

# The patchwork fields as a result of changes in agrarian structure in Poland after accession to the European Union

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# Structure of the presentation

1. Introduction - few words about farm structure
2. Material and methods
3. Use of agricultural land - patchwork of agricultural land
4. Conclusion

# What about farm structure in Poland ?

- about 1400 thousand farms over 1 ha
- over 700 thousand farms have less than 1 ha
- ~ 60% of farms (individual) have less than 5 hectares and they cultivate about 20% of total agricultural area
- intensive process of losing farms operating 1-2 hectares

# What about farm structure in Poland?

- only about 1083 thousand farms had an economical size of at least 1 ESU
- about 21% of the farms produce mainly for their own consumption
- the farms over 1 ESU employ 2,7 mln people
- an average there is about 0,48 ha of agricultural land per 1 citizen  
(for example in Benelux countries it is about 0,18 ha)
- the structure of farms demonstrates a great regional variety

## What about farm structure in Poland?

- ▶ **Polish accession to the EU changed conditions of the farms. Farmers started to use the system of subsidies which mobilized a large number of them to take a more active farming.**

# Material and methods

- ▶ The aim of the presentation is the process of agricultural changes in Poland in the decade of the integration (2004-2016)
- ▶ The paper is based on statistical (Central Statistical Office)
- ▶ It should be noted that from 2010 the Central Statistical Office (GUS ) applied the new definition of a farm according to which, farms do not include holders of agricultural land is not conducting agricultural activities and holders of up to 1 ha of agricultural land engaged in agricultural activities on a small scale. This results in significant changes in some values for these same years.

# Use of agricultural land 2004-2009 in ha

Years	Farmland and grassland	Meadows and grassland	Arable land	Fallow
2004	16 327 411	3 365 157	12 684 614	1 761 708
2005	15 905 965	3 387 502	12 084 719	1 062 010
2006	15 957 290	3 215 648	12 357 372	1 025 407
2007	16 177 081	3 271 236	11 748 025	440 939
2008	16 154 250	3 184 383	11 972 709	491 525
2009	16 119 584	3 179 687	11 997 844	528 248
Change year 2004=100	98,7	94,5	94,6	30,0

# Use of agricultural land 2010-2016 in ha

	Farmland and grassland	Meadows and grassland	Arable land	Fallow
2010	14 859 652	3 229 508	10 797 513	431 628
2011	15 133 932	3 290 975	11 044 398	468 403
2012	14 969 200	3 206 463	10 871 437	439 867
2013	14 609 161	3 206 312	10 759 573	446 537
2014	14 558 389	3 119 756	10 895 121	475 208
2015	14 545 270	3 092 834	10 887 021	134 068
2016	14 375 898	3 088 109	10 734 453	165 169
Change year 2010=100	96,74	95,62	99,42	38,27



## Total number of farms


Territorial unit	2000	2010	change 2000=100	2010	2013	change 2010=100
Poland	2859196	2277613	79,7	1509148	1429006	94,7
Central Region	550244	445625	81,0	359386	340468	94,7
Southern Region	594419	446803	75,2	218516	201855	92,4
Eastern Region	905176	764625	84,5	509539	480282	94,3
North Western Region	333069	253700	76,2	178364	173106	97,1
South Western Region	201608	152171	75,5	90271	86297	95,6
Northern Region	274680	214688	78,2	153072	146999	96,0

