby fostering their sense of responsibility, proactiveness, and creativity in labor and production.

7. Structure of the Thesis

In addition to the Introduction, Conclusion, List of the Author's Published Works Related to the Thesis, References, and Appendices, the thesis is structured into 4 chapters and 10 sections.

Chapter 1

LITERATURE REVIEW RELATED TO THE THESIS TOPIC

1.1. STUDIES ON AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

** Group of studies on the importance of agricultural development*

The works of Bonnin, Turner et al. (2012); Rutten et al. (2014); Newman, Singhal and Tarp (2020); Maitah et al. (2020); Cao Duc Phat (2023); Do Thi Hanh (2023); and Le Minh Hoan (2025) have clarified the foundational role of agricultural development in economic growth, ensuring food security, maintaining social stability, reducing poverty, and improving farmers' living standards. These studies contribute to affirming that agricultural development is not merely an economic requirement, but also an issue of strategic significance for the sustainable development of the country.

** Group of studies on the subjects and forces related to agricultural development*

The works of Nguyen Hoai Son (2013); Dang Van Cuong (2015); Bui Thi Van Anh (2018); Dang Kim Khoi and Tran Cong Thang (2019); Dao Thi Hoang Mai (2019); and Dang Kim Oanh (2022) have focused on clarifying the roles, positions, and participation of subjects such as farmers, cooperatives, enterprises, the State, and social organizations in the process of agricultural development. Accordingly, these studies affirm that agricultural development can achieve sustainable effectiveness only when the combined strength of various forces is promoted, in which farmers play the central role and serve as the direct subjects of the development process.

** Group of studies on the contents of agricultural development*

Tran Van Dat (2010); the World Bank (2016); Bui Nu Hoang Anh (2017); Duc Tam Duong (2020); Nguyen The Kien and Tran Quy (2023); Dao Thu Tra (2025); and Ta Kim Sen (2026) have relatively comprehensively addressed the fundamental contents of agricultural development, such as restructuring the agricultural sector, improving productivity, quality, and added value, developing sustainable agriculture, applying science and technology, and linking production with the market. Through this, these studies contribute to clarifying that agricultural development is a comprehensive process requiring the synchronous combination of innovation in production models, reorganization of value chains, and enhancement of the socio-economic efficiency of agriculture.

** Group of studies on measures for agricultural development*

The works of Nguyen Minh Hang (2003); translated by Nguyen Thanh Loi and Do Minh Chau (2009); Pham Ngoc Dung (2011); Pham Thanh Trung (2013); Dang Kim Son et al. (2016); Rob Cramb and Vipoon Thepent (2020); Vinh Bao Ngoc et al. (2021); Vu Thi Thuy Hang (2021); Nguyen Tuan Anh and Nguyen Thi Bao Nga (2022); Doan Minh Quan and Tran Thi Hai Van (2022); and Tran Thi Van Anh (2024) have focused on analyzing measures to promote agricultural development, such as improving policies, reorganizing production, developing the cooperative economy, strengthening value-chain linkages, applying science and technology, expanding markets, and enhancing the competitiveness of agricultural products. Through this, these studies indicate that sustainable agricultural development requires a comprehensive system of solutions with close coordination among the State, enterprises, cooperatives, farmers, and related subjects.

1.2. STUDIES ON HO CHI MINH'S THOUGHT ON AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AND ITS APPLICATION IN THE RENOVATION PROCESS

Representative scholars studying this issue include: Le Van Sang; Nguyen Thi Kim Dung; Pham Ngoc Anh; Nguyen The Hinh; Nguyen Huy Oanh; Tran Van Phong; Nguyen Xuyen; Nguyen Van Tuan; Nguyen Khanh Bat; Le Huu Nghia; Pham Ngoc Anh and Phan Ba Linh; Nguyen Thi Nguyet Anh; Tran Thanh Quang; Pham Bich Hang; Tran Hoa Phuong; Tran Thi Thu Huyen; Hoang Cong Vu; Lai Quoc Khanh; Dang Cong Thanh; Nguyen Thi Quyen; Nguyen Dinh Quyet, among others. In general, these works have been conducted in a rigorous and serious

manner, clearly demonstrating the revolutionary and scientific nature of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development. The authors have focused on in-depth analyses of Ho Chi Minh's speeches and writings on agricultural development, as well as the fundamental contents of his thought on agricultural development, including the role of agriculture; the necessity of agricultural development; the subjects and forces involved in agricultural development; and the contents and measures of agricultural development. According to these authors, such thought constitutes not only a theoretical foundation for formulating guidelines and policies, but also valuable lessons and experiences for agricultural development in Vietnam today. These works are truly useful reference materials for the doctoral candidate in carrying out the objectives and tasks of the thesis.

1.3. OVERVIEW OF ACHIEVED RESEARCH RESULTS AND ISSUES REQUIRING FURTHER STUDY IN THE THESIS

1.3.1. Overview of Achieved Research Results

** Studies on agricultural development*

First, the studies have clarified the importance of agriculture to socio-economic development, ensuring food security, creating employment, stabilizing livelihoods, reducing poverty, improving farmers' living standards, and strengthening national position. Agriculture is regarded not only as a basic material production sector, but also as a "pillar" of the economy and a foundation for ensuring social stability, especially in rural areas and regions vulnerable to fluctuations in markets, climate, and policies. Studies on rice production, rural livelihoods, food security, and agricultural transformation in Vietnam have contributed to affirming the foundational role of agricultural development in the sustainable development of the country.

Second, the studies have initially identified quite clearly the system of subjects and forces participating in the process of agricultural development. In particular, farmers are affirmed as the central subjects who directly produce, adopt, and operate new production methods; the State plays the role of orientation, support, policymaking, and creating a favorable development environment; the Party plays the leading role in defining objectives, orientations, and driving forces for agricultural development; while socio-political organizations, consumers, enterprises, scientists, and rural communities are considered important forces participating in supervision, linkage building, technology transfer, market development, and improvement of production efficiency. Several studies have also paid attention to producers in the context of digital transformation, considering farmers' digital capacity, awareness, financial resources, and technological adaptability as important factors determining the effectiveness of modern agricultural development.

Third, the studies have clarified many fundamental contents and new trends of agricultural development in Vietnam. The contents addressed are quite diverse, ranging from market expansion, investment attraction, application of science and technology, improvement of agricultural product quality, development of post-harvest processing and preservation, rational use of resources, and environmental protection, to restructuring the agricultural sector toward value enhancement, ecological agriculture, clean and safe agriculture, organic agriculture, high-tech agriculture, digital agriculture, smart agriculture, multifunctional agriculture, and the circular economy. Many studies have pointed out that agricultural development in the current period should not merely focus on increasing output, but must also aim at enhancing added value, quality, efficiency, competitiveness, adaptability to climate change, and integration with the market.

