



Influence of the New Member States on the Agricultural Sector – Case of Poland

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Outline of Presentation

- Particularity of farm sector in Poland
- Fears before accession
 - In EU
 - In Poland
- Main issues in the accession negotiations
- Preparation for accession
- Experience from first 6 months after accession

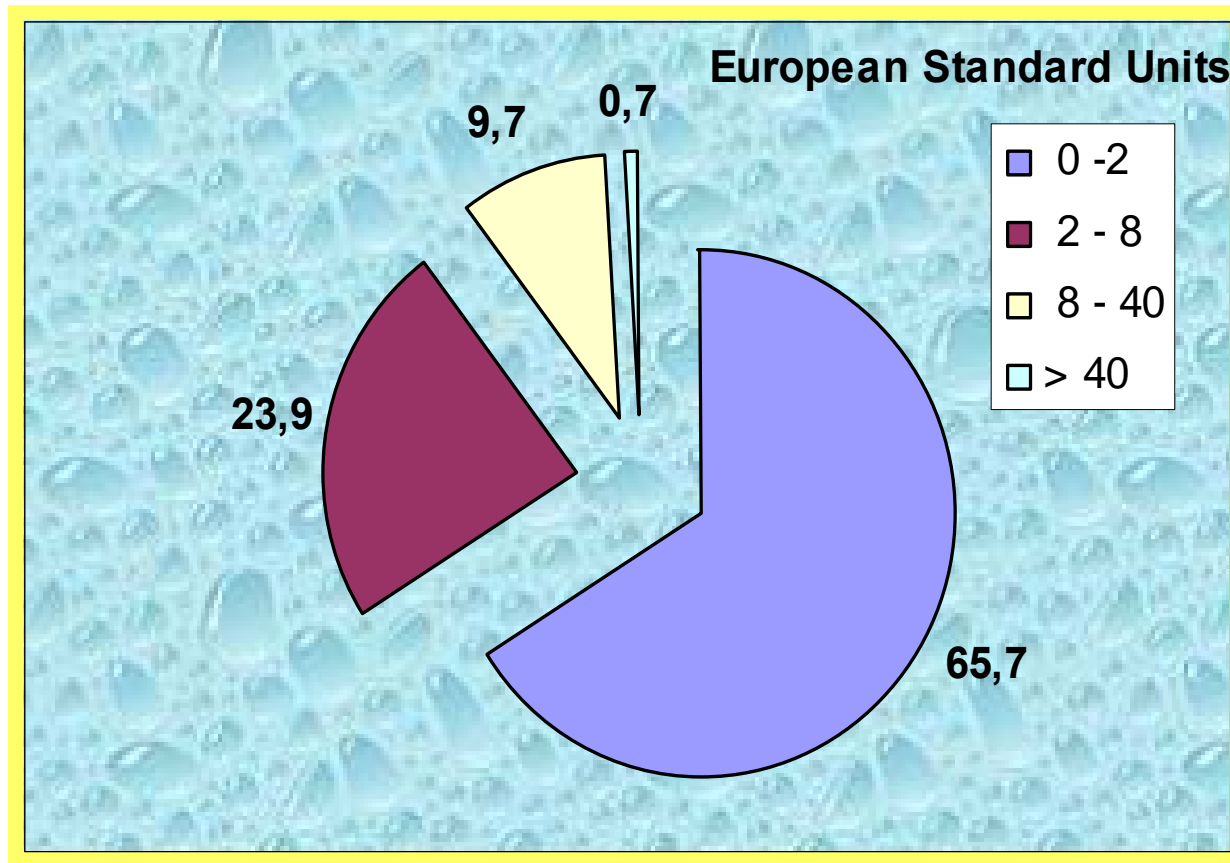
Polish agriculture is unique in Europe

- **has not undergone mechanization and the massive use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides**
- **symbiosis with nature**
- **uses less chemical fertilizer and pesticides**
- **production methods are extremely labour intensive.**

