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**Agricultural and Food**  
**Quality Inspection**

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Mojmirovce 2006

# POLAND - the heart of Europe



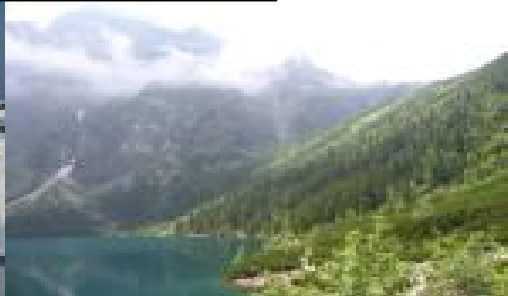


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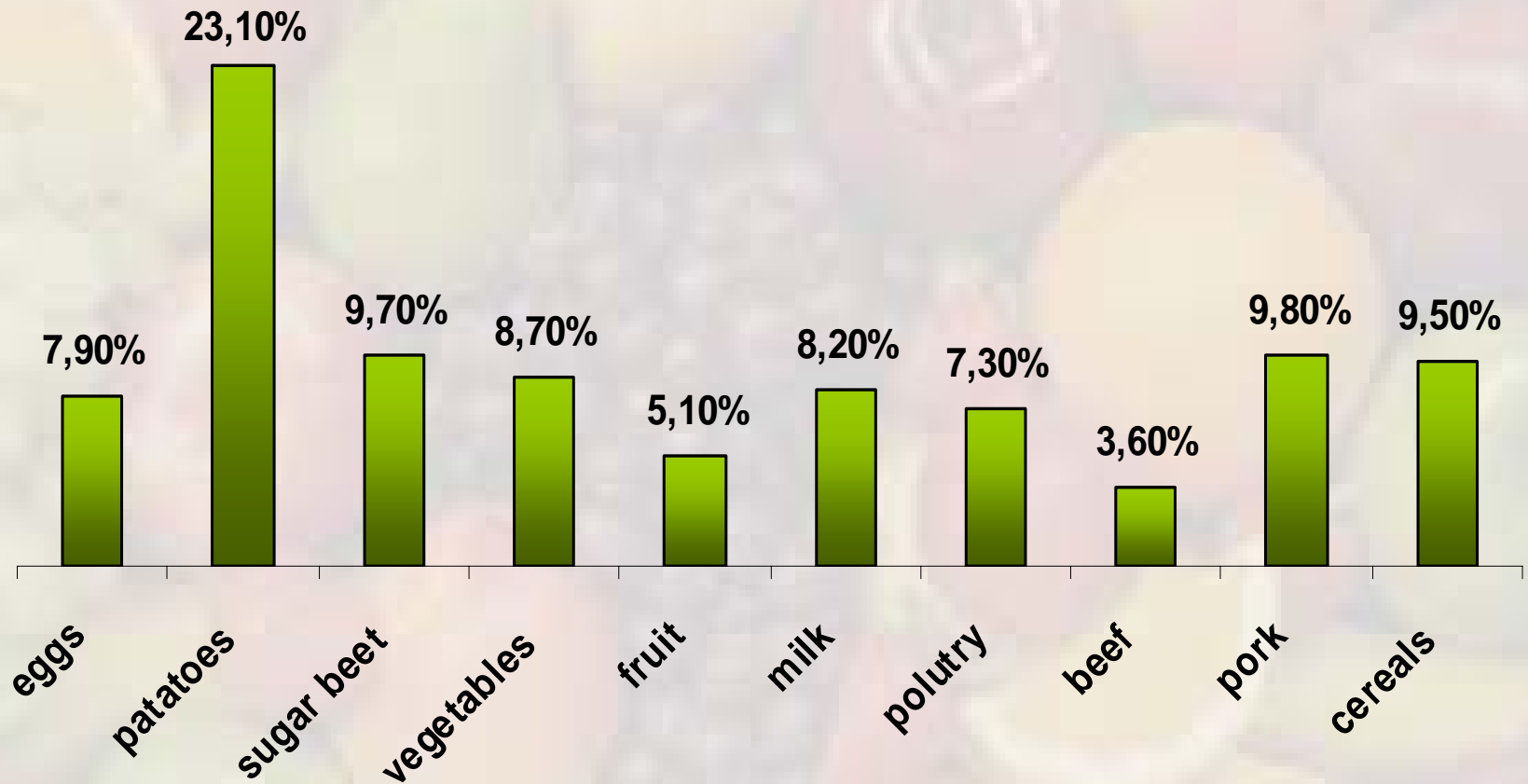




