

## Properties of horses put up for sale at markets in middle-eastern Poland

### S u m m a r y

190 horses were studied during four days in 2007 at markets in Skaryszew, Piaski, Pajęczno and Bodzentyn (approx. 49% horses put up for sale at the markets). The data were collected according to specially elaborated formulae which included own description, basic body measurements and survey with sellers. There were 74% of crossbreds of coldblooded horses with warmblooded horses and pure coldbloods, 19% of warmbloods, as well as 7% of ponies and little horses. The number of mares was 62%, stallions 25% and geldings 13%. Over 1/3 horses were foals at the age of half to one year. Many horses brought to markets were not at a good condition: they were verminous, with wounds or cuts, dirty, with hooves rarely trimmed or not trimmed at all. 18.4% horses did not have the passport. The sellers claimed that over 1/3 horses were used in harness and 9% under saddle. 1/3 mares are used in breeding. The results show characteristics of horses in a large measure of meat utility, kept on farms in middle-eastern Poland.