Abstract

In case of organic farming, the integration of agricultural producers has been very slow. Taking into account the benefits of integration and the importance of the issue addressed, an attempt was made to identify the economic and social conditions affecting integration processes in organic agriculture.

Field research, using an interview questionnaire, was conducted in the Warmia and Masury Province, where the largest number of organic farms in the country operates. The representative research group adopted in the study was 207 organic farmers.

According to the survey, organic farmers participate little in formal integration, much more often in various forms of informal interaction.

The low level of integration in organic farming is not conducive to the marketing of organic products. In addition, the forms of organic farming support used do not initiate pro-integration attitudes among farmers.

As it can be seen, the level of integration in organic farming is mainly influenced by the scale of production and the educational level of farmers. The research conducted has expanded the knowledge of the identified problems in the integration of agricultural producers in organic farming and filled the research gap, especially with regard to the little-explored informal nature of integration.

The research is a source of information for advisory institutions supporting organic farming. They can contribute to the discussion on the future of Polish agriculture, including in the context of its greening.