Analysis of changes in the evaluation and trade of fattening cattle in Poland in the years 2005-2014

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Summary

Since 2006 the population of Polish cattle has maintained an even level, with clear predominance of dairy breeds. In the case of both performance testing and post-mortem assessment of carcass value, apart from subjective methods the use of objective methods has become increasingly common. Data compiled by the Agricultural and Food Quality Inspectorate in 2005-2014 were used to present changes in the number of animals slaughtered and in the assessment and quality of feedlot cattle in Poland. It was shown that in 2005-2014 there was an increase in the number of animals slaughtered in supervised facilities and the number of carcasses accounted for in the EUROP system. According to the data, the number of bulls slaughtered in category B (bull >2 years of age) increased during the 10-year period, owing to the high conformation quality of the carcasses and their relatively low fat cover, accompanied by high weight.

KEY WORDS: fattening cattle, carcass category, cattle trade, classification, EUROP system