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AGRICULTURE IN POLAND

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General information about Poland

- **location - centre of Europe**
- **total area - 312 700 km²**
- **population - 38,2 million**
- **7,9 % of the total area EU-25 and its inhabitants
constitute 8,5 % of the EU population**
- **large diversification of regional natural
conditions**

Poland

- the potential of Polish agriculture is significant, although the soil-climatic conditions are unfavourable, as compared to most of the European countries
- share of agriculture, forestry and hunting in the Gross Domestic Product - 2,9%
- utilised agricultural area (UAA) in Poland is 18 500 000 ha, which ranks the country as the 3rd in the UE after France and Spain
- the average size of an individual agricultural holding is 7,5 ha of UAA with significant regional differentiation.

Fig. 1. Units of territorial division in Poland in 2004.

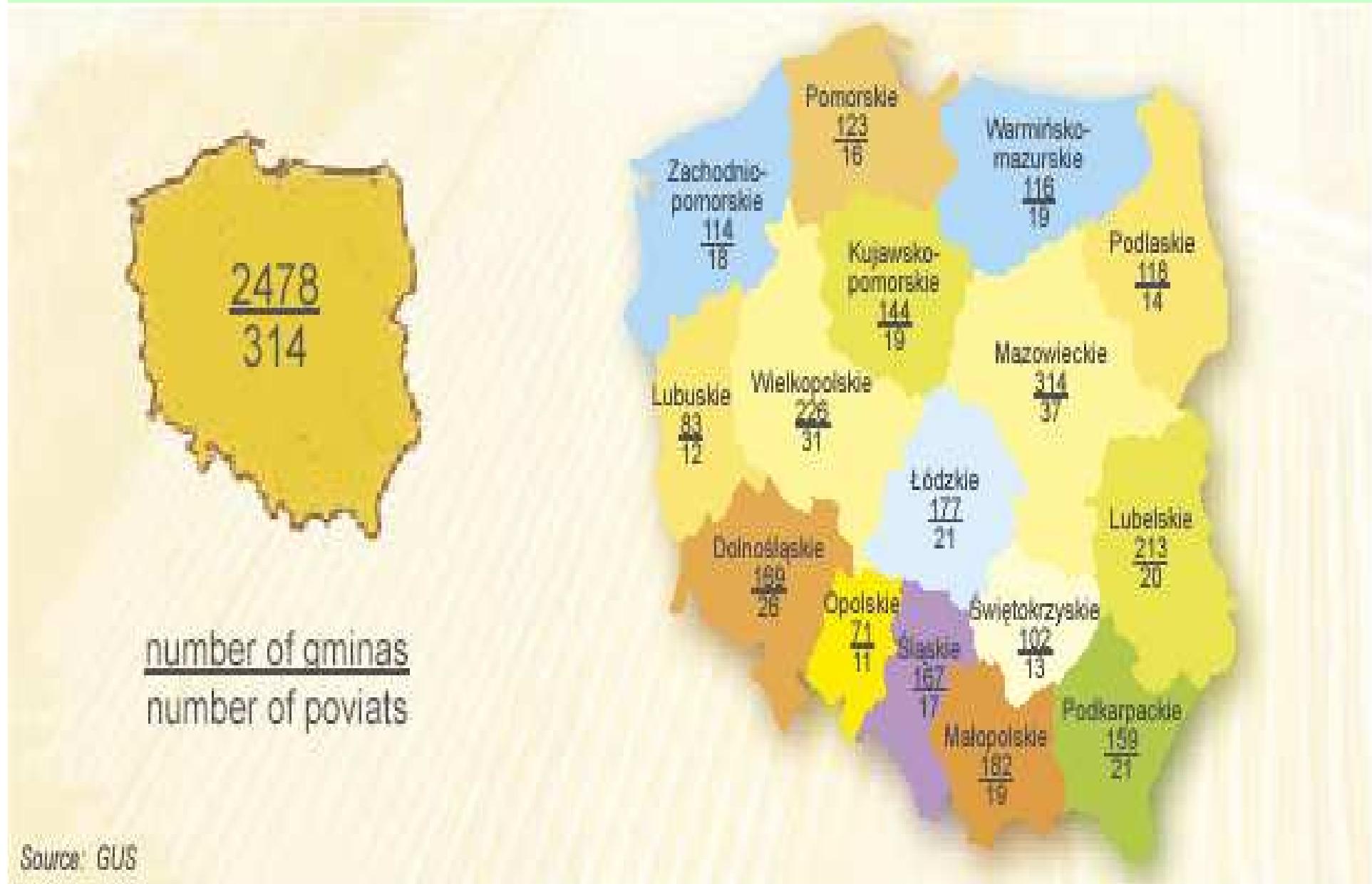


Fig. 2. Structure of utilised agricultural area (UAA) in 1995 and 2004 (%)