## The average size of an individual farm with an area exceeding 1 ha of agricultural land

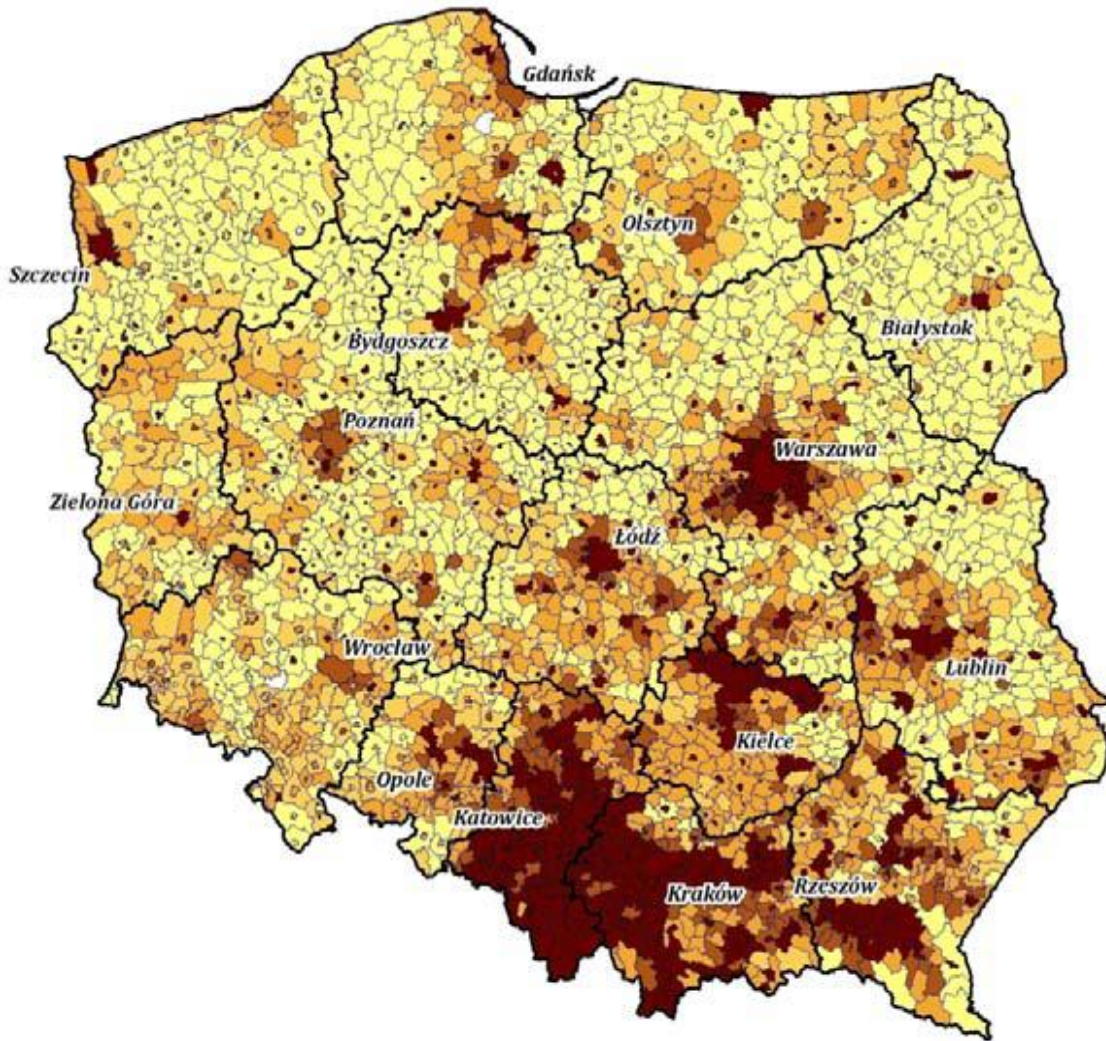
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2010	2011	2012	2013
Poland	7,4	7,5	7,6	7,7	7,8	7,8	8	8,6	8,9	8,4	9,3	9,5
Central Region	6,9	7,1	7,3	7,2	7,4	7,3	7,4	7,8	8	*	8,1	8,5
Suothern Region	3,5	3,5	3,5	3,6	3,7	3,7	3,8	4,1	4,4	*	4,3	4,6
Eastern Region	5,9	6,1	6,1	6,1	6,2	6,2	6,5	6,7	6,9	*	7,3	7,3
North Western Region	11,4	11,8	12,4	12,2	12,4	12,5	12,6	13,7	14	*	15,1	14,8
South Western Region	9,8	10,1	9,9	9,8	10,3	10	10,5	12,2	12,5	*	13,1	13,7
Northern Region	13,8	13,4	13,8	14,1	14,4	14,6	14,6	15,8	16,1	*	16,7	17,1