Weakness of Poland's agriculture

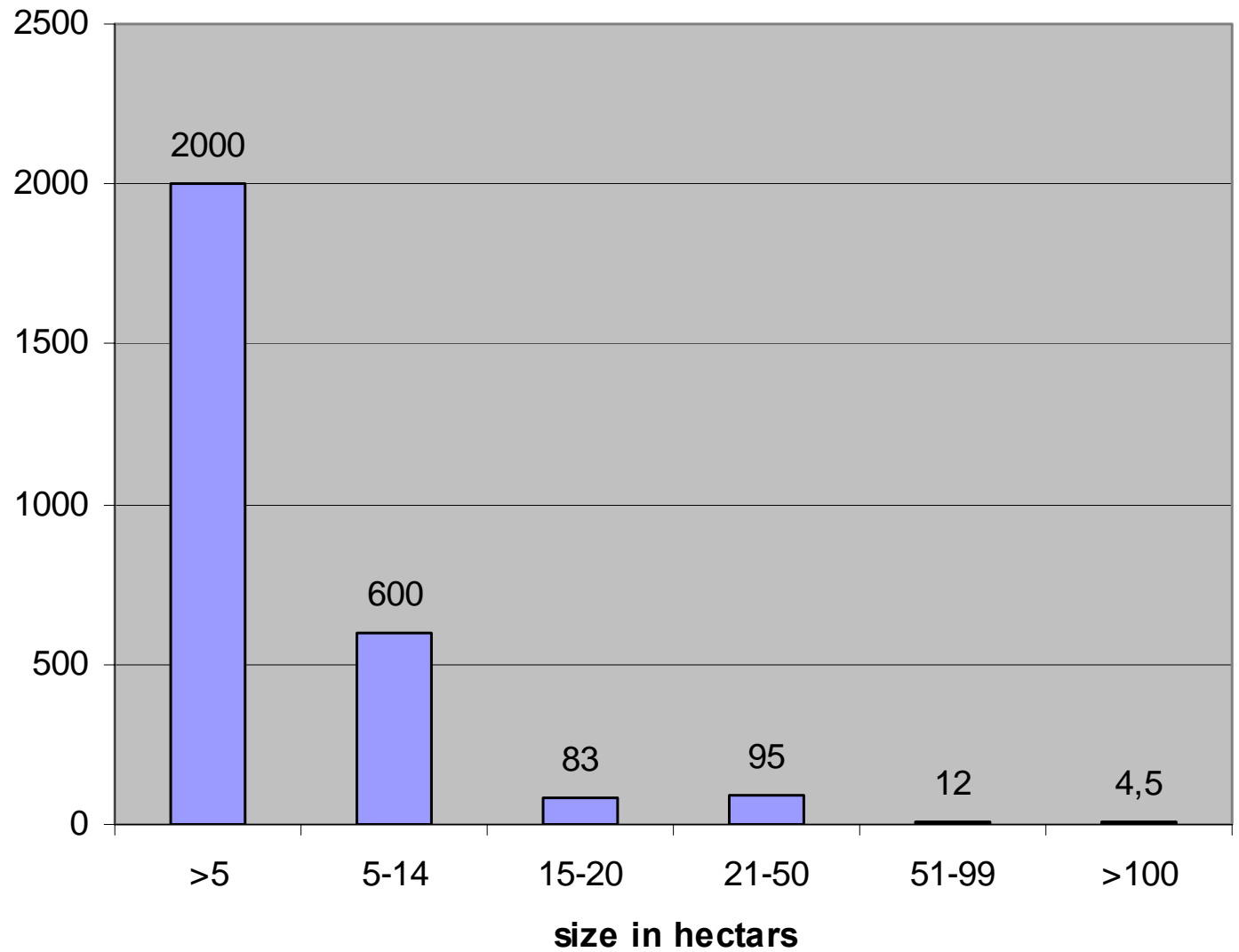
- 54 percent of Poland's 1,8 million farms are under 5 hectares**
- Poland's conservative peasants resisted to the Communist push towards collectivized agriculture**
- Only half of Poland's farms sell food they have produced**
- The greatest barrier Polish farms face is the low quality of the infrastructure**