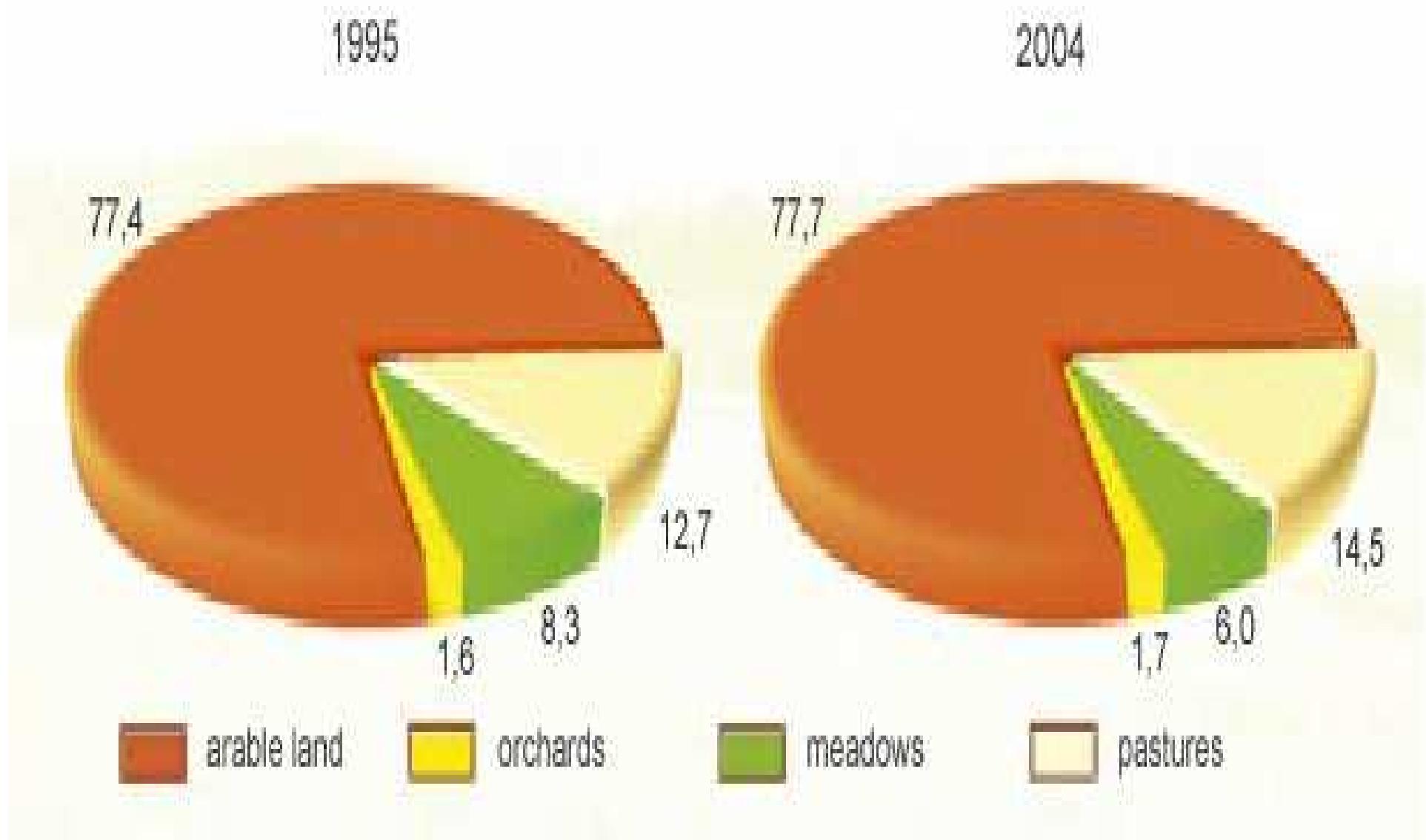


Fig. 3. Structure of individual farms according to UAA size in 1995 and 2004

Total number of farms with UAA (ha)

