

## **Iberian horses in Poland**

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### **Summary**

The aim of the study was to analyse the approximate size of the Iberian horse population in Poland, and to determine how often they are used for breeding, recreation and sport. Data collected from owners, breeders and transporters were used to estimate the approximate size of the Iberian horse population in Poland. The Andalusian breed (PRE) was predominant (83 horses). Lusitano horses were much less numerous (35). The number of crossbred (cruzado) and Iberian type horses was similar: 12 and 11, respectively. The study showed that only a few Andalusian or Lusitano stallions and mares were used for breeding due to difficulties in obtaining Polish licences and in assigning foals to the right breed, because of the lack of separate books and registers. Most horses of these breeds were used in horse shows, for recreation and to a small extent as sport horses. However, interest in Iberian horses is increasing, as is import of these animals to Poland.

KEY WORDS: breeding, horse, Andalusian breed, Lusitano