Farms are small

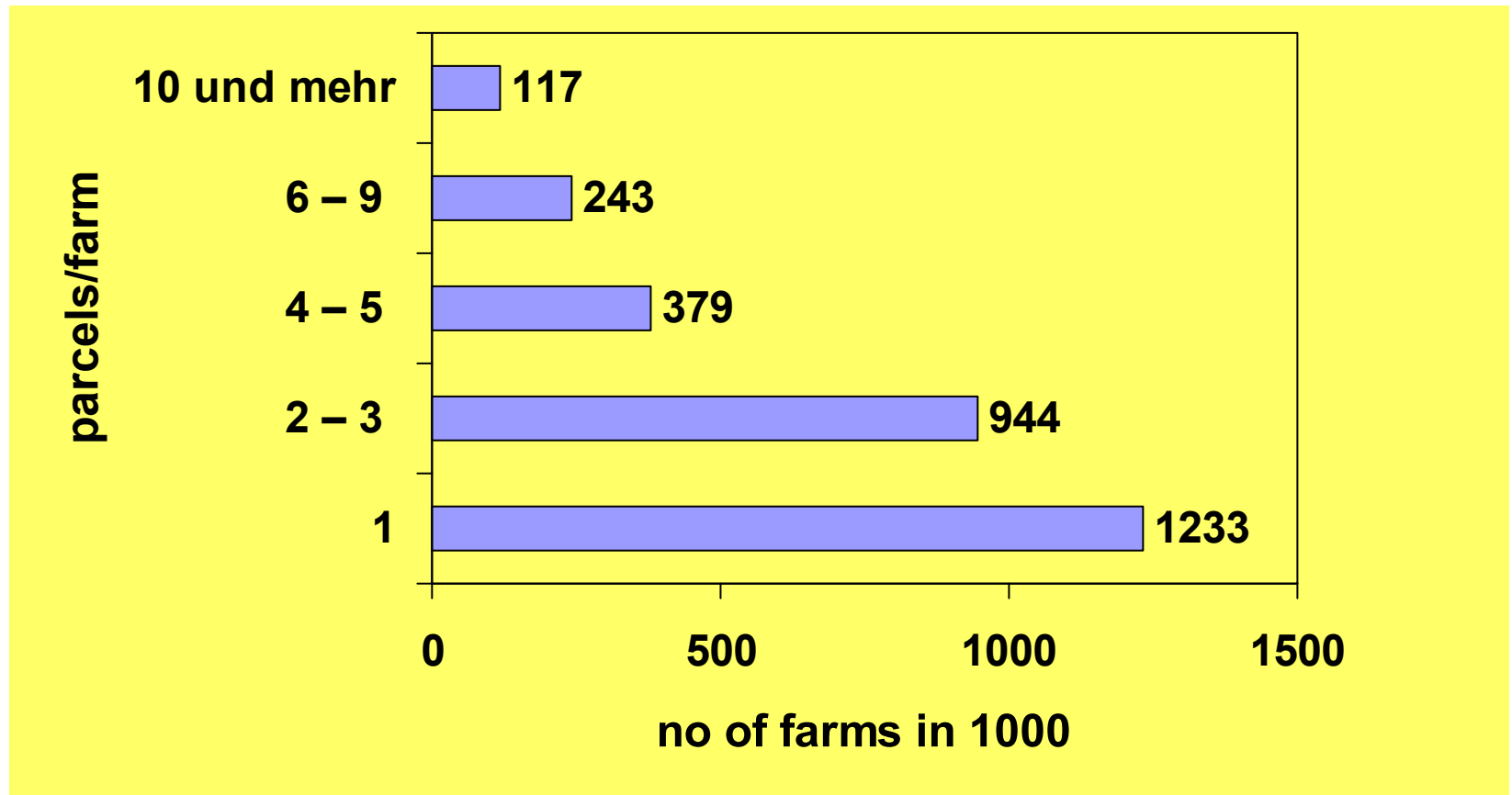


Share in the total number of farms %

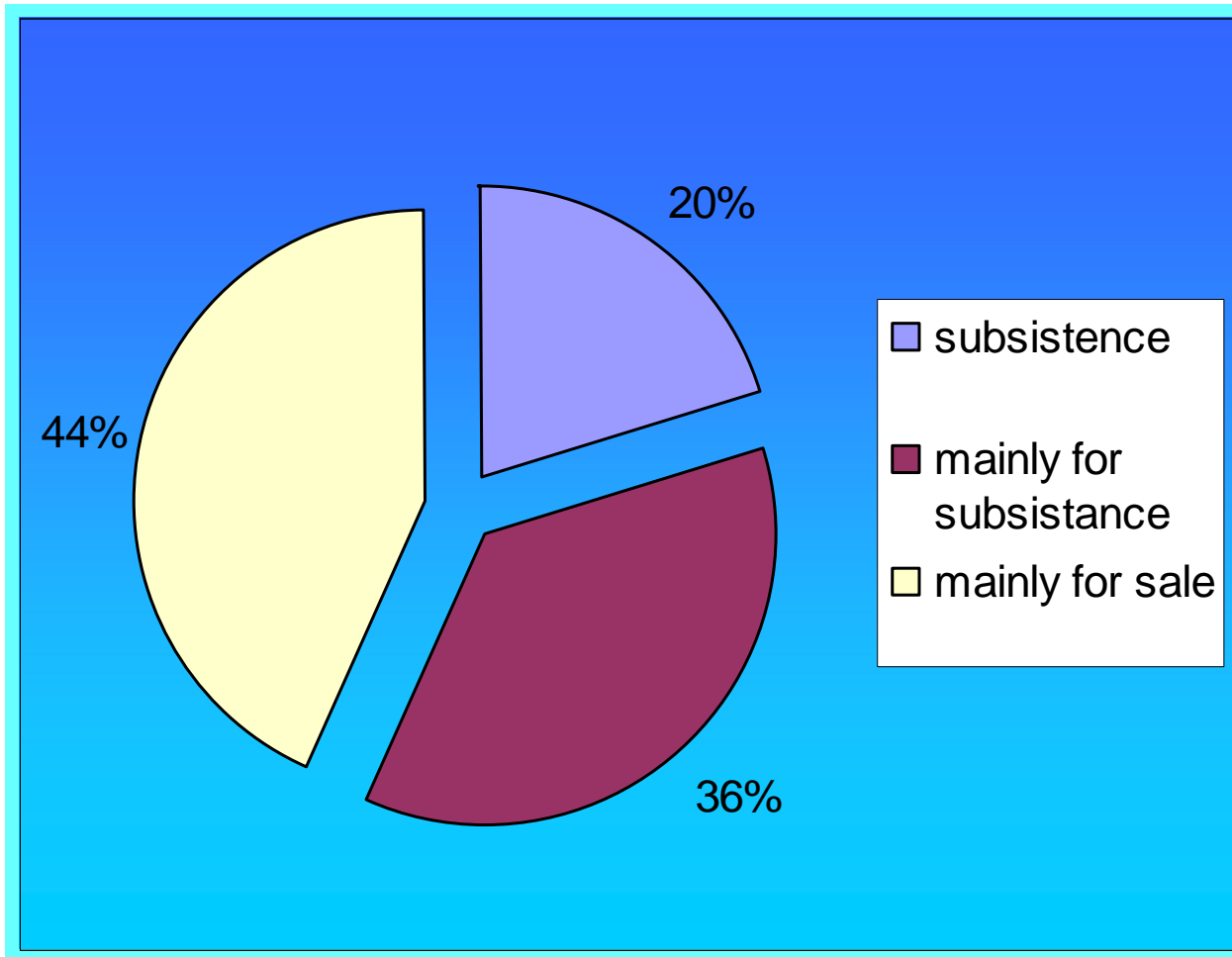
No of farms in 1000



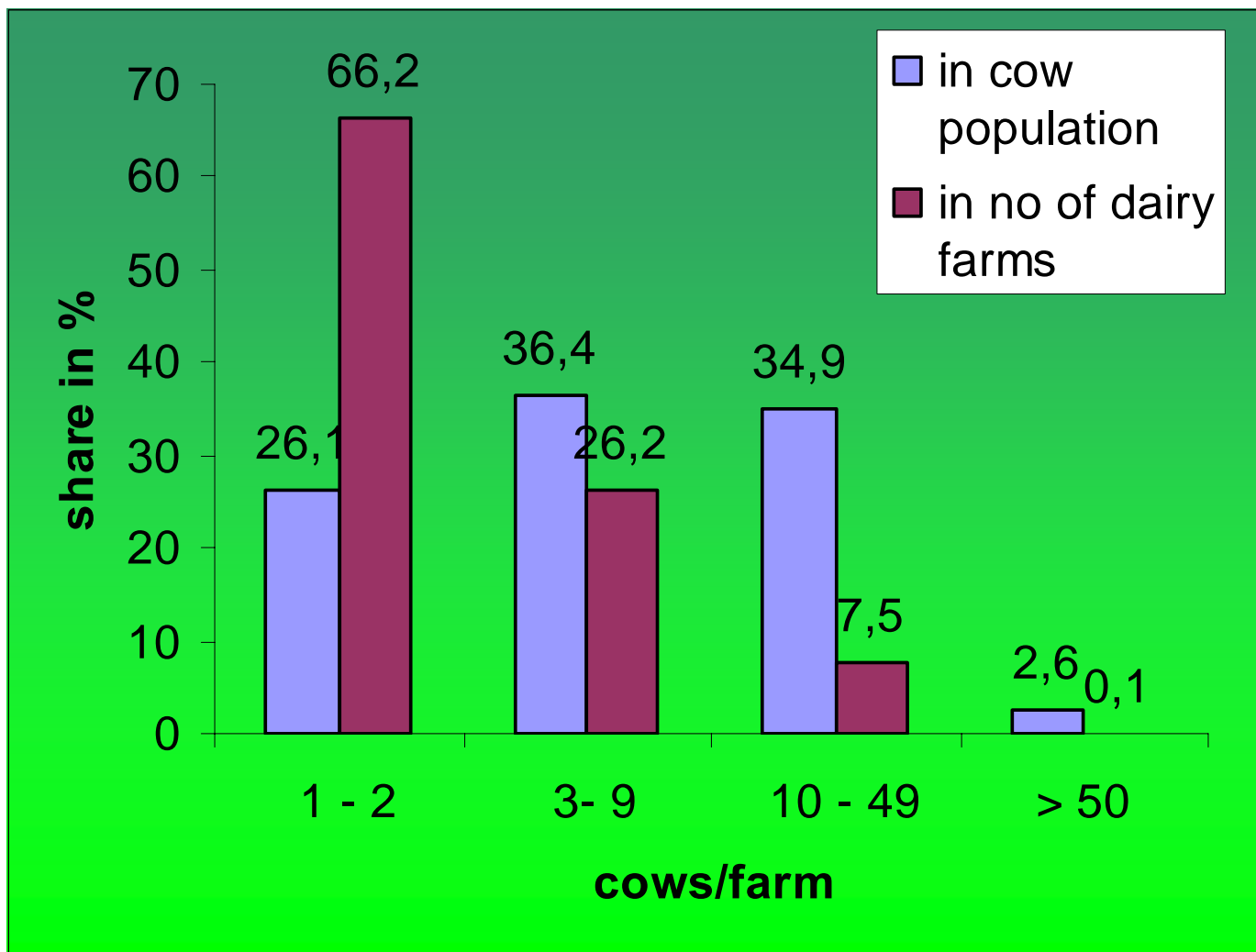
Farms with diff. no of parcels



Linkage with market



Concentration in dairy farms



Need to revalue assessments of the Polish agriculture

- low level of specialisation**
- low scale of production**
- farms - not voluntary – maintained multifunctional in nature**
- the features of a Polish farm, originally perceived as primitive and provincial, are gaining appreciation in the EU as a model which may be accepted by the society**



Accession negotiations decided on the future of Polish farmers

- ↪ Direct payments - controversial issue**
- ↪ level of quota - important for development prospects of Polish farms**
- ↪ limited transitional arrangements**



