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## The utilization of native pig breeds in ecological farms based on the Złotnicka Spotted pig breed

### S u m m a r y

The aim of the conducted study was to compare lifetime performance of Złotnicka Spotted gilts coming from ecological and conventional breeding systems. Additionally it was attempted to characterize ecological farms, from which the investigated gilts came. Live testing scores of Złotnicka Spotted gilts from ecological breeding did not differ considerably from those recorded for animals kept under conventional management conditions. Moreover, based on the analysis of questionnaires within a survey conducted for the purpose of this study it was found that a higher purchase price of ecological slaughter animals, subsidies received by breeders participating in the Program for the protection of genetic resources of Złotnicka Spotted pigs, as well as lower feeding and management costs resulted in a situation when the economic result of ecological breeding of Złotnicka Spotted pigs was good. Złotnicka Spotted pigs may thus be suggested as suitable for ecological breeding, especially since the preservation of this breed contributes to the maintenance of biodiversity in the animal kingdom.