- 40 mln people
- 322 577 km<sup>2</sup>
- 16 Voivodeships

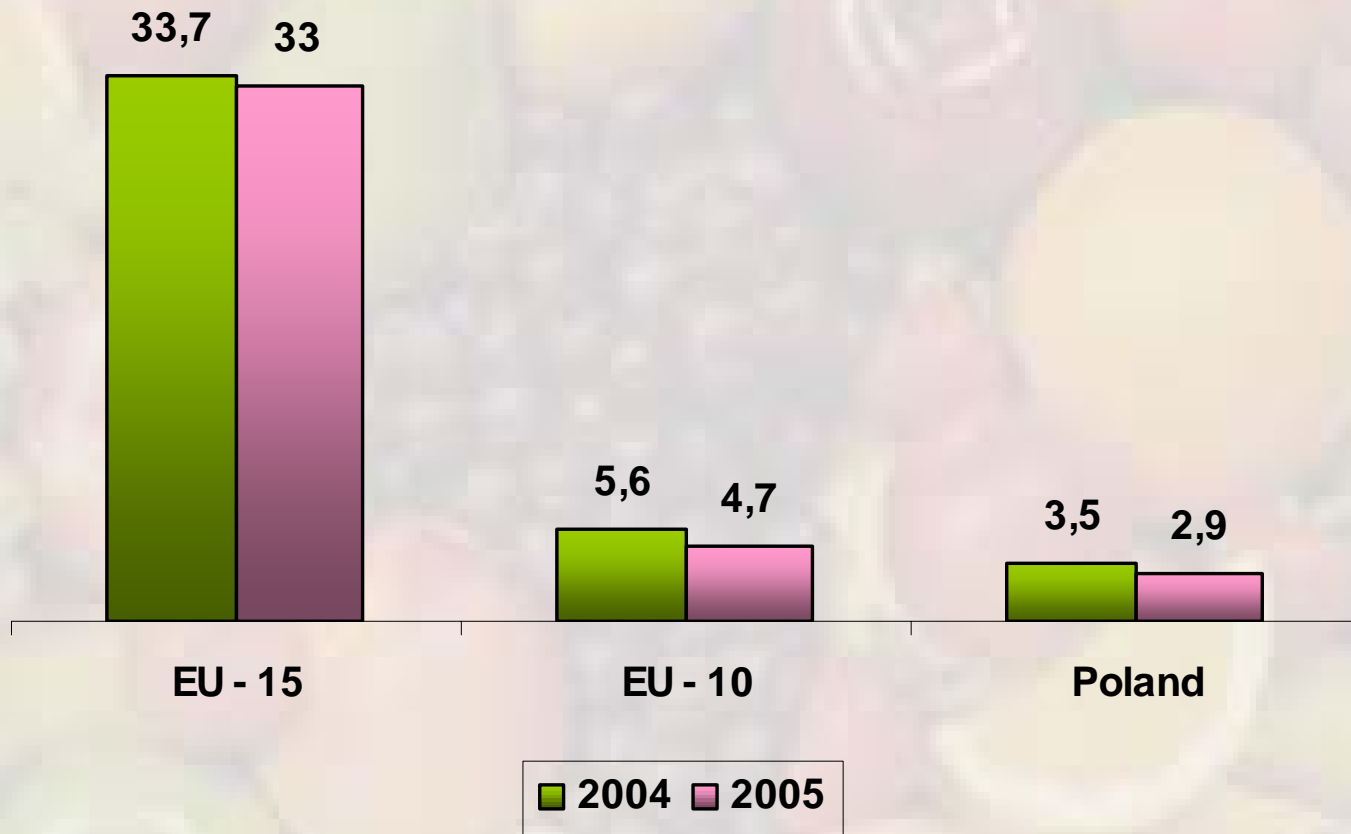


## Poland's share in agricultural production of the EU (25 countries)



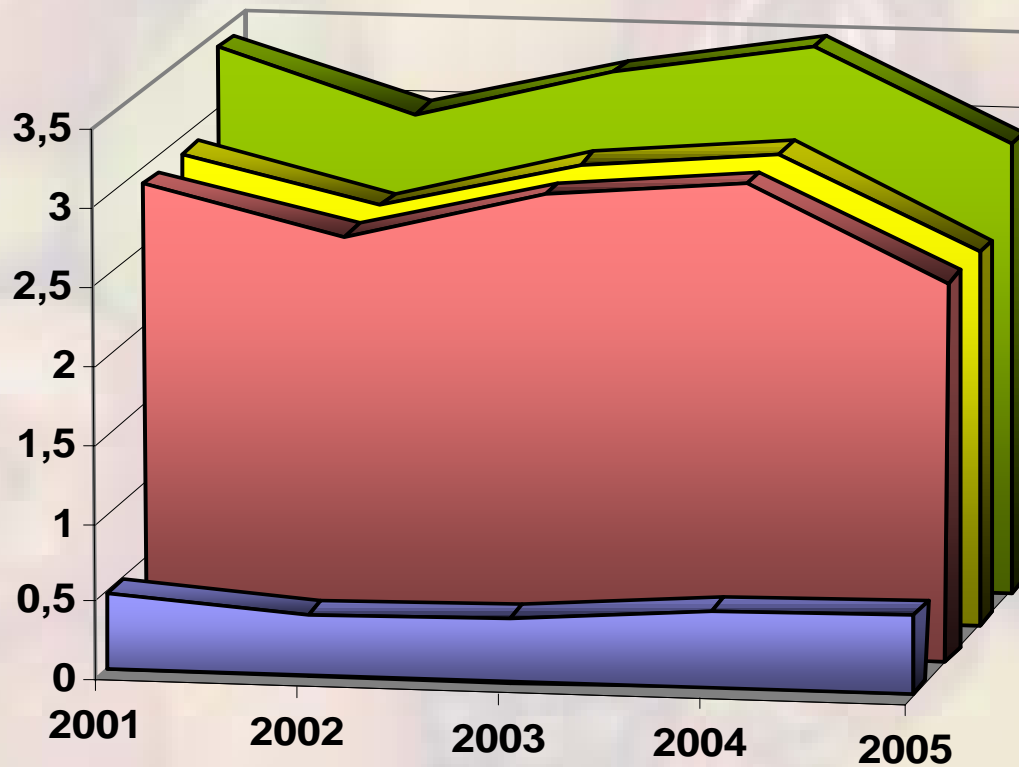
