

Origin and characteristic of Silesian mares used in Książ Stud

S u m m a r y

The study performed on the population of Silesian mares used in Książ Stud, functioning since 1997. All brood mares (n=264) in Książ Stud belonging to 12 families, had been bred in Strzelce Opolskie Stud and Strzegom Stud. Mares raised in Książ Stud (33 mares in 2005) were representatives of the most valuable families of the Silesian breed of horses – Estolica, Eureka, Lizbona, Ismena, Lenka, Dina. Analyzed mares were in traditional and new type of Silesian horse. A share of thoroughbred blood ranged from 6.25% to 56.25%. As a result of two direction – breeding of Silesian horses, mares indicated considerable variability of three measurements – height at withers from 158 cm to 171 cm, chest circumference from 182 cm to 214 cm and cannon circumference from 21 cm to 24 cm. Average index of foaling amounted to 71.34%, index of reproductive performance and index of offspring rearing respectively 65.99% and 92.37%.