

2nd INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR

**"THE ROLE OF SMALL FARMS IN
THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
OF THE FOOD SECTOR IN THE
COUNTRIES OF CENTRAL AND
EASTERN EUROPE"**

Poznań, 11-12 April 2019

The aim of the seminar:

1. discuss the first task in the Project „Diagnosis...” – progress in work and next steps
2. establish the final version of a survey
3. determine the conditions for the organization of surveys

Preliminary info - what is small farm?

Set of criteria used to determine a small farm:

1. Area of land (in EU – 5 ha; <10 mln of farms;

in Poland: 758 th – 52%)

2. Standard Output (in EU – 8 SO; ca. 10 mln of

farms; in Poland: 914 th – 65%, up to 15 SO:

110 th – 78%)

Preliminary info - what is small farm?

Set of criteria used to determine a small farm:

3. Labour input (AWU, FWU) - determination of the threshold value, eg. 1 or 2 AWU

4. Market share (level of self-supply) - “semi-subsistence farm” where less than 50% of the agricultural output is sold, with the remainder being consumed within the farm household (in

Poland: 81% of farms 0-8(15) th SO)

Preliminary info - what is small farm?

Small farm – Family farm

Family farms - apart from having agricultural land and running agricultural activity - are characterized by performing agricultural work using the labor force of family members.

Family work should prevail in general labor inputs. Thus, there is a functional connection between the household and the farm, not only by providing work, but also a large degree of self-supply.

The purpose of such an entity is existential activity (including income generation), not profit, as is the case with private enterprises.

Criteria used by us in a survey in Poland

- 1) Standard Output below or equal 15.000 EUR per year.
- 2) At least 50% (this criterion can be reduced to 40% in case of difficulties with collecting data) of household income comes from agricultural activity. It is about eliminating those farms that receive they income from non-agricultural sectors and treat agriculture as a side activity.

The role of small farms:

Small farms are often considered to be backward, unproductive and inefficient, and therefore indicated as an obstacle to overcome in the process of economic development.

What is the truth?

The role of small farms:

Small farms are found all over the world and the number of them is estimated at 85% (less than 2 ha) of the total number of farms – ca. 530 mln.

Among small farms, 87% are in Asia (mainly China and India), in Africa 8%, and 5% are located in Europe and America.

Despite the drop in the number of small farms, they continue to dominate in developing as well as developed countries.

In small farms around 2 billion people live in the world.

The role of small farms:

Key functions:

1. Diversity of ownership, crop systems, landscapes, biological organization, culture and traditions.
2. Environmental benefits - small farms promotes responsible management of natural resources, i.e. soil, water and nature (lower fertilization, traditional cultivation methods, lower share of plant protection products).
3. Creating jobs in the countryside.
4. Food production in a traditional way
5. Small farm as a buffer against poverty

Task 1. Diagnosis of functioning of agricultural sector in the context of sustainable development, including especially small farms.

Part 1. Review of the literature (in English and your native languages) on the subject related to small farms in the context of sustainable development:

- How to define a small farm in your country;
- What is the approach of society to this type of farms;
- What is the role of small farms in your country in creating economic, social and environmental sustainability;
- How small farms operate compared to larger farms;
- etc.

Task 1. Diagnosis of functioning of agricultural sector in the context of sustainable development, including especially small farms.

Part 2. Review of support policy for small farms in your country:

- National and foreign support (eg. EU's support);
- Financial and non-financial support;
- What instruments, what level of support, what trends in terms of support;
- What are the effects of such support;
- Support for small farms via support for large farms;

Task 1. Diagnosis of functioning of agricultural sector in the context of sustainable development, including especially small farms.

Part 3. Data review using national and international database:

- number of small farms;
- agriculture area structure;
- production type;
- economic data (crops and animal production, incomes, investments, capital, labour);
- social and environmental data.

Deadline for sending reports form Partner's countries to PWSZ: June 15, 2019.

Report published in English, volume between 30.000-40.000 characters with spaces (40.000 characters = 1 publishing sheet), including tables.