*Source: Based on GUS date*

## Fruit production in the EU (in mln tons)



*Source: Based on GUS date*

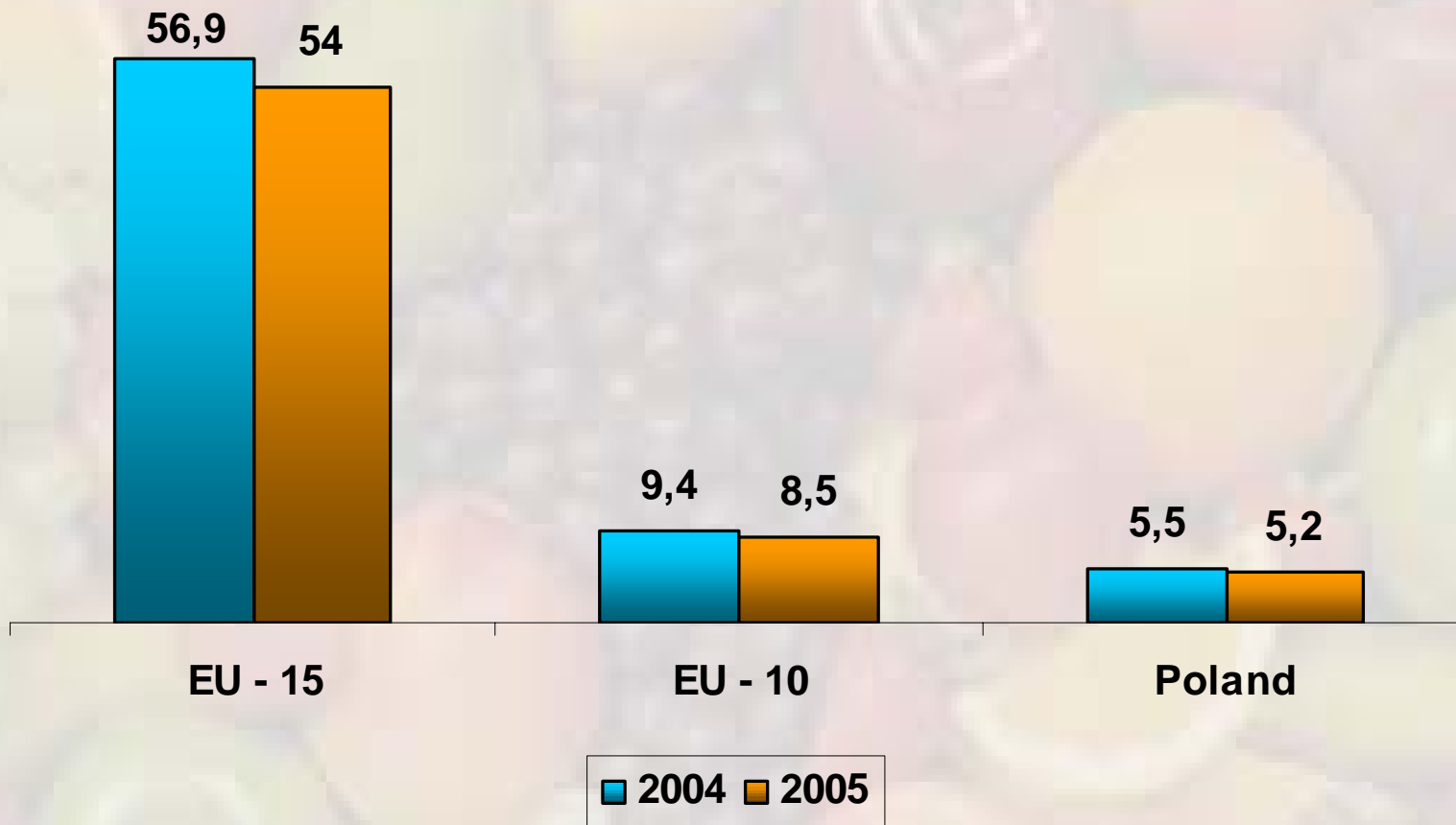