# Farms by the number of plots

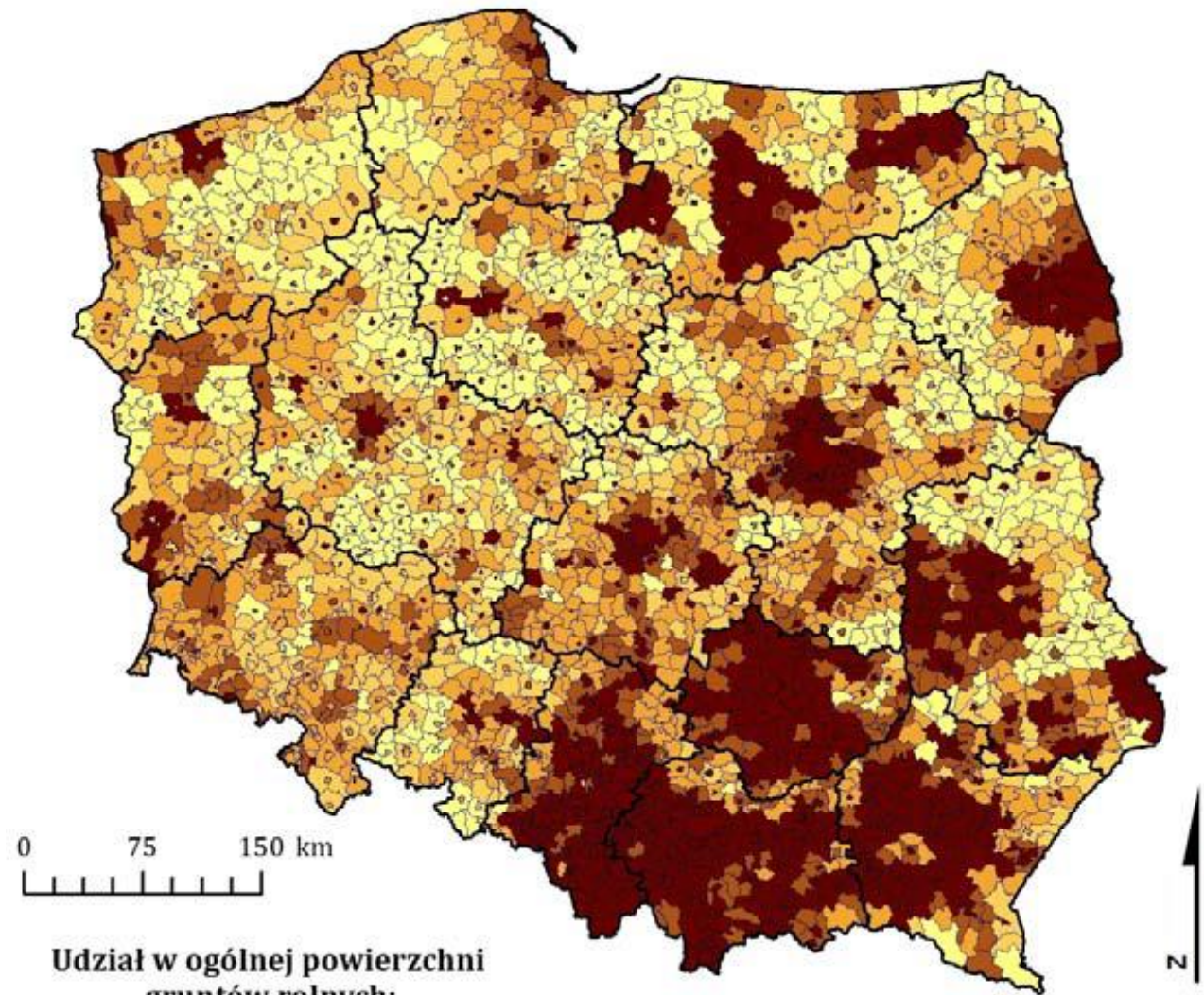
	Farms				
	2002		2010		Change 2002=100
	number	%	number	%	
<b>total</b>	<b>2916260</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>2264657</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>77,7</b>
<b>1 plot</b>	<b>1232676</b>	<b>42,3</b>	<b>684123</b>	<b>30,2</b>	<b>55,5</b>
<b>2-3</b>	<b>944333</b>	<b>32,4</b>	<b>678922</b>	<b>30,0</b>	<b>71,9</b>
<b>4-5</b>	<b>378672</b>	<b>13,0</b>	<b>365138</b>	<b>16,1</b>	<b>96,4</b>
<b>6-9</b>	<b>243226</b>	<b>8,3</b>	<b>308453</b>	<b>13,6</b>	<b>126,8</b>
<b>10 and more</b>	<b>117353</b>	<b>4,0</b>	<b>228021</b>	<b>10,1</b>	<b>194,3</b>



