

**THE ANALYSIS OF THE AGRITOURIST POTENTIAL OF BREBU-NOU LOCALITY, CARAS-SEVERIN COUNTY**

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**ABSTRACT**

Located in the southwestern part of Romania, Caras-Severin County is the third largest county in the country, a county with a remarkable tourist potential at regional and national level of great value and attractiveness, this potential being due to the natural environment, given by the mountainous relief, but also the anthropic resources, the spa resources, the historical and art monuments, as well as the richness of the folk tradition. Brebu Nou is a commune in Caras-Severin County, located on the northeastern slopes of the Semenic Mountains, in the source area of the Timis River, being formed by the villages of Brebu Nou and Garana. Garana is a village in the commune of Brebu Nou and is distinguished by the architecture specific to German mountain villages, the village being once inhabited by a population originally from the Southern Mountains of the Czech Republic. The tourist potential of the village consists in the fact that it is a rural mountain settlement, with ski slopes recently opened for the winter season, suitable for nature walks in the summer season, but also in the fact that this is where the famous International Jazz Festival takes place. since the beginning of July, as well as folk and blues festivals.

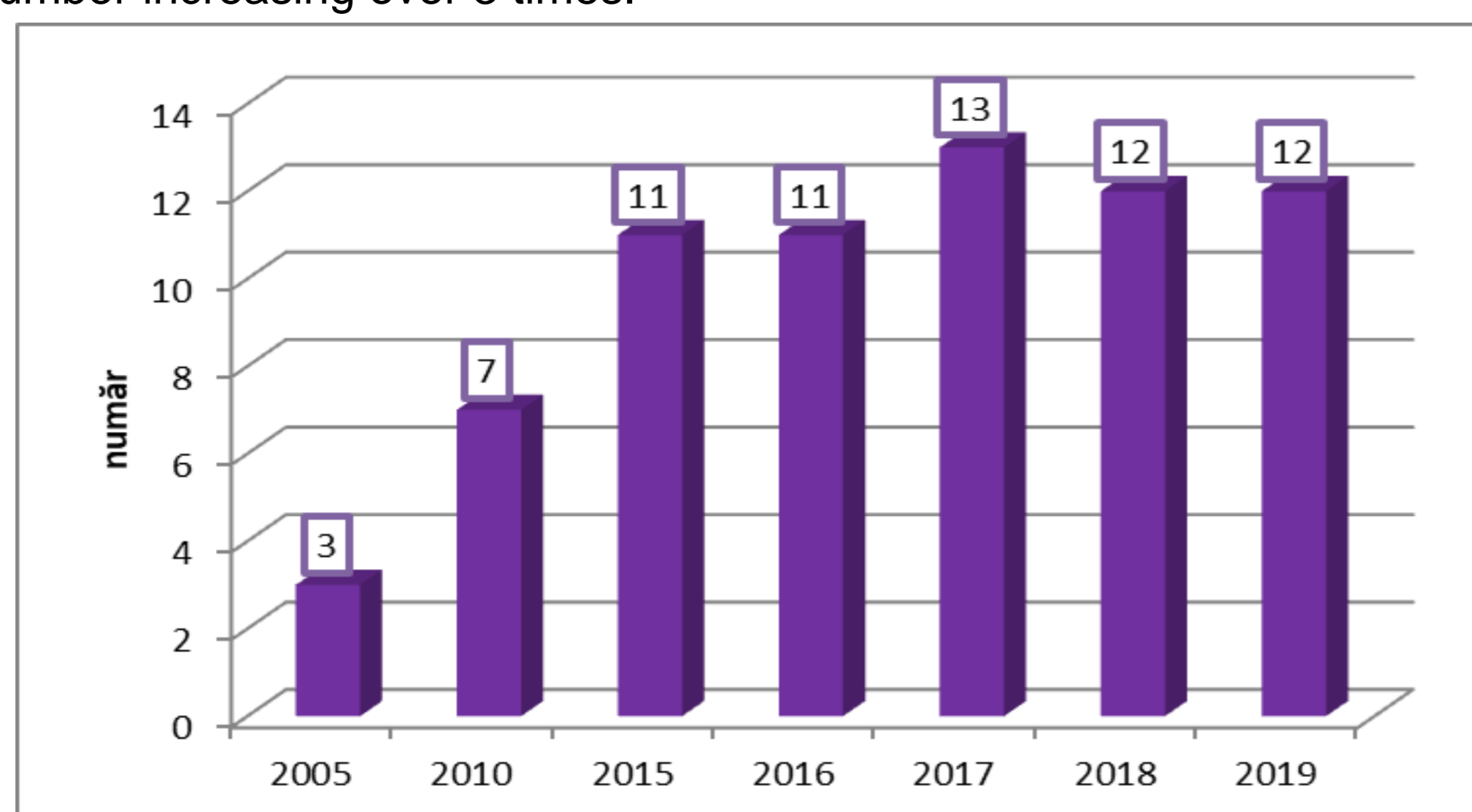
**RESULTS**

The analysis of the agritourism potential of Brebu-Nou commune consists in a detailed analysis of both the tourist offer and the demand, specific to the area.

