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ROLNICTWO BELGIJSKIE – CHARAKTERYSTYKA I PROBLEMY

AGRICULTURE IN BELGIUM: MAIN CHARACTERISTIC AND PROBLEMS

Belgian agriculture is mainly oriented towards animal productions (bovine meat, milk, pork, poultry) and, as a consequence, Belgium is a net importer of cereals and oilmeals. The farm business is a family one. Farm income is declining as well as the number of farms, though heavy investments are made. The increment in the size of the farms and more intensive use of inputs creates environmental problems, mainly about organic manure and nitrogen management. Environmental issues; food safety and animal welfare constraints are strict and discourage new farmers. Socially, the appreciation for farmers is declining. Finally, the question transpires: Is Belgian agriculture still sustainable?