Fourth, the studies have proposed numerous measures to promote agricultural development toward modernity, efficiency, and sustainability. Prominent measures include institutional reform; improvement of policies on land, credit, agricultural insurance, and agricultural trade; promotion of land consolidation, large-scale commodity production, and restructuring of the agricultural sector; enhancement of the application of science and technology, high technology,

mechanization, digital transformation, and the Internet of Things (IoT); development of agricultural human resources; strengthening value-chain linkages and public-private partnerships; development of cooperatives and agricultural enterprises; improvement of adaptability to climate change; protection of resources and the environment; and expansion of consumption markets. Several studies examining international experiences from China, South Korea, Thailand, India, Israel, Poland, and other countries have also provided useful lessons for Vietnam in production organization, agricultural modernization, new rural area development, high-tech application, and the improvement of agricultural development policies.

In general, these studies have established important theoretical and practical foundations for identifying the role, subjects, contents, and measures of agricultural development in Vietnam in the context of renovation, international integration, and sustainable development. These findings constitute valuable reference materials for the thesis to inherit and further develop in the process of studying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development and the application of this thought in the current renovation process in Vietnam.

** Studies on Ho Chi Minh's thought on agriculture, agricultural development, and its application in the renovation process*

Regarding theory: The studies have generally agreed that Ho Chi Minh paid early attention to agriculture and consistently placed agricultural development in direct relation to revolutionary tasks, especially after the August Revolution of 1945. His thought on agricultural development both inherited the national tradition of valuing agriculture and absorbed international experiences while creatively applying Marxism-Leninism to the specific conditions of Vietnam. The studies have also initially clarified the principal contents of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development, including the position and role of agriculture; the requirement for comprehensive agricultural development; the subjects and forces involved; and the measures for development. Through this, these works contribute to affirming the theoretical value of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development, considering it an important foundation for the Party and the State in formulating agricultural development guidelines and policies across different periods, especially in the current renovation process.

Regarding practice: The studies have indicated that the achievements attained in Vietnam's agricultural development in recent years have inherited and applied Ho Chi Minh's thought, especially in viewpoints emphasizing the central role of farmers, the development of cooperatives, the importance of science and technology, and the reorganization of production. Many studies affirm that continuing to thoroughly grasp and creatively apply Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development is a necessary requirement in current policymaking and practical organization. In addition to general studies, several works have focused on specific issues such as promoting the role of farmers, developing new-style agricultural cooperatives, building new rural areas, and applying science and technology and digital transformation in production. These approaches contribute to clarifying various aspects of applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development in the new context, while also providing additional arguments for the Party, the State, authorities at all levels, sectors, and localities in formulating appropriate development guidelines and policies.

1.3.2. Issues Requiring Further Research in the Thesis

First, the thesis systematizes and clarifies the connotations of the concepts of agriculture, agricultural development, and the application of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development in the context of renovation, thereby contributing to supplementing the theoretical foundation for this issue.

Second, the thesis continues to comprehensively and systematically study Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development, focusing on clarifying the importance, subjects and forces, contents, and measures of agricultural development; thereby affirming the theoretical and practical values of his thought and the necessity of creatively applying it in the current period.

Third, the thesis clarifies theoretical issues concerning the application of Ho Chi Minh's thought in agricultural development, identifies the roles and responsibilities of participating subjects, and systematizes the contents and measures of application in a synchronous, feasible manner suitable to the requirements of renovation.

Fourth, the thesis analyzes the current situation of applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development from 2011 to the present, identifying achievements, limitations, causes, and arising issues.

Fifth, the thesis identifies factors affecting the application of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development at present, thereby proposing orientations and solutions appropriate to development requirements in the new period.

Chapter 1 Summary

The studies related to the thesis topic, from different levels and perspectives, have provided important arguments concerning agricultural development, Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development, as well as the application of his thought in the practice of agricultural development in Vietnam. The system of documents, monographs, scientific articles, and proceedings of domestic and international conferences and seminars has not only contributed to clarifying the theoretical and practical foundations of the thesis topic, but has also suggested many valuable approaches, thereby providing the thesis with the necessary foundation for further research.

The literature review shows that studies on agricultural development in Vietnam have addressed in considerable depth the importance of agriculture, the roles of subjects and forces participating in agricultural development, the contents of agricultural development, and measures to promote agricultural development in the context of renovation, international integration, digital transformation, and sustainable development. At the same time, several studies have initially discussed Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development and its application in practice. However, in light of the new requirements for agricultural development in Vietnam today, continuing to study this issue in a systematic and comprehensive manner, closely linking ideological foundations, practical application, and new development requirements, remains a necessary task. The published studies constitute important reference materials, enabling the author of the thesis to identify issues more objectively, while also determining which findings can be inherited and which unresolved issues require further supplementation and development.

On the basis of selectively inheriting previous research findings, the thesis focuses on clarifying the foundations for the formation, contents, and values of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development; analyzing the current situation of applying his thought in the process of agricultural renovation in Vietnam, especially from 2011 to the present; and identifying achievements, limitations, and causes. On that basis, the thesis proposes orientations and solutions for continuing to apply Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development, thereby contributing to the building of a modern, comprehensive, efficient, and sustainable Vietnamese agriculture in the new era.

Chapter 2

APPLYING HO CHI MINH'S THOUGHT ON AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT - SOME THEORETICAL ISSUES

2.1. SOME RELATED CONCEPTS

2.1.1. Concept of Agriculture

Agriculture is a basic material production sector of society, including agriculture, forestry, and fisheries, aimed at producing food and other products to meet human needs and contribute to socio-economic development.

2.1.2. Concept of Agricultural Development

* **Development:** *Development is the upward process of movement of an object, phenomenon, or sector (field), in which quantitative accumulation and qualitative transformation lead to the emergence of something new in a more complete state in terms of scale, structure, quantity, and quality.*

* **Agricultural development:** *Agricultural development is the process of movement and transformation of the agricultural sector toward increasingly rational scale, improved structure, increased quantity, enhanced quality, and the building of a modern, comprehensive, and sustainable agriculture, thereby contributing to improving the people's living standards and strengthening the country's economic potential.*

2.1.3. Concept of Ho Chi Minh's Thought on Agricultural Development

Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development is a system of viewpoints on the importance, subjects, forces, contents, and measures of agricultural development aimed at directing the agricultural sector toward increasingly rational scale, improved structure, increased quantity, and enhanced quality, thereby contributing to improving the material and spiritual life of the people and serving the cause of resistance and national construction.

2.1.4. Concept of Applying Ho Chi Minh's Thought on Agricultural Development

Applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development is the purposeful activity of subjects and forces in absorbing, developing, and creatively applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development in practice, with the aim of promoting positive changes in the scale, structure, quantity, quality, efficiency, and competitiveness of agriculture; toward building a modern, ecological, and sustainable agriculture, civilized rural areas, and increasingly prosperous and happy farmers, thereby contributing to the realization of the goals of a prosperous people, a strong country, democracy, justice, and civilization.