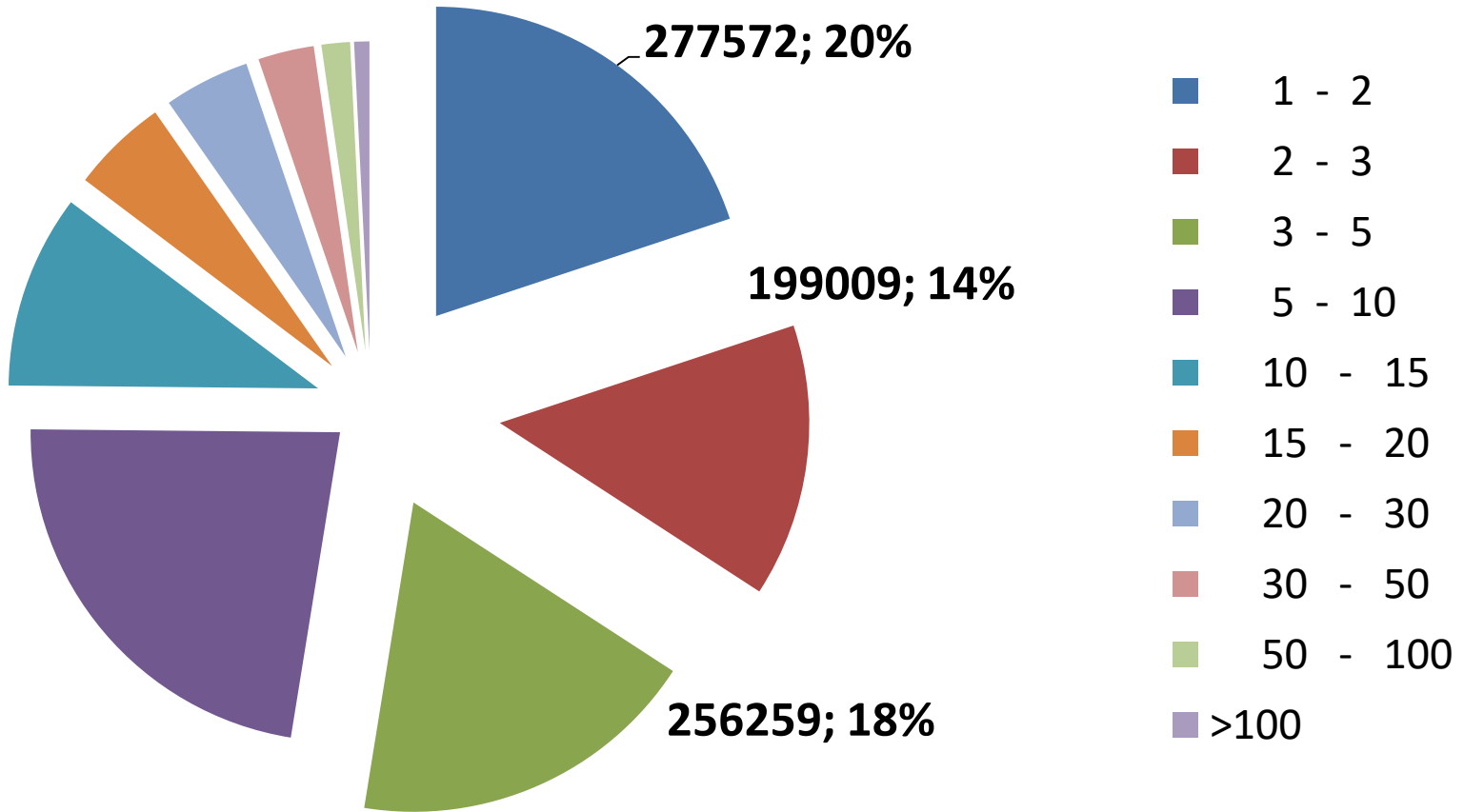
Short description of Polish farms

Number of farms (above 1 ha): 1.4 million (in 2010: 1.5 million farms).

Average area of agricultural land is 10 ha per farm.

More than 1 million of farms have an agricultural land area of 1-10 ha.

