

The past, present and future of cattle breeding on Lower Silesia

Summary

The article presents the short historical outline, current state and perspectives of cattle breeding development on Lower Silesia. Seven stages of breeding process of cattle population transformation in the region of south-western Poland were distinguished. Some significant changes in the genetic structure of the population of cattle of black- and red-white colour were described. The results of some more important experiments of domestic breeds cattle mating and crossing with foreign breeds were presented. The major factors, contributing to successes and failures of cattle breeders during the period from the end of the Second World War until the present days have been described. Some examples of achievements of Lower Silesian leading cattle breeders and milk producers have been described. Moreover, organizational and breeding recommendations concerning further development of the breeding of dairy and beef type cattle, and also those included in the genetic resources protection program, were described.

KEY WORDS: cattle breeding, Lower Silesia, Black-and-White breed, Red-and-White breed