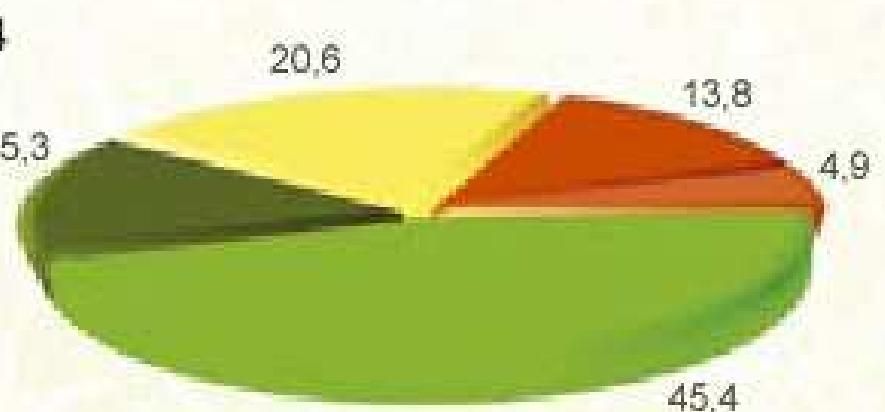
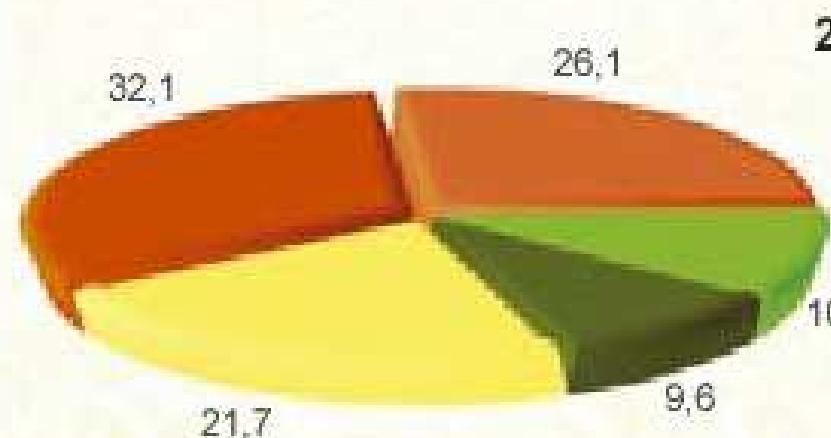
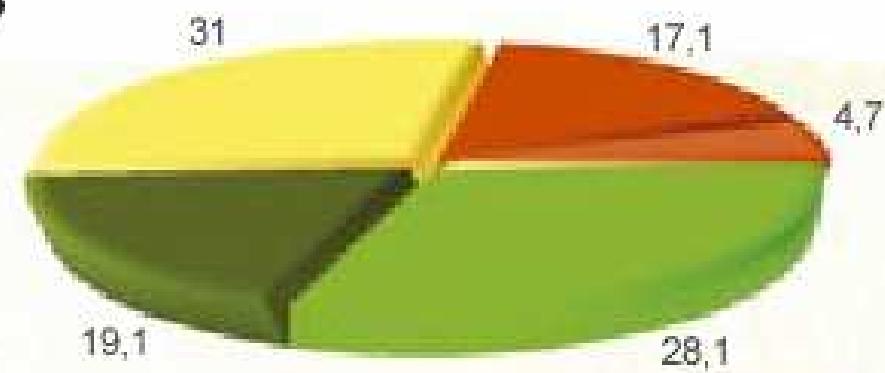
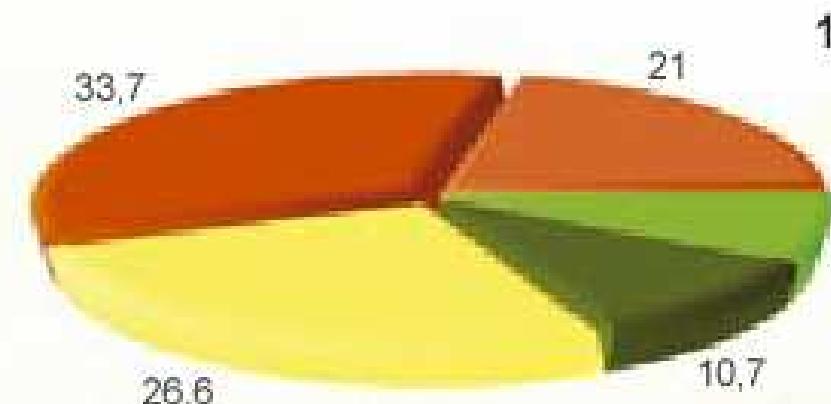
1995 - 2047,6