**Analysis of the agritourism offer, Brebu-Nou commune**

The materialization of the supply and consumption of agritourism products actually takes place in the households of the rural inhabitants, transformed into farms or agritourism guesthouses. The peasant household, used for tourist purposes, represents an agro-economic microspace, which includes the house itself, auxiliary spaces (summer kitchen, warehouses, etc.) and some household annexes (stables, haylofts, huts, etc.).

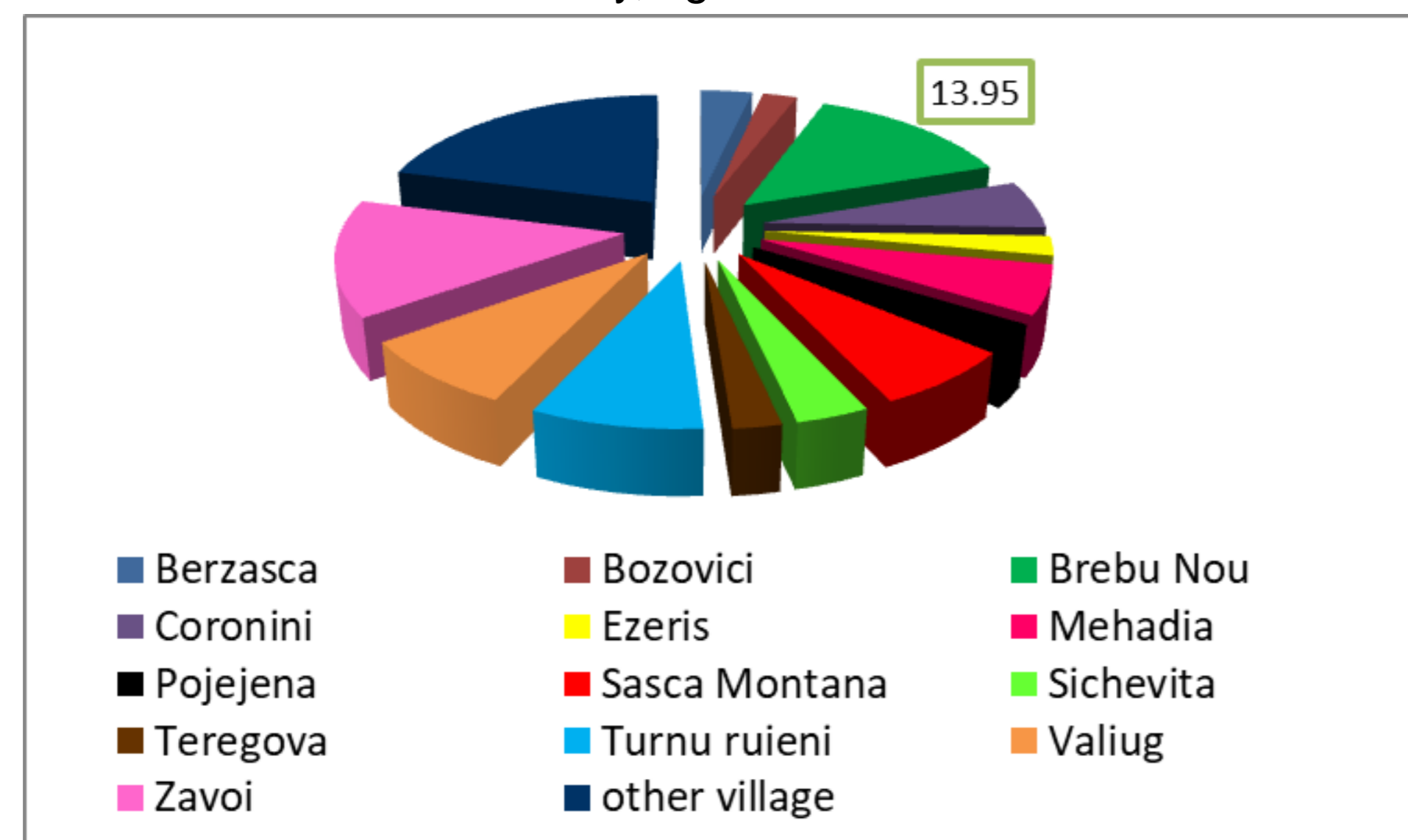
The analysis of the agritourism offer is very well highlighted through the accommodation units. In the period 2000-2019, at the level of Caras-Severin County, there was a significant increase of tourist accommodation structures, their number increasing over 3 times.