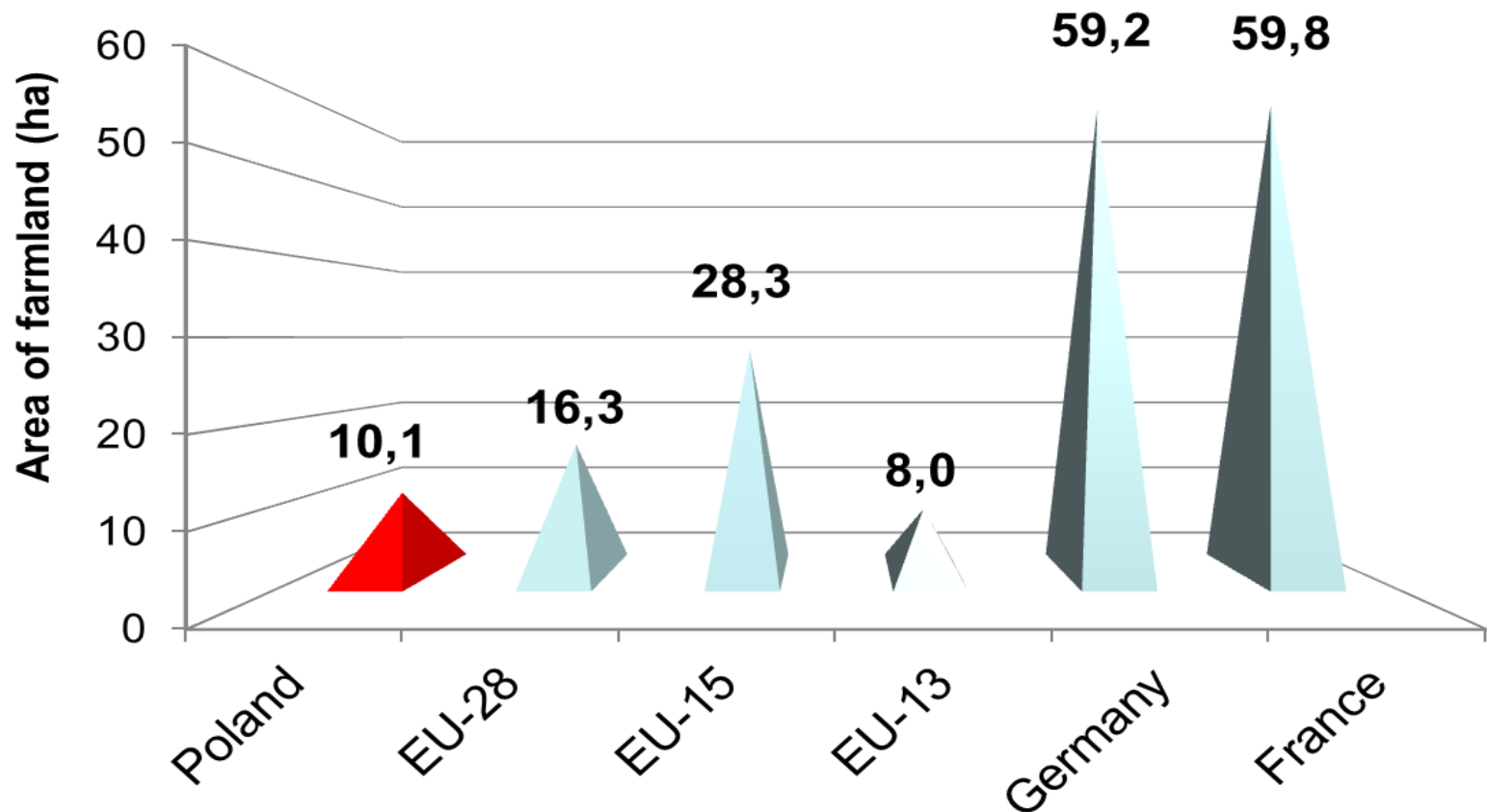
The share of the largest farms with an area of more than 50 ha is just over 1%. These bigger units possess 30% of farmland (80-90% in Western Europe countries).



Area structure of Polish farms (area groups in ha UAA; 2016)

Source: GUS.

Average area of farmland in Poland and UE, Germany and France in 2016



Source: Own performance on the basis of Eurostat data.

Short description of Polish farms

More than **80%** of farms are engaged in agricultural activities.

At the same time, for only **25%** of them agricultural income is the main source of income (more than 50% of total income).