2004 - 1 851,8

UAA size on farms

1995 - 13819,9

2004 - 13 930,4



1-2 ha

2-5 ha

5-10 ha

10-15 ha

15 and more

Fig. 4. Structure of total agricultural production in 2004 (%)

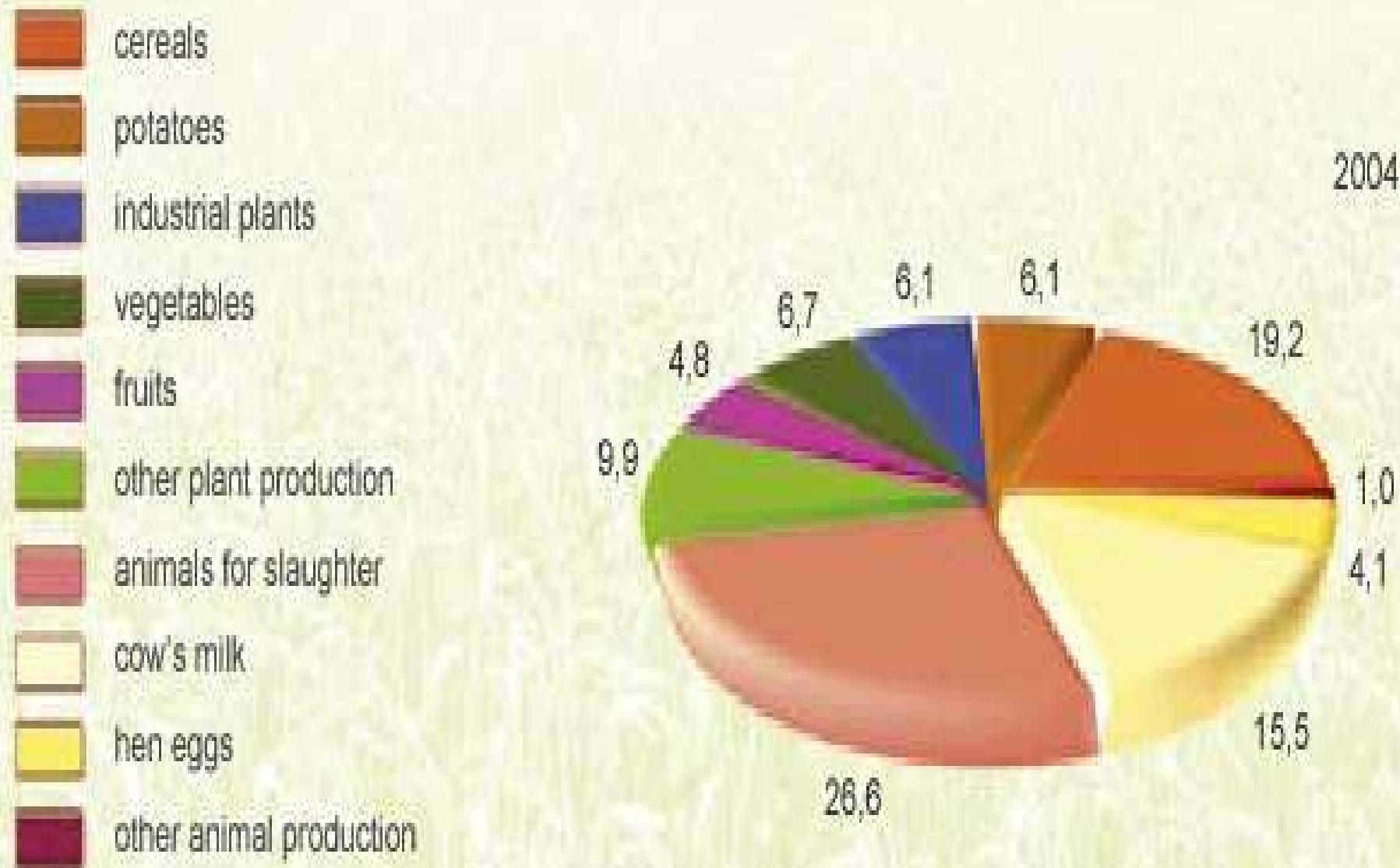


Fig.5. Structure of individual crops in 1995 and 2004 (%)