**The evolution of agritourism pensions, Brebu-Nou commune**

Garana locality is a village in Brebu Nou commune, a commune recognized as an agritourism destination in this part of the country.

In the period 2005-2019, the number of agritourism guesthouses increased 4 times, figure 1. In 2019, the existing agritourism guesthouses in this locality represented 13.95% of the total number of agritourism guesthouses registered in Caras-Severin County, figure 2.



**The structure of the distribution of agritourism guesthouses, Caras-Severin County**

Regarding the existing accommodation capacity, in the agritourist guesthouses, at the level of Caras-Severin County, Brebu Nou locality, concentrates the largest number of places-231, at the level of 2019, thus holding 14.09% of the total number of accommodation, included in this type of tourist structures.

The accommodation capacity in operation indicates an increasing trend, also the capacity in operation, in 2019, with a slight decrease. Regarding the value of this indicator, registered at the level of localities with agritourism potential, from Caras-Severin County, Brebu-Nou commune, it is on the second place, with a total number of 40,466 places-days, after, Sasca Montana, 40,866 places-days.

**Agritourism demand analysis, Brebu-Nou commune**

The movement of tourists in rural localities, known as tourist villages, is based on multiple motivations: recreation, contemplation of landscapes, desire to know the culture and social life specific to the areas visited, participation in activities on the farm, orientation to a healthy diet, etc.

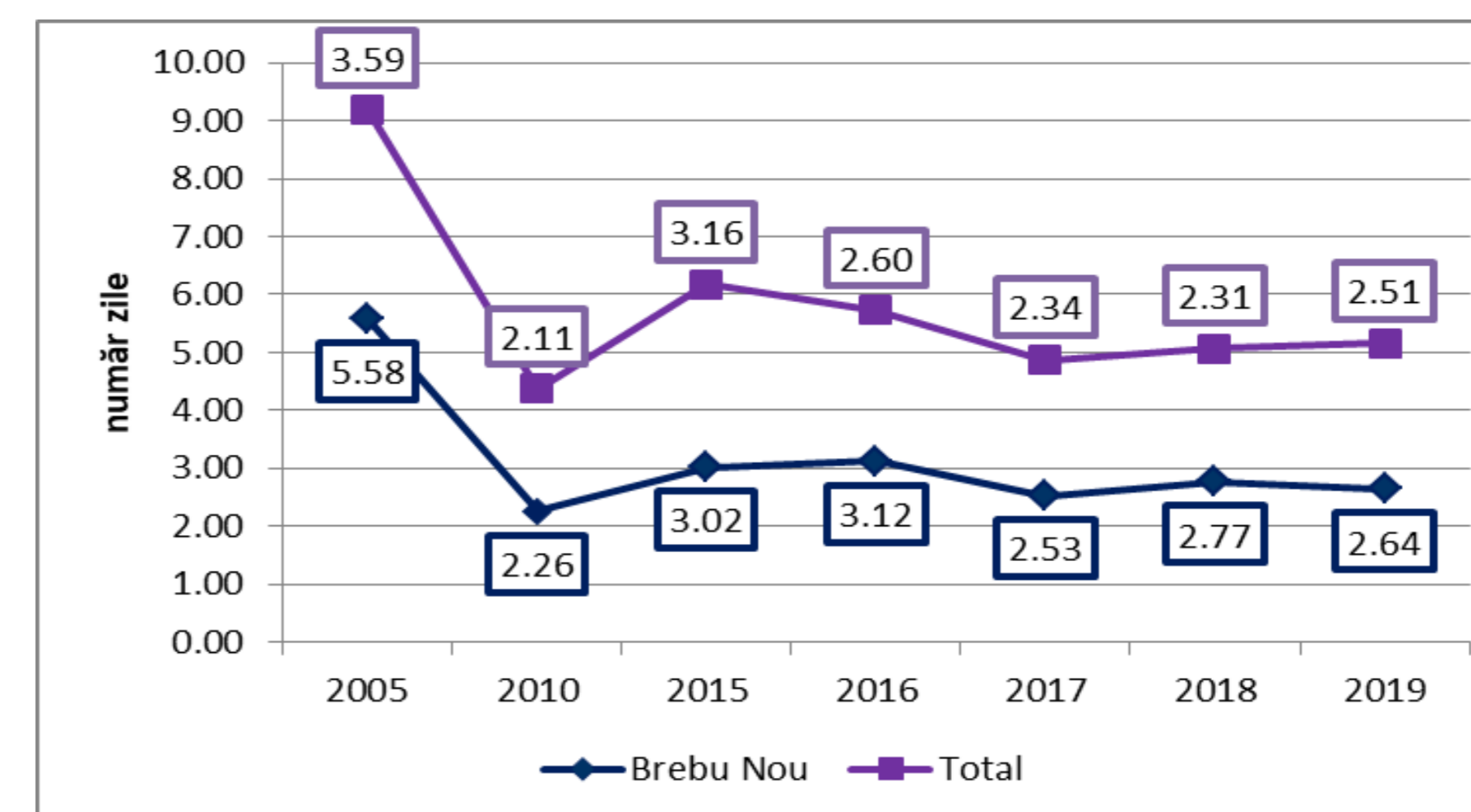
At the county level, Brebu Nou commune is the second largest agritourism pole, with a total number of 3546 tourists, registered in 2019, after Sasca Montana commune, which registered a total number of 4277 tourists. These two localities, together with Valiug commune, registered, in 2019, 39.65%, of the total number of tourists accommodated in the agritourism guesthouses in the county (Sasca Montana - 15.13%, Brebu Nou - 12.54% and Valiug - 11.98%).