2.2. CONTENTS OF HO CHI MINH'S THOUGHT ON AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

2.2.1. The Importance of Agricultural Development

2.2.1.1. Agricultural Development Is the Root and Foundation for National Economic Development

According to Ho Chi Minh, agricultural development plays a fundamental role and serves as an important foundation for ensuring and promoting the sustainable development of the national economy. He pointed out that: "Vietnam is a country dependent on agriculture. Our economy takes agriculture as its foundation." This clearly demonstrates his strategic vision regarding the characteristics and role of agriculture in the national economy. With the starting point of an agricultural country, where the majority of the population lived in rural areas, agriculture was regarded not only as the source of livelihood for the overwhelming majority of the people, but also as the material foundation for national economic construction and development.

2.2.1.2. Agricultural Development Contributes to Building Military Strength for the Nation's Resistance Cause

In Ho Chi Minh's thought, military strength is constituted not only by weapons, organization, and military strategy, but first and foremost by a solid foundation of logistics, food supply, and military provisions. To establish such a foundation, it is necessary to mobilize the entire people to actively increase production and promote agricultural development in order to ensure sufficient food supplies for both the people and the troops participating in combat. He clearly stated that: "Only when there are sufficient food and clothing for both the troops and the people can the resistance quickly achieve victory, and national reunification and independence soon succeed." This is because "when food is sufficient, the military will be strong"; therefore, if the resistance war is to be prolonged and victorious, it is essential to secure food supplies and military provisions for the front lines while stabilizing life in the rear. Without actively increasing

production, it would be impossible to sustain combat capability, maintain the army, or preserve morale and military discipline.

2.2.1.3. Agricultural Development Is a Condition for Improving the Material and Spiritual Life of the People

Ho Chi Minh pointed out that: “To achieve victory in the resistance and success in national construction, it is necessary to rely on the peasant masses. To rely on the peasants, their strength must be fostered. To ensure abundant strength among the peasants, they must have land to cultivate, food to eat, clothes to wear, and houses to live in.” Ho Chi Minh considered food to be the most essential human need: “To improve the people’s living standards, the first task is to properly solve the issue of food (followed by clothing and other issues).” According to him, improving material life is the prerequisite for improving spiritual life; and under the conditions of Vietnam at that time, when the country remained poor and devastated by war, ensuring sufficient food for the people was the foremost priority.

2.2.1.4. Agricultural Development Contributes to Preserving and Promoting the Traditional Cultural Identity of the Nation

In Ho Chi Minh’s thought, the importance of agricultural development was viewed not only from an economic perspective, but more profoundly within the cultural, social, and human dimensions of Vietnam throughout thousands of years of national construction and defense.

2.2.2. Subjects and Forces of Agricultural Development

First, the Party leads agricultural development

The Party’s leadership role in agricultural development is first manifested through the formulation of correct guidelines and lines on agricultural development that are appropriate to each revolutionary period and stage.

Second, the State manages agricultural development

In agricultural development, Ho Chi Minh particularly emphasized the important role of the State. According to him, the State must take responsibility for effectively organizing the implementation of the Party’s guidelines and lines on agriculture; formulating and promulgating mechanisms and policies for agricultural development; and simultaneously managing, administering, and organizing the production, processing, and distribution of agricultural products.

Third, Party committees and local authorities directly lead and direct agricultural development

According to Ho Chi Minh, Party committees and local authorities play a particularly important role in the cause of agricultural development. He emphasized that “Party committees and authorities at all levels must discuss and formulate concrete plans together with the people” in order to ensure essential conditions for production such as sufficient irrigation water, fertilizers, quality seeds, and technical improvements, while also consolidating mutual-aid teams and agricultural cooperatives. In addition, Ho Chi Minh affirmed that “it is necessary to strengthen the leadership of Party committees at all levels, first and foremost the direct leadership of provincial Party committees.”

Fourth, the Fatherland Front and socio-political organizations, with peasant associations as the core force, bear primary responsibility for ensuring plans for agricultural development

Speaking of the role of socio-political organizations in agricultural development, Ho Chi Minh emphasized that: “Peasant associations bear the primary responsibility for ensuring the implementation of production plans. Youth unions have the task of taking the lead in promoting movements. Women must promote their own strength in order to produce more and produce better.”

Fifth, cadres and Party members are the core force in agricultural development

In Ho Chi Minh’s thought, cadres and Party members are the force that thoroughly grasps

the Party's and the State's guidelines and lines, while also serving as an important bridge between the Party, the State, and the people in the cause of agricultural development.

Sixth, farmers are the direct force playing the decisive role in agricultural development

In Ho Chi Minh's thought, farmers hold the position of principal subjects in the cause of agricultural development. He consistently affirmed that Vietnam is an agricultural country; therefore, the prosperity of the nation depends directly on the living standards and productive capacity of farmers.

2.2.3. Contents of Agricultural Development

2.2.3.1. Comprehensive Development and Diversification of the Structure of Agricultural Occupations

For agriculture to truly serve as the foundation of national life and the economy, Ho Chi Minh maintained that the contents of agricultural development must first ensure the diversification of the structure of agricultural occupations. He provided the following orientation: "Production must be comprehensive, including the cultivation of food crops and industrial crops, the development of animal husbandry, and the development of forestry." Agricultural development must diversify the structure of agricultural occupations so as not only to ensure food supplies for daily life, but also to create commodities and raw materials for processing industries. At the same time, the development of animal husbandry and forestry helps utilize resources effectively, increase added value, and maintain ecological balance, thereby creating a long-term foundation for the national economy.

Development of crop cultivation. Within the agricultural sector, Ho Chi Minh paid particular attention to the development of crop cultivation.

Development of animal husbandry. Ho Chi Minh consistently regarded animal husbandry as an important component constituting a comprehensive agriculture.

Development of forestry. Ho Chi Minh early devoted profound attention to forestry development, especially the planting, protection, and rational exploitation of forests.

Development of fisheries. Based on Vietnam's inherent advantage of having a long coastline, Ho Chi Minh paid great attention to the development of fisheries and marine-related economic sectors.

2.2.3.2. Agricultural Development in a Balanced and Harmonious Relationship with Other Sectors of the National Economy

Ho Chi Minh consistently placed agricultural development in an organic relationship with other economic sectors rather than viewing it as an isolated field. Agricultural development must be considered in relation to industry; agricultural development must also be considered in relation to commerce.

2.2.3.3. Agricultural Development in Accordance with the Advantages of Each Region and Locality

According to Ho Chi Minh, the contents of agricultural development require not only diversification of the structure of agricultural occupations, but also synchronous and comprehensive development throughout the country. Accordingly, agricultural development cannot be concentrated solely in regions and localities with favorable natural conditions such as delta areas, but must instead be comprehensively promoted across localities nationwide.

2.2.4. Measures for Agricultural Development

2.2.4.1. Propaganda, Education, and Promotion of Farmers' Spirit of Self-Reliance, Self-Strengthening, Love of Labor, Production Emulation, and Thrift Practice

Agriculture is closely associated with farmers; therefore, in order to promote agricultural development, it is first necessary to affirm and promote the central role of farmers. Ho Chi Minh pointed out that: "In the cause of building a new democracy, in order to develop industry and commerce, it is necessary for farmers to be liberated, actively engage in production emulation,

provide raw materials and food supplies, and at the same time widely consume industrial products.” Identifying farmers as the principal subjects playing the decisive role, Ho Chi Minh consistently emphasized their spirit of initiative, creativity, and responsibility in agricultural development.