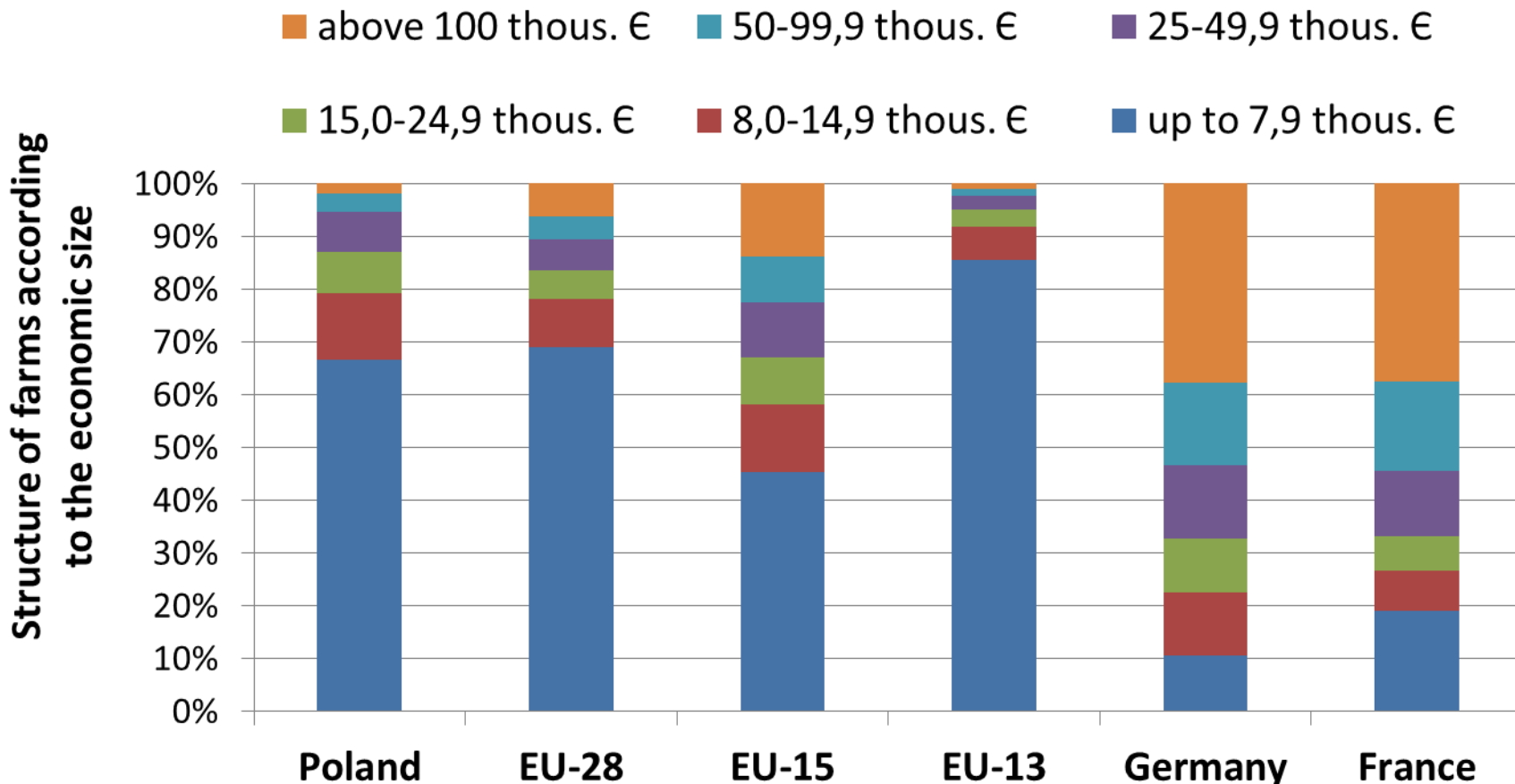
Low production scale.

Scale of animal and crop production in 2015

Specification	Poland	EU-28	EU-15	EU-13	Germany	France
Average herd (pcs.)						
<i>Cattle</i>	13,9	38,4	79,4	9,9	94,8	104,8
<i>Diary cattle</i>	7,0	15,6	47,2	4,9	53,9	40,4
<i>Pigs</i>	40,6	66,0	460,9	12,6	584,0	727,2
Average area (ha)						
<i>Cereals</i>	6,7	10,6	21,5	5,8	35,5	37,5
<i>Rape</i>	10,4	22,2	23,1	20,9	25,8	19,7

