THE EFFECTIVENESS OF PAYMENTS INTRODUCED FOR AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES ON PERMANENT GRASSLANDS AS PART OF THE RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME 2007–2013

Key words: Agency for Restructuring and Modernisation of Agriculture, natural packages, permanent grassland, Rural Development Programme 2007–2013

Summary

In this paper, the effectiveness of introducing natural packages of “Agro-Environmental Programme” has been analyzed. The programme was implemented as part of the RDP 2007–2013 based on permanent grasslands. The basis of the study was data from 2008–2013 for individual voivodships, made available by the ARiMR (Agency for Restructuring and Modernisation of Agriculture). The data included a support area in hectares, derived from the issued decisions granting agro-environmental payments in packages: number 3 – “Extensive and permanent grasslands”, 4 – “Conservation of endangered species of birds and natural habitats outside Natura 2000 areas” and 5 – “Conservation of endangered species of birds and natural habitats inside Natura 2000 areas”.

Results for each year of natural packages implementation were depicted in a map format for all voivodships. Maps were made using ESRI ArcGIS 9.3.1 software. Share of permanent areas of the grassland, on which natural packages were implemented in individual voivodships, ranged from about 4 to 40% at the end of the study period. On a national scale, every seventh hectare of total area of the grassland was covered by the natural packages implementation. The most popular among the farmers was package number 3 and it was implemented in Poland on average on 54% of the area of the grassland which was covered by the agro-environmental programme. For the remaining packages, numbers 3 and 4, were 20 and 24% respectively of grasslands.