2.2.4.2. Improving Guidelines, Policies, and Laws on Agricultural Development

In Ho Chi Minh’s thought, agricultural development requires correct guidelines, policies, and appropriate mechanisms. He consistently valued the organizational role of the State and the political system in orienting, regulating, and “supporting” farmers, while ensuring fairness and combating privileges, wastefulness, and bureaucracy. Therefore, improving guidelines, policies, and laws on agricultural development constitutes a foundational solution for unlocking resources, creating driving forces, and establishing a stable and sustainable development environment.

2.2.4.3. Developing Collective Economic Forms, Especially Cooperatives, in Agricultural Development

According to Ho Chi Minh, in order to promote sustainable agricultural development in Vietnam and create the preconditions for advancing toward a large-scale socialist agricultural production system, it is necessary to develop collective economic forms, especially cooperatives.

2.2.4.4. Carrying Out Industrialization and Modernization in Agriculture

Based on the realities of the country, Ho Chi Minh determined that agricultural industrialization was not only a measure but also an inevitable step for promoting the development of Vietnam’s agriculture. According to him, the people’s lives could only become truly sufficient and prosperous through the widespread application of machinery in production, both in industry and in agriculture. Machinery would strengthen human labor, increase productivity hundreds or even thousands of times, and enable people to accomplish extraordinary tasks.

2.2.4.5. Strengthening Scientific and Technical Research and Application in Agricultural Development

During his journey abroad in search of a path for national salvation, Ho Chi Minh had opportunities to observe and study many models of agricultural development around the world. From this practical experience, he early recognized a universal principle: the remarkable achievements of agriculture in many countries primarily originated from the emphasis placed on and application of science and technology in production organization, ranging from breeding, cultivation, and irrigation to mechanization, preservation, and processing.

2.2.4.6. Agricultural Development Associated with Building a New Rural Life

According to Ho Chi Minh, agricultural development must pay attention to building socio-economic infrastructure in rural areas. This constitutes an important driving force for promoting and ensuring the process of building a new rural life. In this regard, housing construction, road building, and irrigation development were considered the most essential tasks.

2.2.4.7. Promoting International Cooperation in Agricultural Development

Ho Chi Minh early recognized the importance of international cooperation for national development in general and economic development in particular, including the agricultural economy. He held that agricultural development should be associated with international cooperation in order to receive support from other countries, while also taking advantage of agricultural exports to generate economic benefits and exchange for materials and machinery necessary for production, resistance, and national construction.

Chapter 2 Summary

Ho Chi Minh’s thought on agricultural development reflects his profound concern for agriculture and farmers, while also orienting the country’s path of socio-economic development. His guiding viewpoints on the importance, subjects, forces, contents, and measures of agricultural development are the result of inheriting national traditions and creatively applying

the fundamental principles of Marxism-Leninism. His thought not only contributed to solving hunger and improving the material and spiritual life of the people, but also created a solid foundation for the industrialization and modernization of the country. At the same time, it serves as an important basis for the Party in formulating agricultural development guidelines and policies in both the past and the present, aiming toward a sustainable and modern agriculture associated with building a new rural life.

Applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development in the renovation process in Vietnam is an issue of particularly important significance. Beginning with the clarification of several related concepts such as agriculture, agricultural development, Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development, and the application of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development, the author analyzes fundamental issues concerning the application of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development, including the importance, subjects, forces, contents, and measures of applying his thought on agricultural development. At the same time, the thesis analyzes and interprets the contents of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development according to the logical order of the research problem, including the importance of agricultural development, subjects and forces, contents, and measures of agricultural development. Through this, the value of and necessity for thoroughly grasping and applying his thought to agricultural development in Vietnam today become evident. This also serves as the theoretical basis for evaluating the current situation of applying Ho Chi Minh's thought in the renovation process in Vietnam from 2011 to the present, thereby identifying the issues arising in the application of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development in the renovation process.

Chapter 3

CURRENT SITUATION OF APPLYING HO CHI MINH'S THOUGHT ON AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE RENOVATION PROCESS IN VIETNAM FROM 2011 TO THE PRESENT AND SOME ISSUES RAISED

3.1. CURRENT SITUATION OF APPLYING HO CHI MINH'S THOUGHT ON AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE RENOVATION PROCESS FROM 2011 TO THE PRESENT

3.1.1. Awareness and Responsibilities of Subjects and Forces in Agricultural Development

3.1.1.1. The Party and the State

Deeply grasping Ho Chi Minh's viewpoint on the position, role, and importance of agricultural development, through successive Party Congresses our Party has consistently identified agriculture as a field of strategic significance and devoted special attention to it, as reflected in increasingly comprehensive and consistent guidelines and orientations regarding agricultural development, farmers, and rural areas.

3.1.1.2. Party Committees, Local Authorities Nationwide, and the Contingent of Cadres and Party Members Responsible for Agriculture

In general, Party committees, local authorities, and the contingent of cadres and Party members (especially leaders of Party committees and local authorities, as well as personnel responsible for the agricultural sector) have demonstrated positive changes in awareness and responsibility regarding the application of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development. This has been clearly reflected in their grasp and implementation of the Party's and the State's guidelines, viewpoints, and policies on agricultural development.

3.1.1.3. The Fatherland Front and Socio-Political Organizations

The Vietnam Fatherland Front and socio-political organizations, especially the Vietnam Farmers' Union at all levels, have in recent years shown clear improvements in awareness and responsibility regarding the application of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development.

3.1.1.4. Farmers

Farmers' awareness of agricultural development has undergone many significant changes. Farmers increasingly place profound trust in the Party's leadership and the State's management, while becoming more proactive in implementing guidelines and policies on agricultural development and rural areas. They have gradually affirmed their central and principal role in the process of agricultural development and the building of new rural areas; actively participating in the restructuring of the agricultural sector, the development of household and farm economies, cooperation and production linkages, as well as cooperative and cooperative-group models on a larger scale.

3.1.2. Contents of Agricultural Development

3.1.2.1. Comprehensive Development and Diversification of the Agricultural Structure

From 2011 to the present, Vietnam's agricultural structure has shifted toward a reduction in the proportion of rice cultivation and an increase in industrial crops and fruit trees; animal husbandry has developed in a concentrated and modernized direction; forestry has expanded planted forest areas and increased forest coverage; and fisheries have grown strongly, becoming a key export sector.

First, development of crop cultivation. The Party and the State have consistently regarded crop cultivation as a key sector of decisive significance for ensuring national food security and promoting agricultural economic growth.

Second, development of animal husbandry. On the basis of thoroughly grasping the viewpoints and orientations of the Party and the State, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development has focused on directing localities to accelerate the restructuring of the livestock sector, strongly shifting from small-scale and fragmented production models toward concentrated livestock production, farm- and household-farm-based models, and gradually advancing toward industrialized and high-tech animal husbandry.

Third, development of forestry. The forestry sector has achieved important accomplishments with a rapid growth rate.