EU accession - challenge for agriculture

**fears on EU side from accession of Polish
agriculture**

market balance

additional budgetary transfers



Preparation for accession

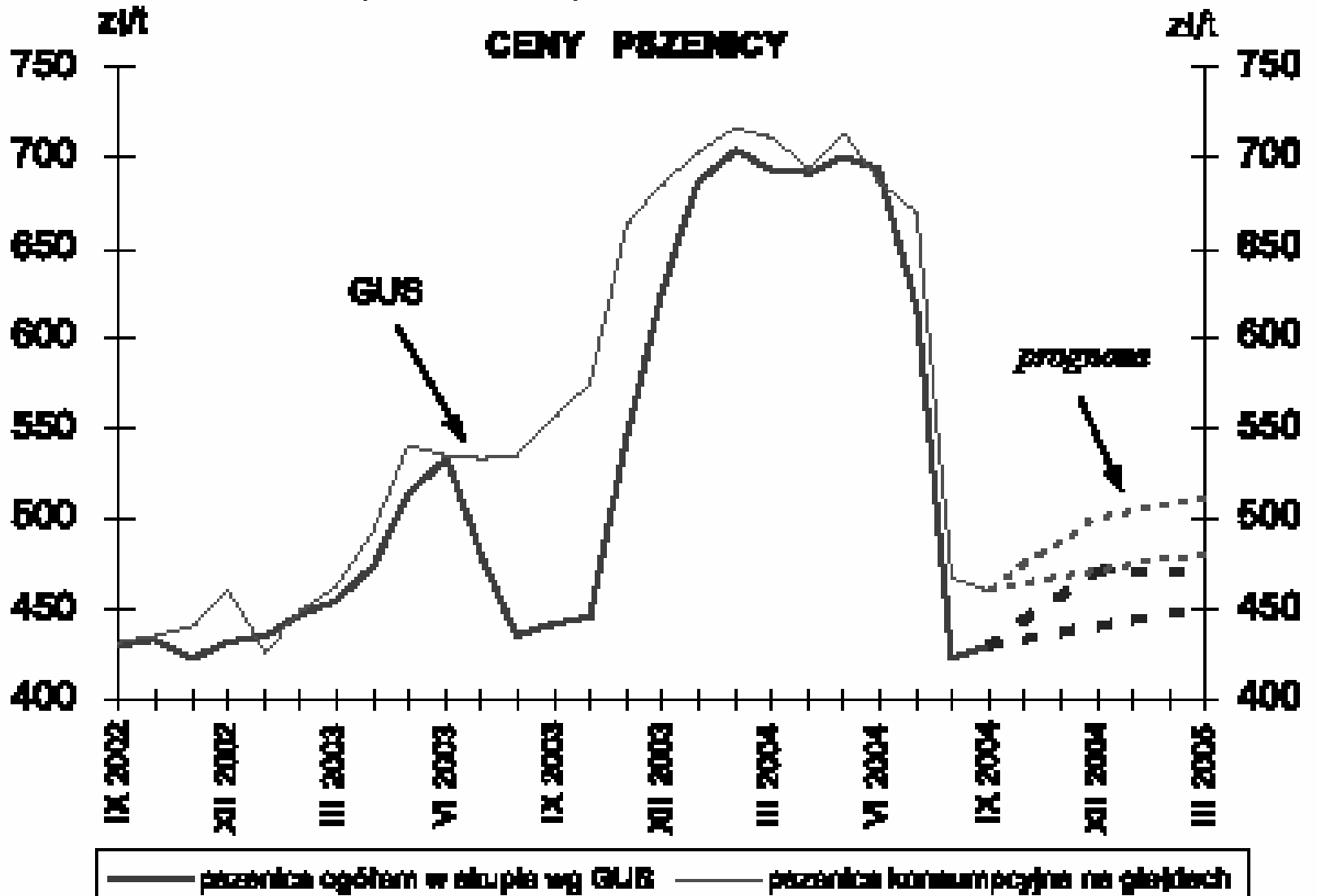
- Translation and implementation of *acquis communautaires*
- Harmonisation with EU standards
- SAPARD



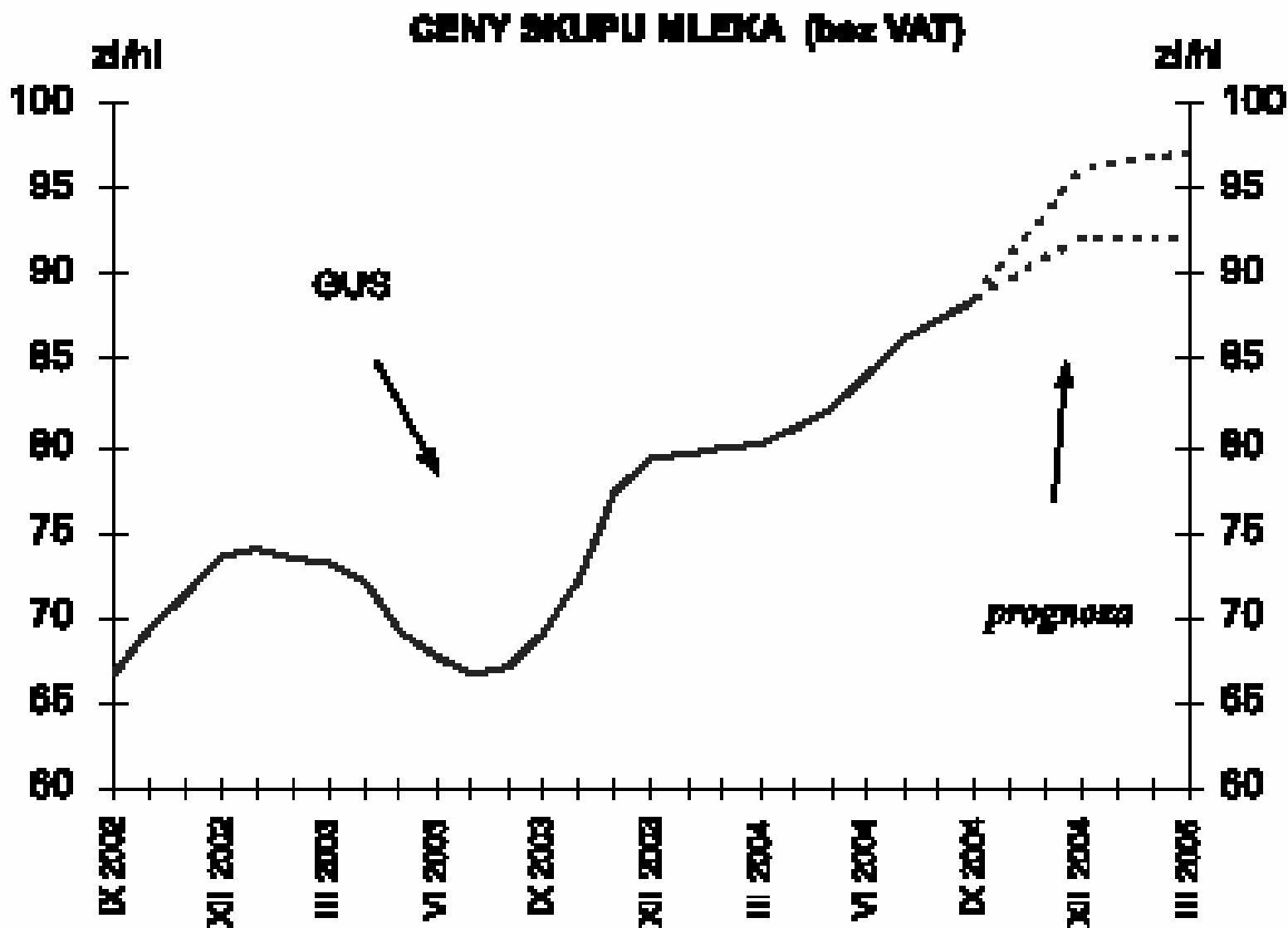
Experience from first 6 months after accession

