

## Productivity of Polish Holstein-Friesian cows as dependent on their lifetime performance

### Summary

The aim of the study was to present the productivity of cows over successive lactations as dependent on their lifetime performance. The study was conducted on an individual farm located in the Province of Warmia and Mazury. The experimental materials comprised 98 Polish Friesian-Holstein cows. The herd was used during the years 1996-2005. The cows were divided into three groups, depending on their lifetime performance, i.e. group I – below 20 000 kg of milk, group II – 20 001 to 30 000 kg of milk, group III – above 30 000 kg of milk. It was found that the most of cows were eliminated during the first three lactations. The most of cows were culled in group I, which was related to their low productivity. The analysis of the milk performance of primiparous cows during 305 days of milking revealed a tendency towards a higher productivity in group III. The cows of group III showed the highest milk performance both during the first and subsequent lactation periods. Moreover, milk yield and the yields of milk components were excellent in group III. The cows characterized by the highest lifetime performance had also the highest productivity per day of age, day of use and lactation. The cows with the highest lifetime performance were the youngest at conception and at calving. They were also characterized by the shortest first inter-pregnancy and inter-calving periods.