Fourth, development of fisheries. With outstanding natural advantages, including a long coastline, abundant river and lake systems, and many sheltered waters, Vietnam possesses great potential for the comprehensive development of the fisheries sector. Fully aware of this importance, the Party, the State, and Party committees and local authorities in coastal areas have focused on leading and directing the development of the sector toward sustainability and harmony between exploitation and aquaculture, in which aquaculture has gradually become the principal pillar.

3.1.2.2. Agricultural Development in a Balanced and Harmonious Relationship with Other Economic Sectors

From 2011 to the present, the Party and the State have consistently upheld the viewpoint that agriculture is a pillar of the national economy and, at the same time, an important link within inter-sectoral, inter-regional, and inter-field value chains. In the process of transforming the growth model toward sustainability, modernization, and international integration, agricultural development is no longer confined to production activities alone, but is oriented toward close linkage with processing industries, logistics services, science and technology, and e-commerce.

3.1.2.3. Agricultural Development in Accordance with the Advantages of Each Region and Locality

The 2011-2025 period demonstrates that Vietnam's agricultural sector has developed in an increasingly synchronous and comprehensive manner on the basis of promoting the potential and strengths of localities throughout the country. This is reflected first and foremost in the Party's guidelines and lines on agricultural development: "Restructuring the regional economy, renewing institutional mechanisms for linkages among localities within regions and between regions,

promoting the role of key economic regions and major urban centers, while paying attention to the development of disadvantaged regions and narrowing development gaps among regions.”

3.1.3. Measures for Agricultural Development

3.1.3.1. Propaganda, Education, and Promotion of Farmers’ Central Role in Agricultural Development

The Party and the State have introduced numerous guidelines and solutions to promote the central role of farmers, while considering this one of the foremost measures in agricultural development. On the basis of the Party’s viewpoints, Party committees and authorities at all levels have attached importance to propaganda and education aimed at raising farmers’ awareness of the role of agriculture and their central role in agricultural development.

3.1.3.2. Promulgation of Guidelines, Policies, and Laws Related to Agricultural Development

The period from 2011 to the present has witnessed the notable achievement that the system of guidelines, policies, and laws on agricultural development has been promulgated in a relatively synchronous manner and increasingly improved toward restructuring the sector, enhancing added value, promoting value-chain linkages, and fostering sustainable development, thereby creating an important institutional framework for implementation nationwide.

3.1.3.3. Development of Cooperatives and Forms of Production Organization in Agriculture

On the basis of thoroughly grasping Ho Chi Minh’s thought on the role of cooperatives in agricultural development, from 2011 to the present the Party and the State have promulgated many important guidelines and resolutions aimed at renewing and improving the operational efficiency of the collective economic sector and models of agricultural production organization.

3.1.3.4. Industrialization and Modernization of Agriculture

In recent years, the Party and the State have consistently identified agriculture as a key sector in the process of national industrialization and modernization. Owing to this orientation, Vietnam’s agriculture has undergone significant transformation, shifting from small-scale production models to large-scale commodity production with the strong application of science and technology, moving toward a modern, efficient, and sustainable agriculture.

3.1.3.5. Application of Science and Technology in Agricultural Development

Thoroughly grasping Ho Chi Minh’s viewpoint on the role of science and technology in enabling our people to “permanently escape from poverty and backwardness,” the Party and the State have consistently recognized the role and importance of science and technology in economic development in general and in the agricultural sector in particular. On that basis, numerous guidelines and policies have been introduced to strengthen research and the application of science and technology in all stages and processes of agricultural development.

3.1.3.6. Agricultural Development Associated with Building New Rural Areas

On the basis of correctly recognizing the close relationship among agriculture, farmers, and rural areas, in recent years the Party, the State, Party committees, and local authorities have consistently paid attention to and emphasized agricultural development associated with the building of new rural areas. Guidelines and policies have been implemented synchronously in order to improve the productivity and quality of agricultural products, enhance the material and spiritual life of farmers, and gradually improve rural infrastructure and landscapes.

3.1.3.7. International Cooperation in the Agricultural Sector

In the context of increasingly deep international integration, international cooperation in the agricultural sector has consistently been promoted by the Party, the State, and management agencies at all levels. In recent years, many bilateral and multilateral cooperation programs and projects have been implemented with the participation of international organizations, enterprises, and foreign governments, focusing on key areas such as technology transfer, improvement of

crop and livestock breeds, fisheries development, resource management, and rural infrastructure construction.

3.2. ACHIEVEMENTS, LIMITATIONS, AND SOME ISSUES ARISING IN THE APPLICATION OF HO CHI MINH'S THOUGHT ON AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

3.2.1. Achievements and Limitations in the Application of Ho Chi Minh's Thought on Agricultural Development from 2011 to the Present

3.2.1.1. Achievements and Causes

** Achievements*

First, the awareness and responsibilities of subjects and forces in thoroughly grasping and applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development have increasingly improved.

Second, the contents of agricultural development in Ho Chi Minh's thought have been increasingly thoroughly grasped and implemented in a more comprehensive and synchronous manner across many fields.

Third, measures for agricultural development based on Ho Chi Minh's thought have been applied in increasingly diverse and flexible ways and have gradually become more appropriate to practical requirements.

Fourth, agriculture has achieved remarkable accomplishments and made substantial contributions to the national economy.

** Causes of the achievements*

First, the awareness of subjects and forces regarding the value of Ho Chi Minh's thought for agricultural development has become increasingly comprehensive and profound.

Second, the Party's leadership and direction and the State's management of agricultural development have been increasingly strengthened, thereby creating an important political and legal foundation for the application of Ho Chi Minh's thought in practice.

Third, coordination among central ministries, commissions, and sectors with Party committees and local authorities in implementing agricultural development guidelines and policies has gradually become closer and more effective.

Fourth, conditions relating to science and technology and agricultural infrastructure have increasingly improved, creating favorable conditions for the application of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development.

3.2.1.2. Limitations and Causes

** Limitations*

First, awareness of the position, contents, and orientational value of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development in several localities and grassroots units remains insufficiently comprehensive, profound, and consistent.

Second, although the process of applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on the contents of agricultural development has become more extensive and synchronous, in several fields it still fails to ensure depth and balance in implementation.

Third, the application of measures for agricultural development in certain sectors and localities remains unsystematic and ineffective; production linkages, the application of science and technology, and the promotion of farmers' central role are still limited.

Fourth, the actual results of agricultural development remain disproportionate to the country's potential and advantages; the added value, competitiveness, and living standards of a portion of farmers are still not high.

** Causes of the limitations*

First, among certain subjects and in certain fields, the process of thoroughly grasping and applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development has not yet been sufficiently profound and has not been strongly transformed into development thinking and practical action.

Second, coordination mechanisms between the central and local levels, as well as among

sectors and administrative levels in certain aspects of agricultural development, remain unsystematic; responsibilities for implementation are at times and in some places unclear.

Third, the concretization of guidelines and policies on agricultural development in several localities remains slow, lacks forecasting capacity, and has not been sufficiently aligned with regional characteristics and farmers' needs.