# Agricultural land not included in agricultural holdings in 2002 and 2012



Polska = 6,3%



0 75 150 km

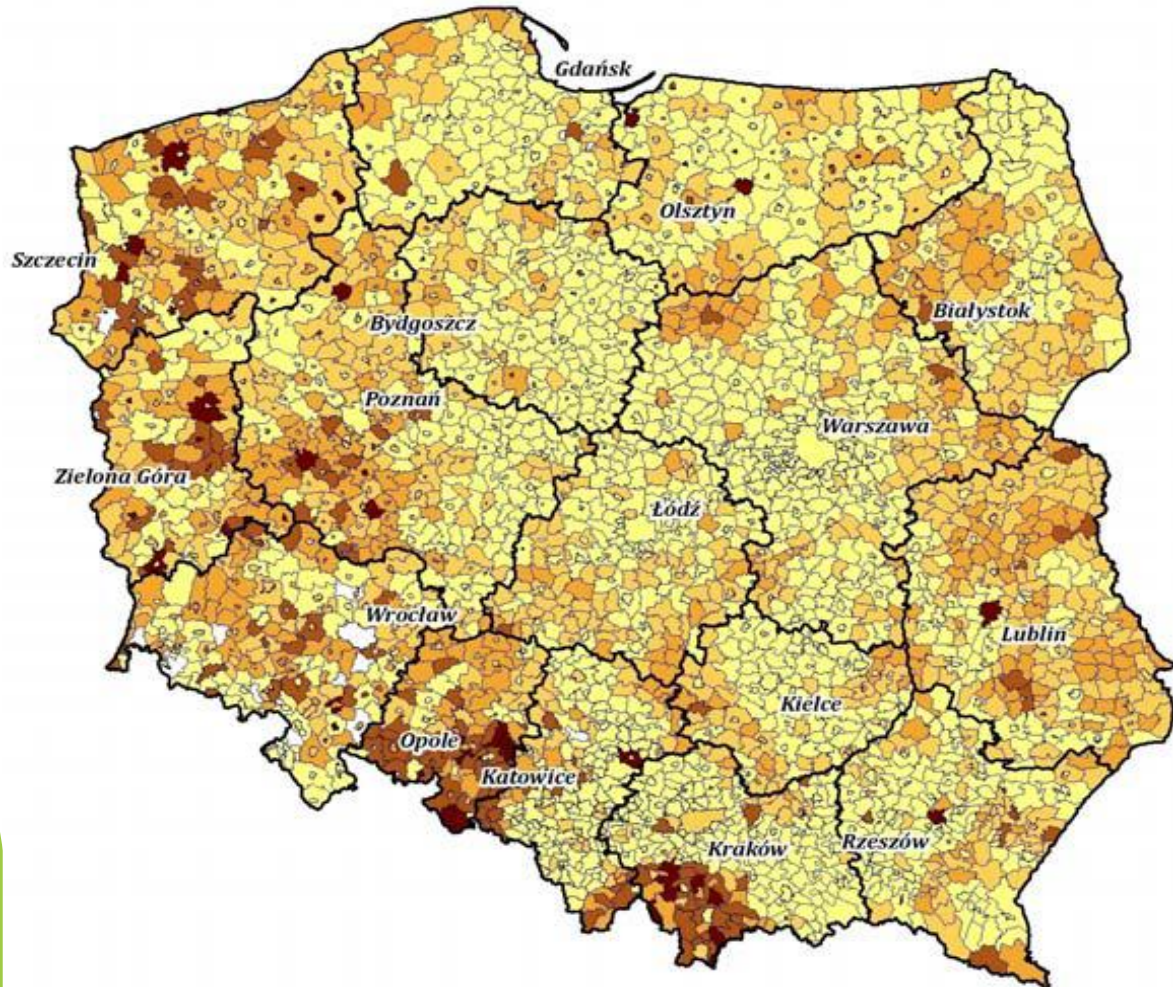
Udział w ogólnej powierzchni  
gruntów rolnych:



