



AGRICULTURAL CHAMBERS IN POLAND

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National Council of Agricultural Chambers



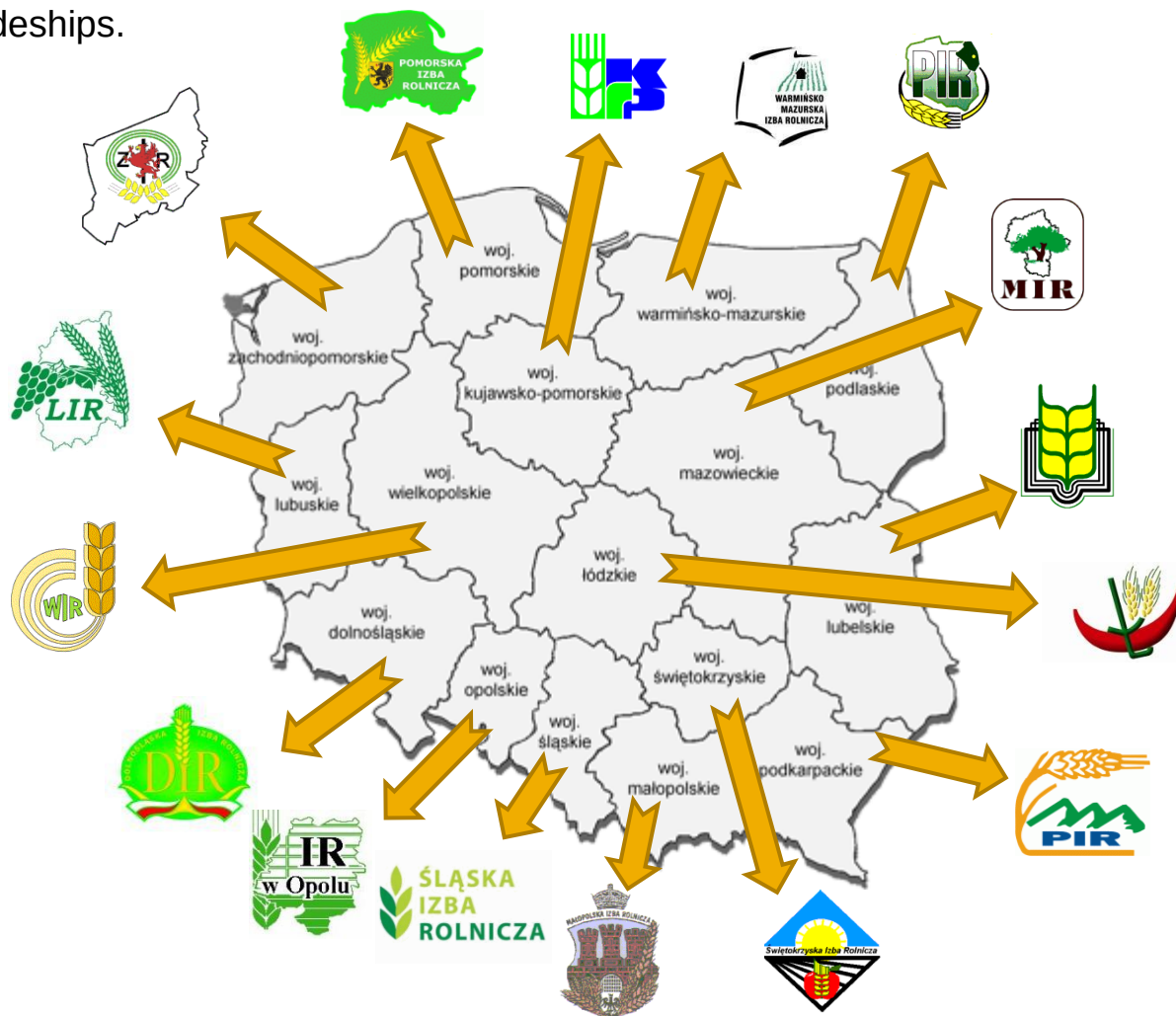
Legal foundations of functioning of Polish agricultural self-government

- The legal foundation of the agricultural self-government in Poland is the Act of 14 December 1995 on Agricultural Chambers
- On the basis of law, members of the agricultural self-government are private and legal persons who are agricultural tax payers, individual tax payers from special branches of the agricultural production and members of agricultural production cooperatives owing land in these cooperatives.



Organisational units of agricultural self-government

- Agricultural chambers have a legal status. The Chambers act on the territories of their voivodeships.





Representation of chambers at national level

- The national representation of all agricultural chambers is National Council of Agricultural Chambers.
- The National Council of each voivodeship agricultural chambers have legal personality
- The executive body of the National Council of Agricultural Chambers is the Board elected by it from among its members. The Board carries out its tasks with the help of the office, which is headed by the Director appointed by the Board.



Tasks of Agricultural Chambers

- The main and basic task of agricultural self-government is acting in order to solve problems of agriculture and represent interests of associated members. The agricultural chambers influence shape of the agricultural policy and participate in its execution.
- The tasks of the chambers of agriculture include among others:
 - ▣ Counselling in the scope of agricultural activity, agricultural household and additional income for farmers
 - ▣ Raising qualifications of people employed in agriculture
 - ▣ Preparing analyses, assessments, opinion and conclusions concerning agricultural production and market and presenting them to the government and local self-government
 - ▣ Applying to government administration bodies in the voivodship and to local self-government bodies with initiatives in the scope of legal regulations concerning agriculture rural areas and agricultural markets development and giving opinions on drafts of these regulations
 - ▣ Analysing cost and profitability of agricultural production
 - ▣ Taking actions in aid of development of agriculture and farm infrastructure and improvement of the agrarian structure



Polish Family Farms

- According to Article 23 of the Polish Constitution of 1997, the family farm is the basis of the Polish agricultural system.
- Pursuant to Article 5 of the Act of 11 April 2003 on the Agricultural System, the family farm means the agricultural farm:
 - 1) which is run by an individual farmer, and
 - 2) whose total surface area of agricultural lands does not exceed 300 ha.
 - An individual farmer, mentioned in the definition of the family farm, is a natural person who is an owner, a perpetual lessee, an autonomous possessor or a lessee of agricultural property whose total surface area of agricultural lands does not exceed 300 ha, having agricultural qualifications and residing for at least 5 years in the commune where one of the agricultural properties included in the agricultural farm is located, and running the farm in person



Polish Family Farms

- The leading role in the ownership structure of Polish agriculture is played by private family farms. Their shares are the highest - exceeding 90% of agricultural land - in central, southern and eastern Poland.
- In 2018, over 1.4 million farms used 14.7 million ha of agricultural land and reared 9.8 million of livestock units LSU.
- Still, in the structure of farms, more than a half (53.3%) were the smallest farms, ie. up to 5 ha of agricultural land. The percentage of the largest farms, with an area of 50 ha and more, was only 2.4%.
- The average area of agricultural land on the farm has been maintained for several years at the level of about 10 ha (in 2018 it amounted to 10.3 ha).



Thank you for your attention

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