Fourth, climate change, natural disasters, drought, saltwater intrusion, epidemics, and environmental pollution have directly affected agricultural production, thereby reducing the effectiveness of agricultural development.

Fifth, complex and unstable developments in the global economic and political situation have affected agricultural production and markets, thereby influencing the process of applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development in practice.

3.2.2. Some Issues Arising from the Application of Ho Chi Minh's Thought on Agricultural Development in the Renovation Process in Vietnam

3.2.2.1. Ho Chi Minh's Thought on Agricultural Development Possesses Profound Value, Yet Its Understanding and Application in Practice Still Reveal Certain Limitations

3.2.2.2. The Application of Ho Chi Minh's Thought on Agricultural Development in the Current Period Requires Flexibility, Creativity, and Suitability to New Conditions and Contexts; However, in Practice, the Process of Application Remains Mechanical, Formulaic, and Insufficiently Adapted to Reality

3.2.2.3. Mechanisms and Policies Constitute an Important Foundation for Promoting Agricultural Development; However, in Practice, They Still Lack Synchronization and Have Not Kept Pace with Market Developments

3.2.2.4. Agricultural Development Toward Modernity, Efficiency, and Sustainability Requires a "Civilized" Generation of Farmers; However, in Reality, the Qualifications and Capabilities of Vietnamese Farmers Still Remain Limited

3.2.2.5. The Application of Science and Technology and Innovation, Especially Digital Transformation, Constitutes an "Inevitable Path" and Driving Force for the Development of Vietnam's Agriculture; However, This Issue Still Faces Many Inadequacies

3.2.2.6. The Requirement to Overcome Uneven Development in Quality among Sectors and Regions and to Ensure Harmonious Relationships in Agricultural Development in Vietnam Today

Chapter 3 Summary

During his lifetime, President Ho Chi Minh always devoted profound attention to the country's economic development, in which agriculture held a particularly important position. He regarded agriculture as the leading front, farmers as the core force, and rural areas as the foundation of social life. These viewpoints not only possessed value under the historical conditions of that period, but also continue to serve as important theoretical and practical foundations for the Party and the State in formulating guidelines and policies for agricultural development toward modernization and sustainability.

In the renovation process, especially from 2011 to the present, the application of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development has achieved many positive results. The awareness of subjects and forces within the political system has gradually improved; the contents of agricultural development according to his thought have been implemented in a relatively comprehensive manner; and measures for agricultural development have been applied more flexibly, thereby contributing to important transformations in agriculture, farmers, and rural areas. Nevertheless, the process of application still reveals many limitations. Some subjects have not yet attained comprehensive and profound awareness; the thorough grasp of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development in certain places remains formalistic and unsystematic; and several

implementation measures have not truly corresponded to practical conditions, resulting in limited effectiveness. Meanwhile, Vietnamese agriculture is currently facing many new requirements, such as restructuring the sector toward ecological and modern development, enhancing added value, promoting high-tech agricultural development, digital transformation, adaptation to climate change, and deeper integration into international markets. These requirements demand that the application of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development be more comprehensively understood, more creatively implemented, and more closely linked to the country's practical development. Therefore, agricultural development in Vietnam still remains disproportionate to its potential, advantages, and the requirements posed by the new context.

From the current situation of applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development in terms of awareness, subjects, forces, contents, and measures, Chapter 3 has clarified the achievements, limitations, causes, and several issues currently arising. This constitutes an important practical basis for the thesis to determine orientations and propose solutions for continuing to apply Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development in Vietnam.

Chapter 4

FACTORS AFFECTING, ORIENTATIONS, AND SOLUTIONS FOR CONTINUING TO APPLY HO CHI MINH'S THOUGHT ON AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN VIETNAM IN THE NEW ERA

4.1. FACTORS AFFECTING THE APPLICATION OF HO CHI MINH'S THOUGHT ON AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE NEW ERA

4.1.1. The Global Political and Economic Situation Continues to Develop in a Complex and Unpredictable Manner, Posing Unprecedented Challenges

In the coming years, although peace, cooperation, and development will continue to be the dominant trend, the world order is undergoing rapid and unprecedentedly complex transformations toward multipolarity, multi-centrality, multilayered structures, and strong fragmentation. Peace, cooperation, and development remain major trends; however, they are facing many new and increasingly complex challenges.

4.1.2. The Increasingly Deep and Comprehensive Process of International Integration across Various Fields Creates Both Opportunities and Great Difficulties and Challenges

Increasingly deep and comprehensive international integration across various fields continues to be an inevitable global trend, in which Vietnam is both an active participant and a country directly affected. This process creates major opportunities and prospects for the application of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development.

4.1.3. The Fourth Industrial Revolution Is Developing Rapidly and Will Continue to "Expand" Further in the Coming Period

The Fourth Industrial Revolution (Industry 4.0), with the rapid and breakthrough development of science and technology, is and will continue to exert profound and comprehensive impacts on all countries and all fields of social life, including agriculture.

4.1.4. Climate Change, Natural Disasters, Epidemics, and Environmental Pollution Are Increasingly Intensifying and Becoming More Complex, Unpredictable, and Difficult to Control

Climate change, natural disasters, epidemics, and environmental pollution are increasingly intensifying in terms of scale, frequency, and severity, becoming major challenges to agricultural development in Vietnam.

4.1.5. The Process of Economic Restructuring and Labor Shift in Vietnam Continues to Intensify

The process of economic restructuring and labor shift in Vietnam in the context of

accelerating industrialization and modernization is exerting increasingly evident impacts on the application of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development.

4.1.6. Impacts from the Requirements of National Development in the New Era, Institutional Governance Reform, and Changes in Resources for Agricultural Development

Entering the new era of development, the application of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development no longer takes place solely within the scope of agriculture itself, but is directly affected by major national transformations in growth models, governance institutions, the organization of development space, and production resources. Orientations toward building ecological agriculture, modern rural areas, and civilized farmers; the requirement to improve productivity, quality, and competitiveness of the economy; together with the processes of digital transformation, green transformation, and deep international integration, are all imposing the need to approach agricultural development in a more dynamic, modern, and efficient manner.

4.2. ORIENTATIONS FOR APPLYING HO CHI MINH'S THOUGHT ON AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE NEW ERA

First, steadfastly and creatively applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development in the new era

Throughout his revolutionary career, President Ho Chi Minh consistently attached special importance to agricultural development, considering it a foundational sector of decisive significance to the people's livelihood, the country's economic strength, and the sustainability of the regime. According to him, agriculture not only ensures food supplies, but also serves as the basis for social stability, improvement of people's living conditions, and the promotion of other economic sectors. His thought on agricultural development possesses both profound theoretical value and practical vision, becoming the ideological foundation guiding the Party in leading the development of agriculture, farmers, and rural areas from the periods of resistance and national construction to the current stage.

Second, comprehensive and modern agricultural development associated with building new rural areas

Agricultural development is one of the strategic issues of particularly important significance in the cause of industrialization, modernization, and sustainable national development. Developing agriculture in a comprehensive and modern manner in association with building new rural areas constitutes an important orientation in applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development.