- Higher prices for majority of farm products
- Some inputs more expensive
- Expansion of agri-food exports
- Increase in investment in agri-food sector

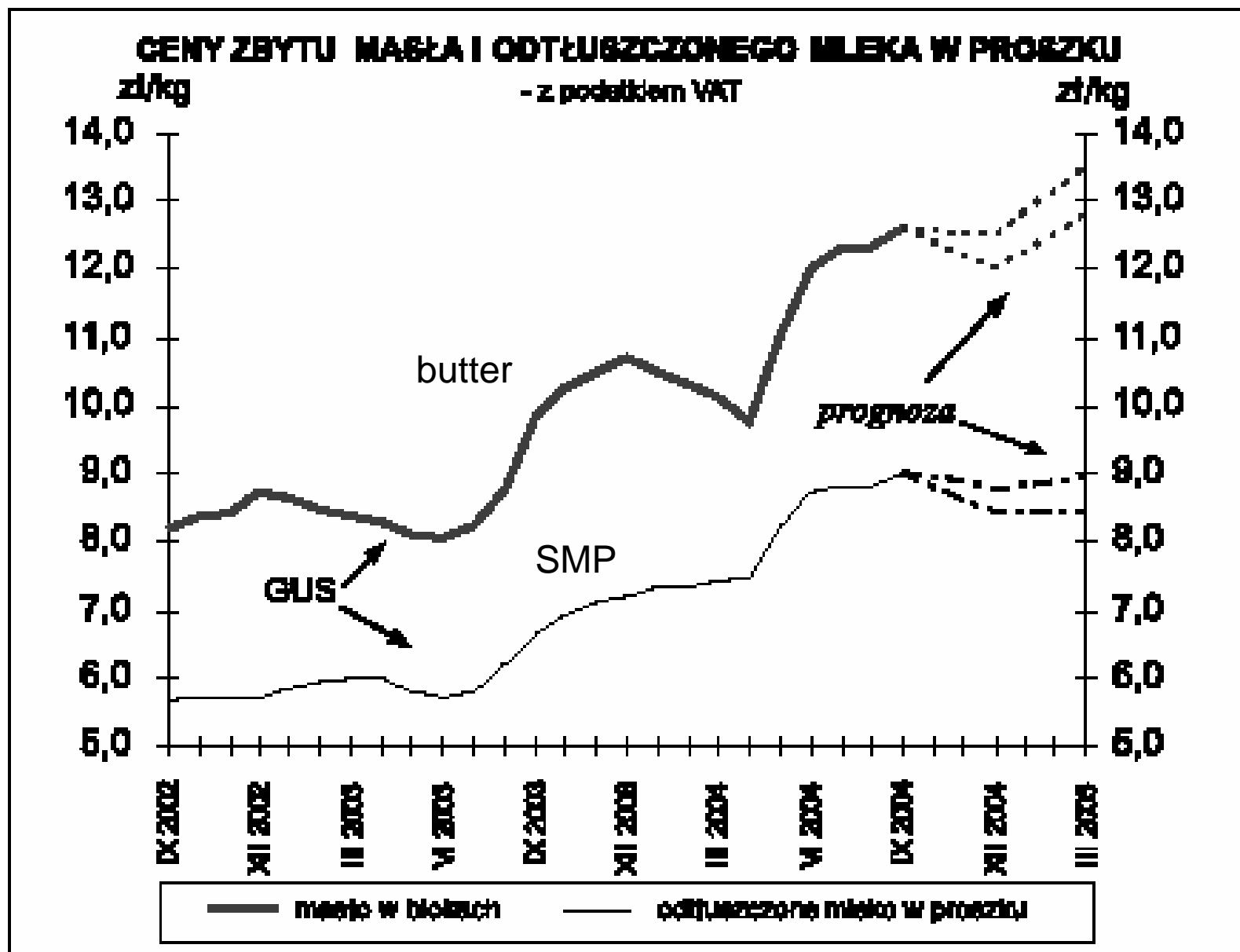