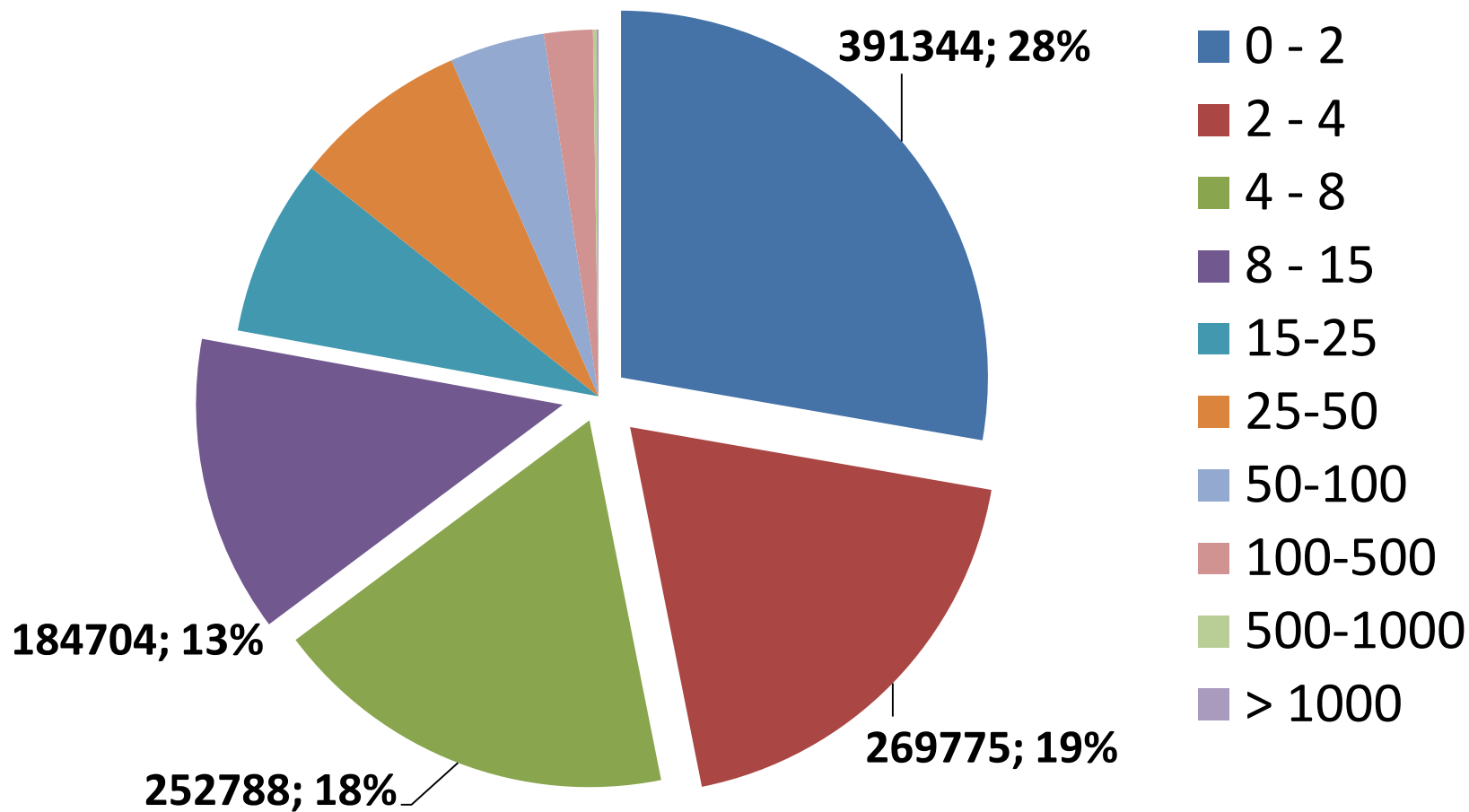
Source: Own performance on the basis of Eurostat data.