Third, promoting industrialization, modernization, and digital transformation in agricultural development

In the current process of national development, the task of promoting industrialization, modernization, and digital transformation is an urgent requirement. However, if attention is focused only on industry and services while neglecting agriculture, farmers, and rural areas, sustainable development cannot be achieved.

Fourth, closely combining agricultural development with the protection of resources and the environment

In the context of increasingly severe climate change, resource depletion, and environmental pollution, closely combining agricultural development with the protection of resources and the environment has become an urgent requirement. This is not only an economic issue, but also a profoundly socio-political and humanitarian issue.

Fifth, promoting the roles and responsibilities of subjects in applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development

The application of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development in the new era must aim toward building a modern, ecological, efficient, and sustainable Vietnamese agriculture; civilized rural areas rich in cultural identity; and farmers whose material and spiritual lives are

increasingly improved and who possess knowledge, skills, and the capacity to master science and technology. This objective needs to be concretized in each guideline, policy, program, and project on agricultural development, ensuring that agricultural development not only increases output and export value, but also improves farmers' income, status, mastery capacity, and quality of life.

4.3. SOLUTIONS FOR CONTINUING TO APPLY HO CHI MINH'S THOUGHT ON AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN VIETNAM IN THE NEW ERA

4.3.1. Raising the Awareness of Subjects and Forces in Applying Ho Chi Minh's Thought on Agricultural Development

With great potential and advantages in many respects, agriculture currently continues to hold a very important position and role in the cause of renovation, national construction, and national defense. In the current period, in order to effectively apply Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development, it is first necessary to raise the awareness of subjects and forces regarding the position and pivotal role of agriculture in the economy, not only in ensuring food security and creating livelihoods and employment, but also in contributing to the strengthening of national defense, preserving national culture, and enhancing national prestige. At the same time, it is necessary to renew thinking on agricultural development, shifting from traditional agricultural production toward the development of a modern agricultural economy based on science and technology and innovation, closely linked to market demands and signals, with added value as the primary objective.

4.3.2. Developing and Improving Policies and Laws on Agricultural Development

Policies and laws constitute the foundational basis and the foremost important factor for facilitating agricultural development and achieving high effectiveness. Synchronous, comprehensive, and appropriate policies and laws will promote the dynamism of subjects while enabling the fullest exploitation of the country's potential and strengths in agricultural development, and vice versa. At present, Vietnam's system of mechanisms, policies, and laws on agricultural development still reveals many inadequacies and lacks synchronization and completeness. Therefore, developing and improving policies and laws on agricultural development is one of the core solutions creating the preconditions for implementing other solutions.

4.3.3. Continuing to Renew the Contents of Agricultural Development toward Ensuring Structural Balance, Synchronization, Comprehensiveness, and Sustainable Effectiveness

The creative application of Ho Chi Minh's thought on the contents of agricultural development in the current period requires the renewal of thinking, approaches, and actions in a synchronous manner from the central to local levels, and from managers and scientists to farmers.

4.3.4. Promoting the Central Role of Farmers in Association with Building Strong Farmers' Unions in Agricultural Development

Promoting the central role of farmers in association with building strong Farmers' Unions is of important significance in applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development. Farmers are the force directly engaged in production, innovation, and enjoyment of the achievements of agricultural development, while the Farmers' Union is the representative organization responsible for gathering, mobilizing, supporting, and protecting the legitimate rights and interests of farmers. When farmers improve their educational level, sense of mastery, production capacity, and aspiration for advancement, while the Farmers' Union operates substantively, remains close to the people, and stays connected with grassroots realities, agricultural development will possess a solid social foundation and be able to promote endogenous strength from rural areas. This also constitutes an important basis for shifting from small-scale and passive production toward modern, efficient, and sustainable production thinking,

thereby contributing to the building of a modern agriculture, civilized and culturally rich rural areas, and sustainable development.

4.3.5. Renewing Models and Improving the Quality of Agricultural Cooperative Operations

During his lifetime, President Ho Chi Minh identified cooperatives as the core force in agricultural development. Thoroughly grasping his thought and, at the same time, meeting the requirements of agricultural development toward large-scale commodity production necessitate renewing models and improving the quality of agricultural cooperative operations. This is an issue of important significance in promoting collective production, increasing farmers' productivity and income, strengthening value-chain linkages, and advancing agricultural development toward modernization and sustainability.

4.3.6. Strengthening the Application of Science and Technology, Innovation, and Digital Transformation to Develop a Modern and Sustainable Agriculture in Accordance with Ho Chi Minh's Thought in the Context of the Fourth Industrial Revolution

At present, although Vietnam's agriculture has achieved remarkable progress, it still generally lags behind countries with advanced agricultural sectors in the world. In order to narrow the gap in agricultural development levels with other countries and meet the objective of developing Vietnam's agriculture toward modernization, strengthening the application of science and technology, innovation associated with the Fourth Industrial Revolution, especially digital transformation, is a decisive issue of key significance.

4.3.7. Creating a Value-Linkage Ecosystem in Agricultural Development

One of the major bottlenecks in Vietnam's agricultural development today is that production remains fragmented and small-scale; linkages among subjects are not yet close; the added value of agricultural products remains low; and the ability to deeply participate in domestic and international value chains is still limited. Meanwhile, Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development consistently emphasized the requirement for production organization, promotion of solidarity, cooperation, mutual support, and care for the practical interests of farmers. Therefore, in the era of national rise, creating a value-linkage ecosystem should be regarded as a breakthrough solution for creatively applying Ho Chi Minh's thought to modern, efficient, and sustainable agricultural development.

Chapter 4 Summary

In applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development in the current renovation process in Vietnam, alongside fundamental advantages, there are also numerous difficulties and challenges, including: the global political and economic situation continuing to develop in a complex and unpredictable manner, containing many risks and challenges; the increasingly deep and comprehensive process of international integration across various fields creating both opportunities and difficulties; the Fourth Industrial Revolution developing rapidly and expected to continue to "expand" further in the coming period; climate change, natural disasters, epidemics, and environmental pollution becoming increasingly severe, complex, unpredictable, and difficult to control; the domestic economy still facing many difficulties and challenges; and human resources in the agricultural sector continuing to fluctuate significantly, with a trend toward decline in both quantity and quality. Therefore, it is necessary for all subjects and forces to thoroughly grasp and fully understand these issues in order to take advantage of favorable conditions and overcome difficulties in the process of agricultural development.