Wheat price development in Poland



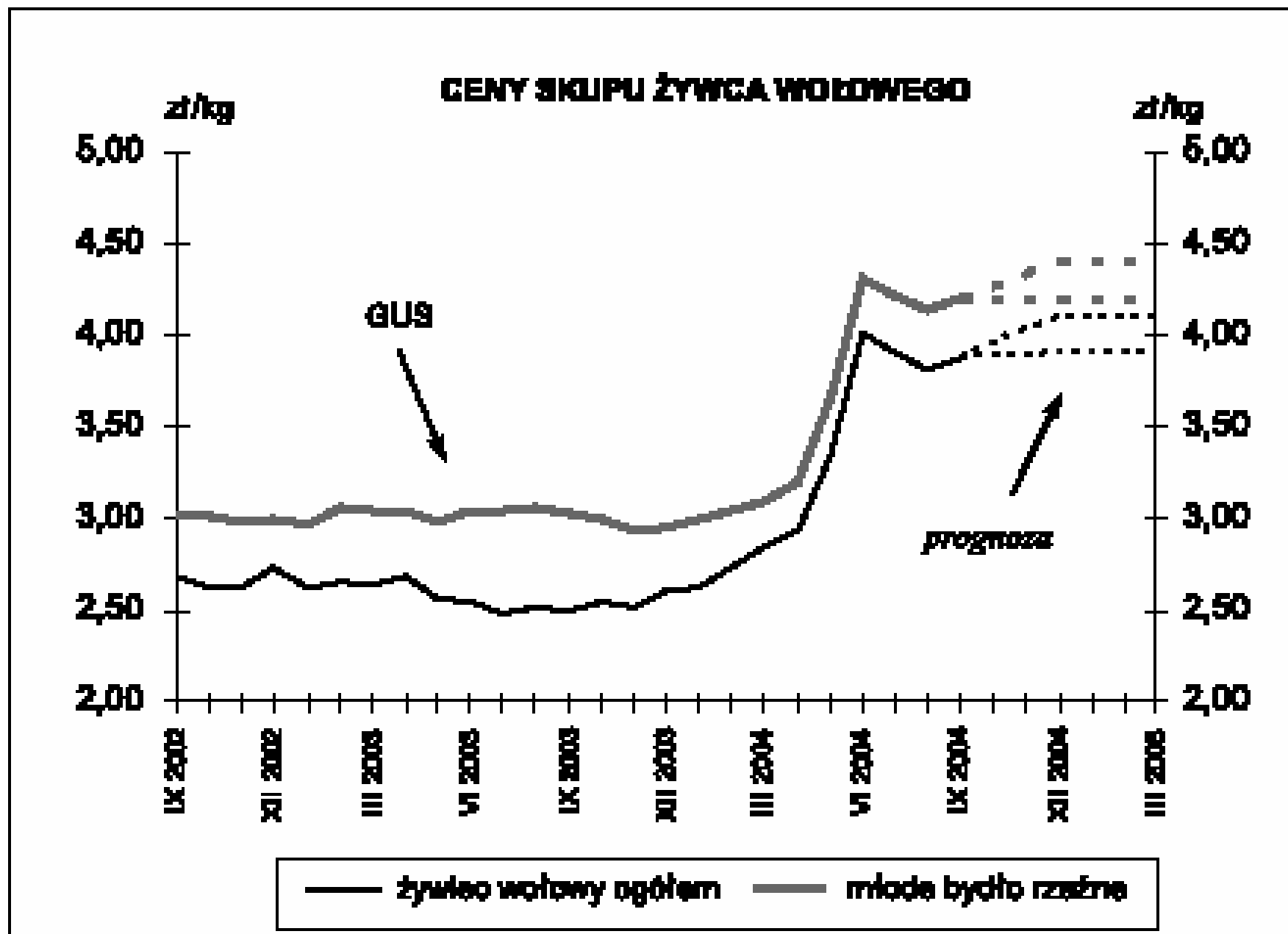
Milk price development in Poland



Butter and SMP prices in Poland

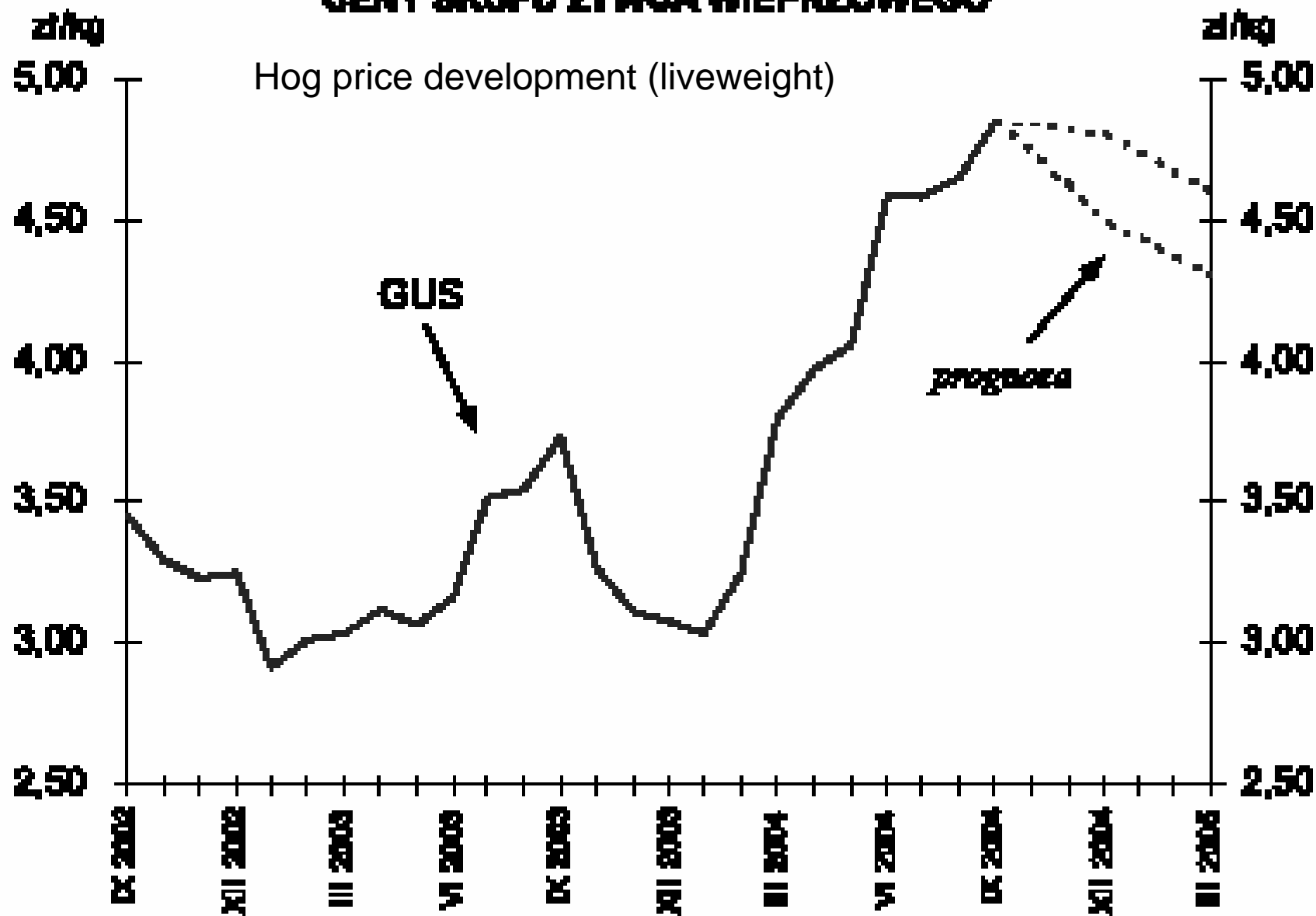


Beef cattle price (liveweight)