## Fruit production in Poland (in mln tons)



■ berry fruit ■ apples ■ fruit from trees ■ all fruit

*Source: Based on GUS date*

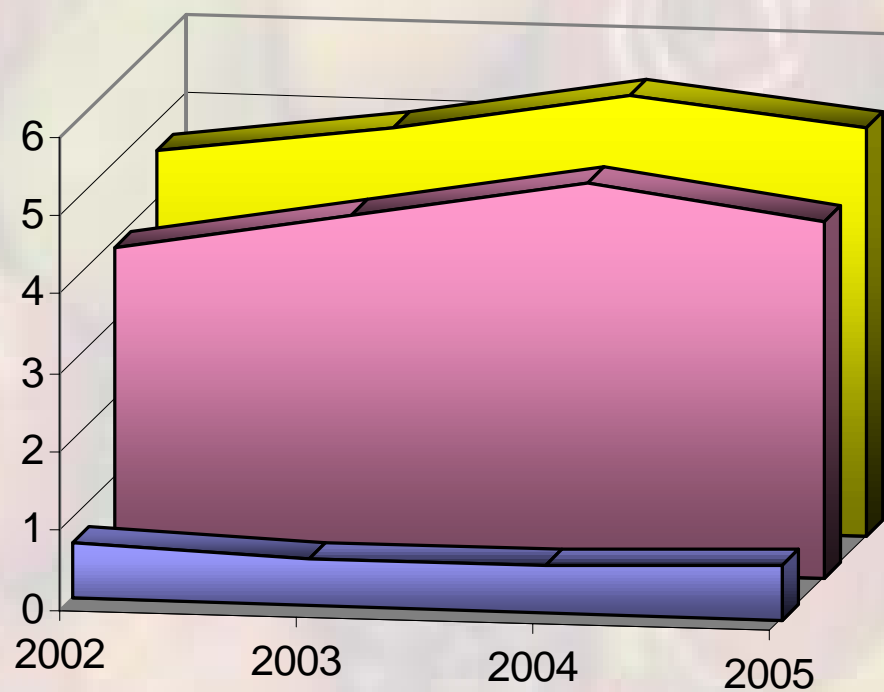
## Vegetables production in the EU (in mln tons)



