

Analysis of Polish and French pedigrees of horses starting  
in long-distance raids with regard to common ancestors  
of Polish origin

S u m m a r y

During the last decades endurance races gained huge interest worldwide. This increase is followed by a demand for the improvement and breeding of a suitable horses. It is known that the pure-bred and half-bred Arabians show the highest predispositions towards this type of sport. Particularly good results of the improvement towards endurance races were achieved by French breeders, who widely used sires originating from Poland in their breeding program. Up to now this matter had not been a subject of wider investigation in our country. The study includes a pedigree analysis of 59 Polish and 286 French endurance horses and an attempt to find the most successful matings of mares with stallions, especially taking into consideration those with Polish ancestors. Study showed a high percentage of Polish ancestors in the French population, as well as the existence (both in Poland and France) of families descending from the sires: Comet, Aswan, Negatiw, Ofir, Aquinor. Although they were not used in endurance races themselves, they are ancestors of the horses successful in this sport.