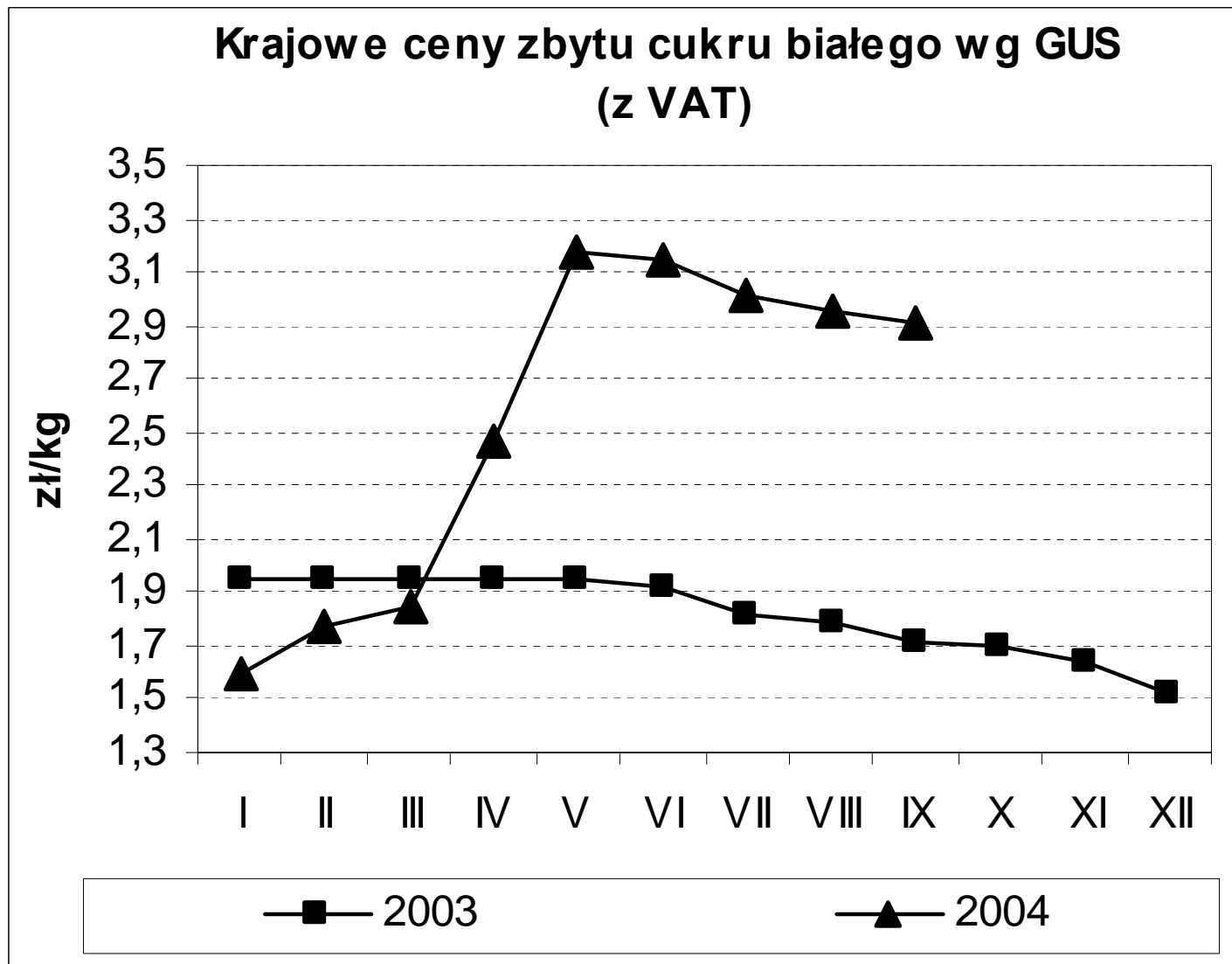


GENTY SKUPU ŻYWA WIEPRZOWEGO

Hog price development (liveweight)



Sugar price development in Poland



Prices in Poland compared with EU average (I-VIII 2004)

