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SPECIFICITY OF MANAGEMENT PRACTICES IN ORGANIC SYSTEM OF PRODUCTION IN THE POMERANIAN REGION

Key words: crop structure, farming systems, livestock population, organic farming, structure of agricultural lands

Summary

A survey with direct interview method was carried out in 2013 in 72 randomly selected organic farms. The surveyed farms were located in the district Choszczno in Western Pomerania (36 farms) and in the district bytowski, in the Pomeranian province (36 farms). Due to the large diversity of area and cropping structure the selected farms were divided into 4 area groups: I – to 10 ha, II – 10.01–20.00 ha, III – 20.01–50.00 ha, IV – > 50.00 ha. Basing on the interview the farm sizes, the structure of agricultural land divided into arable land (AL), orchards and permanent grassland (PG) were determined. The crops structure on AL, taking into account both the organic system of production and permitted by law parallel conventional system, broken down into cereals, root crops, oil seeds, pulses and legumes in crop rotation, perennial grass with small seeds legumes and catch crop were analyzed. The subject of analysis in farms was also animal production, divided into ruminants and pigs, expressed by average annual values of LU ha⁻¹ of agriculture lands. The fertilization and liming of organic agricultural lands (AL) was evaluated. More over the sale of products from organic farms in terms of their status (organic or conventional product) was analyzed. Considerable differences in management practices on farms were stated. Many farms produce both in the organic system, as well as conventional. Also the considerable regional differences in participation of PG in the structure of agriculture lands and crop structure on arable lands, with particular emphasis on perennial grass mixtures with legumes was observed. The regional trends to simplification of the production on agriculture lands, the diversity of fertilization, the low status of livestock populations, the total lack of animal production in the organic system of production and the lack of sale of agricultural products of organic origin was shown.