Structure of farms according to the economic size (in SO*) in 2015



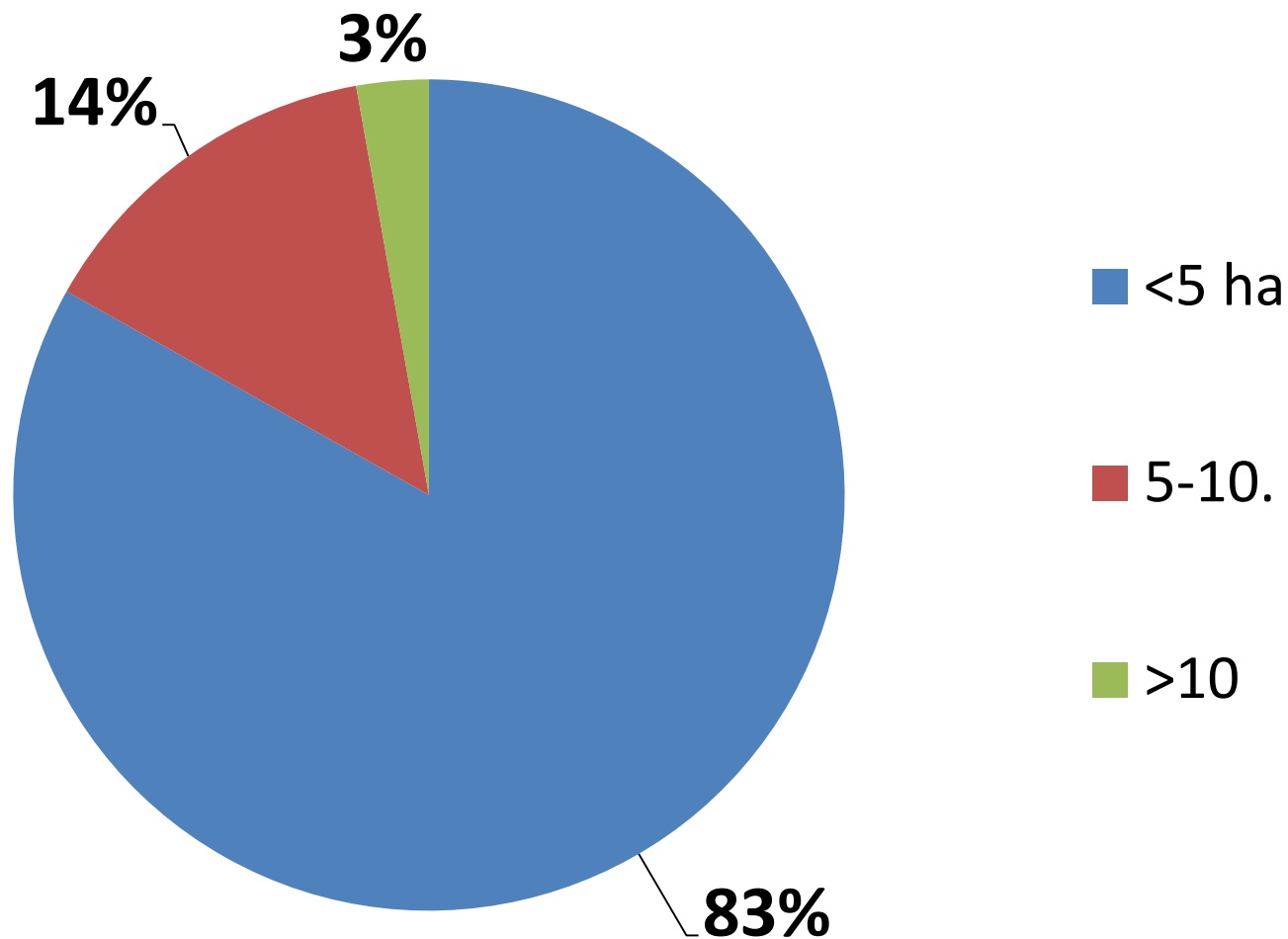
*SO – Standard Output

Source: Own performance on the basis of Eurostat data.