In order to apply Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development in the renovation process in Vietnam in the new era, it is necessary to thoroughly grasp several fundamental orientations: comprehensive and modern agricultural development associated with building new rural areas; harmoniously resolving the relationship between agricultural development and the promotion of industrialization, modernization, and digital transformation; closely combining

agricultural development with the protection of resources and the environment; agricultural development associated with ensuring independence and self-reliance while strengthening international economic cooperation; and agricultural development in accordance with strategies on national defense, security, and climate change response. On that basis, the author proposes seven solutions for applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development in the new era, including: raising the awareness and responsibilities of subjects in applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development in the new era; developing and improving policies and laws on agricultural development; promoting the central role of farmers in association with building strong Farmers' Unions in agricultural development; renewing models and improving the quality of agricultural cooperative operations; strengthening the application of science and technology and innovation associated with the Fourth Industrial Revolution, especially digital transformation in agricultural development; and creating a value-linkage ecosystem in agricultural development. These fundamental solutions directly address the limitations and inadequacies in agricultural development in Vietnam in recent years. Therefore, in the process of application, these solutions must be implemented synchronously and applied flexibly and creatively according to specific circumstances.

CONCLUSION

Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development is a system of viewpoints on the importance, subjects, forces, contents, and measures of agricultural development. His thought possesses profound theoretical and practical value, serving not only as the foundational basis for our Party in formulating guidelines and viewpoints on agricultural development in the past as well as in the current period, but also directly contributing to the building of economic potential, ensuring the success of the cause of resistance and national construction for national independence, national reunification, and the building of socialism in the North. In particular, Ho Chi Minh's thought and his direct leadership and direction of agricultural development fundamentally resolved hunger and gradually improved the material and spiritual life of the people. Therefore, thoroughly grasping and creatively applying his thought on agricultural development in the current renovation process in Vietnam is an issue of profound theoretical and practical significance.

In recent years, many studies have been conducted on agricultural development, Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development, and its application in practice, thereby clarifying numerous theoretical and practical issues. However, most studies have mainly focused on analyzing and generalizing the contents of Ho Chi Minh's thought, without deeply clarifying the ways of applying it in the new context. Therefore, clarifying issues such as the concepts of agriculture, development, agricultural development, Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development, and the application of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development; while simultaneously analyzing fundamental issues such as the importance, subjects, forces, contents, and measures of application, is necessary. At the same time, the thesis interprets and analyzes the contents of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development. Through this, it affirms the theoretical and practical value of and the necessity for continuing to apply Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development in the new era.

In the process of national renovation, especially from 2011 to the present, the application of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development has achieved many positive results. However, alongside these achievements, certain limitations still remain. The awareness of some subjects and forces regarding the necessity of agricultural development in accordance with Ho Chi Minh's thought has not yet been fully comprehensive; the process of thoroughly grasping and

applying the contents and measures of agricultural development still lacks comprehensiveness, flexibility, and creativity, and its effectiveness remains limited; while the results of agricultural development have not been commensurate with the country's potential and advantages. These limitations stem primarily from the fact that the awareness of some subjects and forces regarding the value of Ho Chi Minh's thought remains insufficiently profound; the concretization of such thought into guidelines and policies in several localities still reveals many inadequacies; coordination among central ministries and sectors with Party committees and local authorities has not been synchronous; and the qualifications and skills of the majority of farmers remain low and fail to meet new requirements. This situation therefore requires a more profound understanding of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development, together with its flexible, creative, and context-appropriate application; the improvement of mechanisms and policies; the enhancement of farmers' qualifications and capabilities; the promotion of the role of cooperatives; the strengthening of the application of science and technology and digital transformation; and the enhancement of competitiveness in international cooperation, with the aim of developing a modern and sustainable agriculture.

In the coming period, the application of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development will take place in a context where the global political and economic situation is developing in a complex and unpredictable manner, with many potential risks and challenges. The increasingly deep process of international integration in all fields opens up many opportunities while also posing numerous difficulties for agricultural development in Vietnam. In addition, the Fourth Industrial Revolution is developing rapidly and is forecast to continue to "expand" in the coming period, while climate change, natural disasters, epidemics, and environmental pollution are increasingly intensifying, becoming unpredictable and difficult to control. Domestically, the process of economic and labor restructuring continues to take place strongly, while the internal strength of the economy still faces many limitations and challenges. In this context, agricultural development needs to be comprehensive and modern, associated with building new rural areas; harmoniously aligned with the process of industrialization, modernization, and digital transformation; closely combined with the protection of resources and the environment; ensuring independence and self-reliance in parallel with strengthening international economic cooperation; and at the same time linked to national defense and security strategies and effective climate change response.

Therefore, in order to enhance the effectiveness of applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development, subjects and forces need to focus on implementing several fundamental measures. First of all, it is necessary to raise the awareness of subjects and forces in the process of applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development, considering it the orientational foundation for all activities. At the same time, it is essential to develop and improve the system of policies and laws on agricultural development, ensuring synchronization, feasibility, and conformity with practical conditions. The contents of agricultural development need to continue to be renewed in a manner that ensures both a rational structure and comprehensiveness and synchronization associated with sustainable effectiveness. In addition, it is necessary to promote the central role of farmers and inspire their aspiration for advancement; build strong Farmers' Unions that truly represent the legitimate rights and interests of farmers; and renew models while improving the quality of agricultural cooperative operations. Alongside this, the application of science and technology should be strengthened, innovation associated with the Fourth Industrial Revolution should be promoted, especially in the field of digital transformation; and international cooperation in agricultural development should be intensified in order to enhance effectiveness and competitiveness, ensuring modern and sustainable development.

LIST OF THE AUTHOR'S THESIS-RELATED PUBLICATIONS

1. Vu Thi Thu Ha (2023), “Applying Ho Chi Minh’s Thought to Agricultural Development in Vietnam Today”, *Electronic Journal of Political Theory*, September 11, 2023, available at <http://lyluanchinhtri.vn>
2. Vu Thi Thu Ha (2023), “Ho Chi Minh’s Thought on the Role of Agriculture: Application in Orienting Agricultural Development in Vietnam Today”, *Journal of Social Sciences Information*, No. 492, pp. 28-35.
3. Vu Thi Thu Ha (2024), “Promoting the Role of the Grassroots Political System in Building New Rural Areas Today”, *Ho Chi Minh Studies Journal*, No. 61, pp. 71-84.
4. Vu Thi Thu Ha (2024), “Applying Science and Technology to Agricultural Development in Accordance with Ho Chi Minh’s Thought”, *Journal of State Organization*, No. 8, pp. 42-45.
5. Vu Thi Thu Ha (2024), “Applying Ho Chi Minh’s Thought on Cooperatives in Current Agricultural Development”, *Journal of Political Theory*, Special Issue, Fourth Quarter, pp. 212-220.
6. Vu Thi Thu Ha (2025), “The Communist Party of Vietnam Applying Ho Chi Minh’s Thought in Leading the Development of Vietnam’s Agricultural Economy during the Renovation Period”, *National Scientific Conference*, January 2025, pp. 541-551.
7. Vu Thi Thu Ha (2025), “Several Solutions to Promote the Application of Digital Technology in Agricultural Development in Vietnam Today”, *Journal of State Management*, August 28, 2025, available at <http://www.quanlynhanuoc.vn>
8. Vu Thi Thu Ha (2026), “Developing Ecological Agriculture Associated with Building New Rural Areas in Vietnam Today”, *Communist Review Online*, February 10, 2026, available at <https://www.tapchicongsan.org.vn>