

Dairy cattle welfare in farmers' opinions

Summary

The paper presents dairy cattle farmers' opinions about animal welfare. Data used in the study were collected using questionnaire interviews in 109 farms in the Mazowieckie and Podlaskie Voivodeships. It covered issues such as: definition of welfare, evaluation of conditions in cowsheds and farms, using pasture and open run and the measures taken to raise level of animal welfare. It was found that farmers' awareness was relatively high and that they ensured a high level of animal welfare on their farms.

KEY WORDS: animal welfare, dairy cattle, farmers' opinions, dairy farming