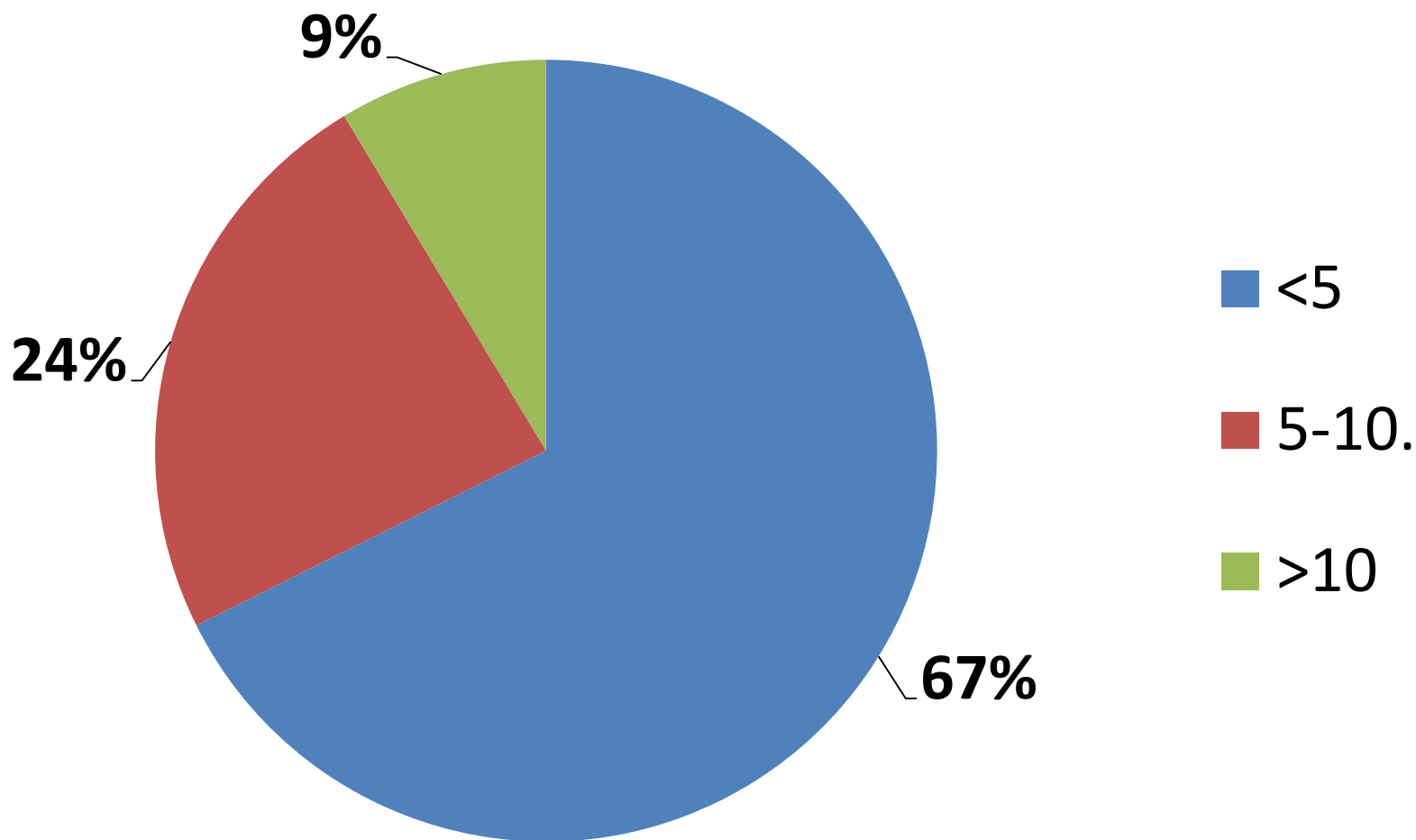
Structure of economic size of Polish farms (groups in SO th; 2016)

Source: GUS.



Area structure of Polish farms in the economic class up to 8 th euro SO; 2016.

Source: GUS.



Area structure of Polish farms in the economic class up to 15 th euro SO; 2016.

Source: GUS.

Average area of UAA in Polish farms according to
the economic size SO:

0-2 th SO: 2,8 ha

2-4 th SO: 4,4 ha

4-8 th SO: 6,9 ha

8-15 SO: 10,5 ha

Farm type	All farms	0-2 th SO	2-4 th SO	4-8 th SO	8-15 th SO
Field crops	57,5%	84,7%	71,8%	53,4%	41,0%
Horticulture	1,9%	0,1%	0,2%	1,1%	2,0%
Permanent crops	4,2%	1,2%	3,2%	4,9%	6,6%
Grazing livestock	11,1%	1,3%	5,1%	8,6%	13,2%
Granivores	2,3%	2,5%	1,0%	0,9%	1,3%
Mixed	22,9%	10,2%	18,7%	31,2%	35,9%

Specialization of small farms in Poland; 2016

Source: GUS.

Thank you for attention 😊