

Assessment of damage caused by Polish konik horses in forested areas

Summary

The aim of study was to analyse qualitative and quantitative damage caused by the presence of a herd of 13 Polish konik horses (1 stallion, 1 gelding, 6 mares and 5 foals), kept in a reserve breeding system, on 700 ha of forest and meadow. No significant economic damage was found to have been caused by the horses. Foals showed greater interest in food variety. Means of preventing the herd from causing forest damage were identified.

KEY WORDS: horses, forest damage, Polish konik horses, reserve breeding