*Source: Based on GUS date*



## Vegetables production in Poland (in mln tons)



■ greenhouse growing ■ soil growing ■ all vegetables

*Source: Based on GUS date*



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# **Agricultural and Food** **Quality Inspection**

**General Information**



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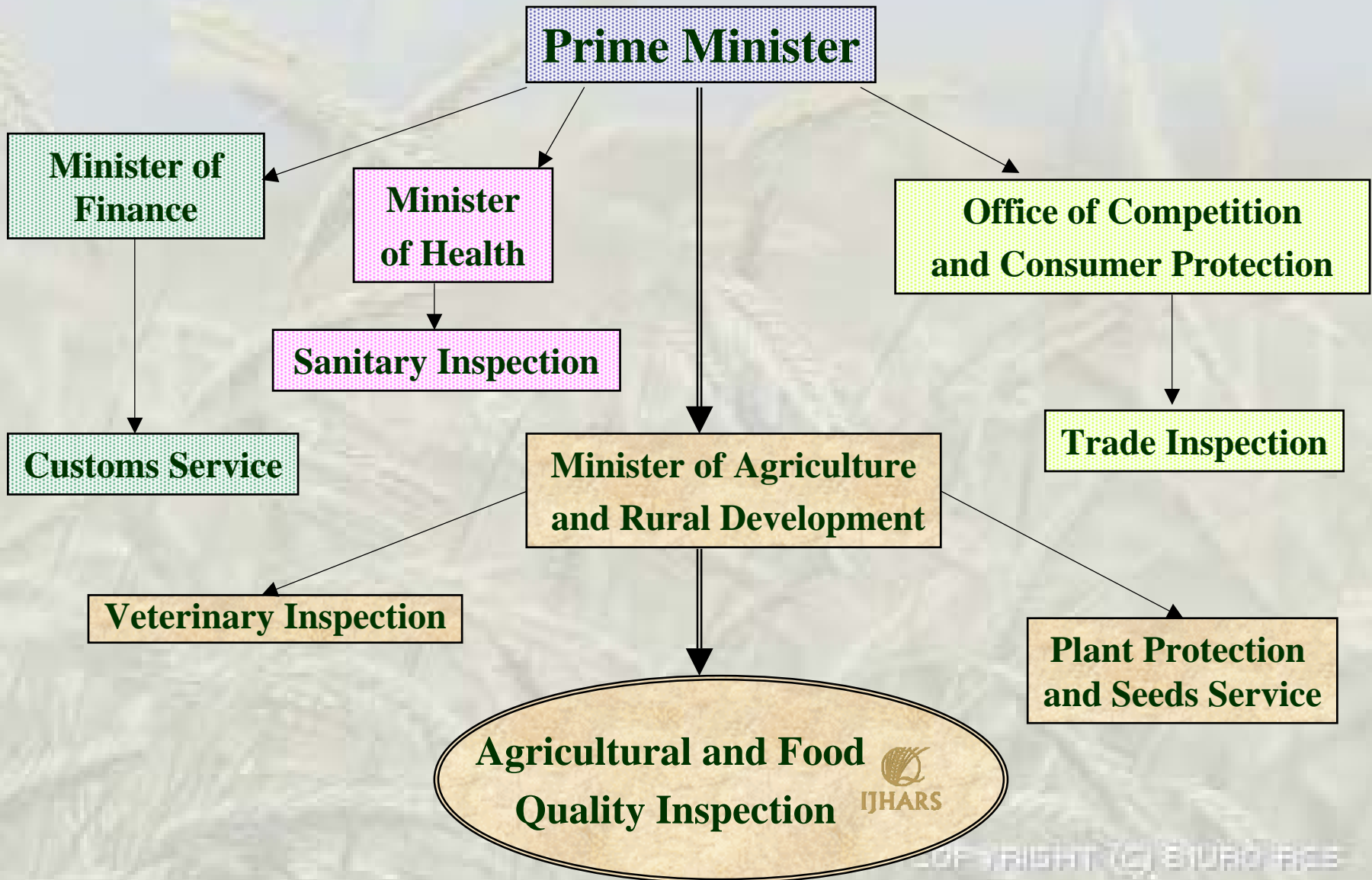
## Legal basis

**The Act of 21 December 2000  
on the commercial quality  
of agricultural and food products**

(Official Journal of 2001 No. 5, item 44, with amendments)