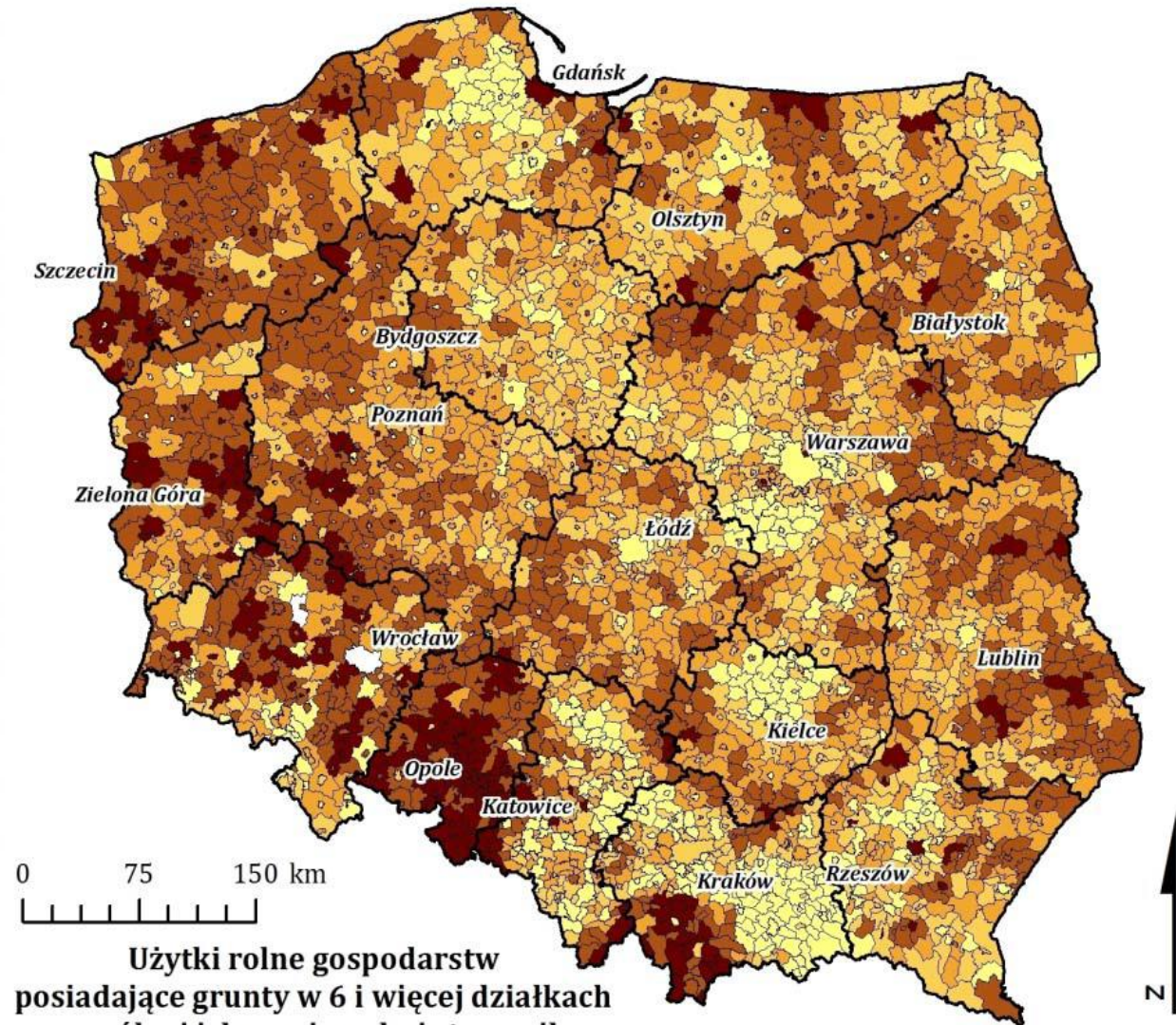
zjawisko nie występuje

Polska = 9,2%

# Farms with 6 or more plots in 2002 and 2010



Polska = 38,5%



0 75 150 km

Użytki rolne gospodarstw posiadające grunty w 6 i więcej działkach w ogólnej ich powierzchni stanowiły:

35 50 65 80 [%]



zjawisko nie występuje

Polska = 60,1%

# Conclusion

- ▶ In conclusion it should be noted that from agriculture are eliminated smallest farms. Strengthening at the same time a group of medium-area farms, which increase the status of their ownership.

# Conclusion

- ▶ **From the moment of accession to the EU, farm size increase from 7,4 ha of agricultural land to more than 10,5 ha**

# Conclusion

- ▶ **The results of this analysis by regions indicate a more competitive farms located in northern and western Poland. The lowest growth potential are characterized by a Polish farm from southern and eastern Europe.**



# Conclusions

- ▶ Farms divisions on numerous successors leads to the division of land into smaller plots
- ▶ Designation of agricultural land for recreational purposes, construction, especially in the south of Poland and areas of high recreational value

# Conclusion

- ▶ **The process of land concentration leads to an increase in the number of plots on which production is carried on.**

# Conclusion

**The land patchwork has two faces:**

- ▶ **It has a high dynamics in the areas of growing farms**
- ▶ **Has place in the areas of traditional farming**

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Thank you very much