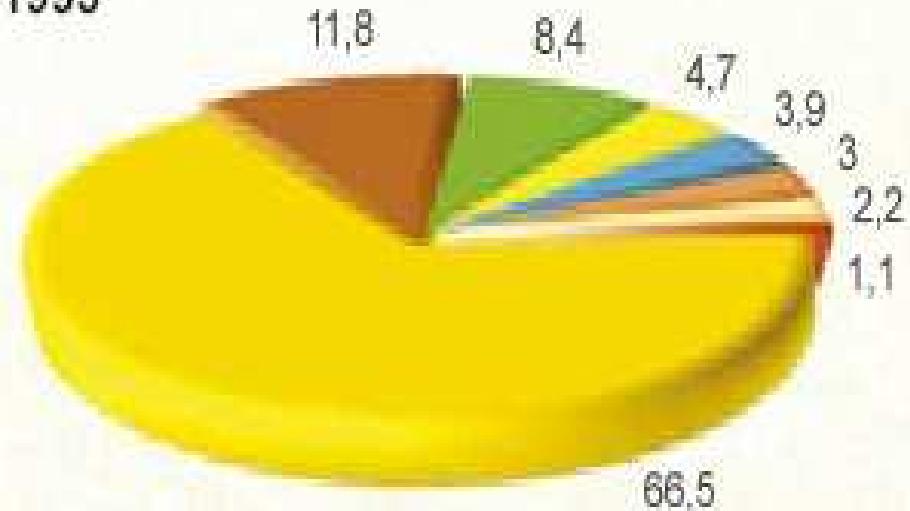
Area sown ('000 ha)

1995 - 12 892

2004 - 11 285

-  total areas
-  pulses for grain
-  potatoes
-  sugar beets
-  oilseed crops (rapeseed, agrimony)
-  fodder crops
-  field vegetables
-  other

1995



2004



Table 1. Yields of major crops in 2000-2004

Type of crops	2000	2001	2003	2004
Total cereals	30,6	32,4	28,7	35,4
Total wheat	30,6	38,5	34,0	42,8
Rye	24,3	24,6	21,4	27,6
Total barley	31,1	32,1	27,9	35,2
Oats	24,6	24,6	22,4	27,5
Total triticale	32,2	32,3	28,5	35,2
Potatoes	162,0	193,0	179,0	196
Rapeseed	24,0	21,6	18,6	30,3
Sugar beets	358,0	443,0	410,0	427,0

Table 2. Share and position of agriculture in the world and in Europe (%)

Specification	Share		Position	
	in the world	in Europe	in the world	in Europe
Yields				
wheat	1,4	5,1	15	5
rye	21,6	24,6	2	2
potatoes	4,3	10,4	6	3
sugar beets	5	7,2	7	5
Production				
cattle	0,4	4,3	4	9
pigs	2	9,5	7	3
meat	1,3	6,4	14	6
milk	2,3	5,6	11	6

**Table 3. Production of major animal products
in 1990-2004**

Type of production	Unit	1990	2002	2004
Slaughter animals	‘000 t	4493	4369	4560
- pigs	‘000 t	2341	2601	2538
- cattle	‘000 t	1428	523	611
- calves	‘000 t	105	76	53
- poultry	‘000 t	474	1134	1309
- horses	‘000 t	37	30	32
- sheep	‘000 t	96	5	5
Milk	million l	15371	11527	11477
Eggs	million un	7597	8925	9250
Wool	T	14783	1317	990

**Table 4. Livestock numbers – situation in June
2004 (thousand head of animals)**

Specification	1990	1995	2000 ¹⁾	2003 ¹⁾	2004 ¹⁾	2004 ¹⁾ /1990 =100
Cattle	10049	7306	6083	5489	5353	53,3
of which cows	4919	3579	3098	2897	2796	56,8
Pigs	19464	20418	17122	18605	16988	87,3
of which sows	1837	1875	1577	1782	1659	90,3
Sheep	4159	713	362	362	318	7,6
of which ewes	2564	450	223	223	200	7,8
Horses	941	636	550	333	321	34,1

Table 5. Agricultural farms according to ownership in 2004 [%] (Lower Silesia)

Specification	Number of farms	UAA
Private sector in which:	99,9	90,7
individual farms	99,7	86,9
Public sector	0,1	9,3
Total	100,0	100,0

Typical Farm

- **PL1270SW – Lower Silesia Region**
- **Grain farm**
- **Land lease from the State and own land**
- **Conventional tillage**
- **Share of cereals – 80%, oilseeds - 20%**
- **Overcoast fertilizer spreading**
- **Farmers look for another source of income**