**The Act came into force on 1 January 2003.**

# Food inspection service in Poland





## **Commercial quality**

### **Commercial quality**

means characteristics of agricultural and food product related to its organoleptic, physical-chemical and microbiological properties in scope of production technology, size and mass as well as requirements arising from production method, packaging, presentation and labelling, not covered by hygiene, veterinary or phytosanitary requirements



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## Legal basis

### **The provisions of the basic Act are not applicable to:**

- agricultural and food products manufactured for own use
- propagating material of agricultural, horticultural and herbal plants in the meaning of the provisions on seed production
- sale of agricultural and food products by the producers in agricultural holding directly to consumers
- health, hygiene, veterinary and phytosanitary requirements related to agricultural and food products specified in separate provisions
- fruit and vegetables for which separate EC provisions are set up



## **Tasks and Activities of the Inspection**

**Supervision of commercial quality of agricultural and food products,**  
**in particular:**

- **commercial quality control of agricultural and food products during production and marketing**, including exported agricultural and food products
- **commercial quality control of imported agricultural and food products** (the list of imported agricultural and food products and their minimum quantities subjected to commercial quality control is set by the Regulation of Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development)
- **issuing certificates on commercial quality of agricultural and food products** (after the commission of producer/operator)



## **Tasks and Activities of the Inspection**

- **Inspection of agricultural and food products labelled**, on the basis of other provisions, with registered protected geographical indications, protected designations of origin or certificates of specific character
- **Inspection of agricultural and food products storage and transport conditions**
- **Co-operation with paying agencies** (Agricultural Market Agency, Agency for Restructuring and Modernisation of Agriculture)





## **Tasks and Activities of the Inspection**

- **Conducting training** in the scope of provisions and commercial quality requirements, setting quality classes and methods of analyses of agricultural and food products
- **Co-operation with foreign official inspection units** on commercial quality of agricultural and food products
- **Performing tasks specified in other provisions**



## **Tasks and Activities of the Inspection**

- **Co-operation with other inspections bodies** (Veterinary Inspection, Sanitary Inspection, Plant Protection and Seeds Service), customs offices and local government units
  
- **Co-operation with or participation in international organizations** working in the area of commercial quality of agricultural and food products and international turnover of the products:
  - **FAO/WHO Codex Alimentarius Commission**
  - **United Nations Economic Commission for Europe**
  - **Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development**

## **Tasks and Activities of the Inspection**

**Additionally Inspection has competences for carrying out controls in the following scopes:**

- **fruit and vegetables market**
- hop market
- organic farming
- wine and wine products
- genetically modified organisms (GMO)
- fertilizers and fertilization
- store houses, surplus stocks of agricultural products

# Organisational Structure of the Inspection

- Inspection is managed by: **the Chief Inspector of Agricultural and Food Quality**, his Deputy and 16 Voivodeship Inspectors of Agricultural and Food Quality
- **The Chief Inspector** coordinates and supervises all activities of the Inspection with the support of the **Main Inspectorate**. It is realised by elaborating annual and quarterly control plans and transmitting them to the Voivodeship Inspectors for implementation and enforcement
- **The Voivodeship Inspectorates** elaborate information about conducted controls and send it to the Main Inspectorate where the summary report is prepared. This uniform report is transmitted to the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and other official interested parties

# The Voivodeship Inspectorates





## Laboratories of the Inspection

- Analyses of agricultural and food products are conducted in **official Inspections' laboratories** – Central Laboratory and specialised laboratories at the national level in the structure of the Main Inspectorate and laboratories in the structure of the Voivodeship Inspectorates
- Methods of analyses used by our laboratories comply with the EU methods. Determination of methods of analyses and sampling methods in legal acts which are in force, assures that control procedures in each body of the Inspection are uniformed

12/01/2005



# Laboratories of the Inspection

- At present five Inspection's laboratories **are accredited** by PCA (Polish Centre for Accreditation) **according to PN-EN ISO/IEC 17025**. The accreditation scope covers selected analytical, instrumental and microbiological methods related to certain groups of products such as: milk and milk products, juices and their concentrates, beer, cereals and cereal products, oils and vegetable fats, vegetable products, drinks and mineral waters
- **Two laboratories in Poznan and Gdynia** are also accredited, as the only Polish laboratories working in the area of official food control, by official bodies of **the Russian Federation - Gosstandart and Gossanepidnadzor**. The accredited methods comprise a large part of the analyses on foodstuffs