The number of nights or the number of days-tourist indicates the number of nights that a tourist spends in an accommodation unit.

**The evolution of overnight stays of tourists in the agritourism guesthouses from Caras-Severin County**

	2005	2010	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Brezasca	:	:	2393	3318	2614	3029	2922
Bozovici	:	:	1502	2295	1602	1342	1715
Brebu Nou	1930	3250	6855	6412	8278	10736	9364
Coronini	:	1776	8902	6915	2120	1761	1776
Ezeris	:	:	:	1163	3046	3809	4587
Mehadia	1217	3689	2798	2183	2701	4744	5940
Pojejena	:	376	2606	4311	3448	2233	3207
Sasca Montana	136	1412	6700	5870	6765	7382	9759
Sichevita	:	528	5440	4500	5424	5605	5920
Teregova	280	196	23	230	1305	1239	548
Turnu Ruieni	238	631	2708	2190	3321	3926	1730
Valiug	89	2142	6457	4941	7216	8375	6707
Zavoi	815	1434	4441	4172	4277	4518	4559
Total	4705	17241	64396	63616	62353	66608	71014

In the period 2005-2019, the number of overnight stays in agritourism guesthouses increased by 385.18%. In 2019, the number of overnight stays registered in the agritourism guesthouses from Brebu Nou commune, represented 13.17%, from the number of overnight stays in these accommodation units, registered at county level.



**The evolution of the average length of stay, in the agritourism guesthouses, Caras-Severin County**

The analysis of this indicator, for the agritourist guesthouses, from Caras-Severin County, indicates a decreasing tendency. This aspect is the result of the fact that agritourism is a form of tourism, practiced, especially on weekends. In the case of Brebu Nou commune, the average length of stay for agritourism guesthouses is higher than the county average. Thus, in 2019, at the commune level the value of the indicator was 2.64 days/tourist, and at the county level the average was 2.51 days/tourist.

**CONCLUSION**

As a final conclusion, we can say that Caras-Severin County has a huge natural and anthropic tourist potential that could attract many Romanian and foreign tourists, if it were capitalized and promoted, and this, in order to be achieved, is the involvement of people, both in the public and private sectors, is needed.

Being endowed with a natural environment favorable to the practice of rural tourism and agritourism, Caras-Severin County acted in the direction of preparing and promoting the rural tourist offer trying to align with European standards. The intensification of the agritourism activity determined the knowledge of the rural area of Carasesti, the tourism being thus an invisible ambassador of these places. The commune of Brebu Nou, with its component villages preserving traditions and customs specific to the area and the old German settlers, is a real agritourism area, specific to the western part of the country.

The chance to develop the rural area in the mountainous area of Caras-Severin County is represented by the organized extension of agritourism, thus having the possibility to capitalize at a higher level of natural and anthropic resources, specific to these places.

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