12/01/2005

## Control Proceedings

In case when agricultural and food products do not meet the requirements specified in the Act, the Voivodeship Inspector of Agricultural and Food Quality, in scope of his competence, may decide, in way of administrative decision, about the following actions:

- order to **re-classify** or to subject product to other specified treatments
- order to **withdraw** product from the market
- order to **destroy** product on expense of its owner
- **prohibit** to store product in inappropriate conditions or to transport product in inappropriate means of transport

**These decisions have the warrant of spot execution**



## **Control Proceedings**

**In case when the activity of the operator producing or placing on the market agricultural and food products not complying with requirements specified in the Act, the Voivodeship Inspector of the Agricultural and Food Quality Inspection, in scope of his competence, may:**

- **request to eliminate the inconformities during specified period**
- **cessation of the activity until eliminating the inconformities**



## **Border Control**

- **The Voivodeship Inspector** of the Agricultural and Food Quality Inspection **conducts border control** of agricultural and food products entering the Polish custom area
- When products do not meet the requirements, **the Voivodeship Inspector forbids** in a way of administrative decision entering a consignment the Polish custom area

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**Operator/producer has a right to appeal.**  
**Appeals against the decisions issued by the Voivodeship Inspector of Agricultural and Food Quality are considered by the Chief Inspector of Agricultural and Food Quality**



# Quality Management System

**ISO 9001:2000** Quality Management System Certificate for the Inspection of Agricultural and Food Quality Inspection

The first certified Polish official food control body

Inspection QMS was certified by TÜV Rheinland Polska in May 2005





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**MARKETING STANDARDS**  
**CONTROL OF FRESH FRUIT**  
**AND VEGETABLES**

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**Agricultural And Food Quality Inspection**  
**is appointed to carry out checks on conformity**  
**on fresh fruit and vegetables market**  
**according to:**

- **the EU regulations**
- **Polish Act which implements the EU requirements**



**At the following market stages:**

- **Internal market**
- **Import**
- **Export**

# EUROPEAN UNION REQUIREMENTS



- The Council Regulation (EC) No **2200/96** of 28 October 1996 on the common organization of the market in fruit and vegetables
- The Commission Regulation (EC) No **1148/2001** of 12 June 2001 on checks on conformity to the marketing standards applicable to fresh fruit and vegetables

# NATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

The Act of 19 December 2003 on the organization of the market in fruit and vegetables, hop, tobacco, dry fodder plants

(Official Journal No 233, Item 2221 with amendments)





# THE SCOPE OF THE POLISH ACT

The Act specifies, among others, tasks and competences of Polish authorities in the organization of the market in fresh fruit and vegetables which are covered by the EU requirements

## THE CHIEF INSPECTOR TASKS

- **Coordination and supervision of all activities**
- **Setting up a database on traders in fruit and vegetables**
- **Working out the plan of checks on conformity of fresh fruit and vegetables**

## VOIVODESHIP INSPECTORS TASKS

- **Carring out commercial quality control of fresh fruit and vegetables**
- **Issuing and withdrawing the authorisation for the trader to use the specimen in the labelling of each package**
- **Carring out commercial quality control of fruit and vegetables which are not intended for sale**
- **Carring out quality and quantitative control of fruit and vegetables which are destined to compost or biodegradation**



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## TYPE OF MARKETING STANDARDS CONTROLS OF FRESH FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

### **Internal market:**

- Planned control
- Ad hoc control

### **Foregin trade:**

- The point of export
- The point of import





## **Planned controls of fresh fruit and vegetables**

are carried out once a quarter according to the control guidelines which are worked out in the Main Inspectorate and transmitted to the Voivodeshp Inspectorates. Seasonal supply is taken into consideration during setting each control.

Voivodeship Inspectorates carry out commercial quality control of fresh fruit and vegetables and elaborate information about conducted controls and send it to the Main Inspectorate where the summary report is prepared.





## **Ad hoc controls**

of fresh fruit and vegetables are performed in case of getting information about significant quantity of non-conformity with the standards on the market.

The rules of carrying out ad hoc controls are the same as planned controls

**Controls of fresh fruit and vegetables at the point of export and import**  
are performed continuously





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