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MECHANIZATION OF SMALL FAMILY FARMS IN POLAND¹

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***Abstract:** One of the main problems of small family farms is mechanization of farm works. However, machinery ownership is limited due to lack of funds. One of the possible solutions is to develop cooperation in machinery usage by group of farmers. Polish farming is traditionally very fragmented with the average farm area is around 10.3 ha, and 54% below 5 ha of UAA. Such small acreage affects the level of mechanization, making it very limited and inadequately low. Approximately 1.4 million farms are using almost 956,000 tractors, however their age and quality are key limitations in the introduction of new technologies. The paper presents common forms of collaboration between farmers to provide better access to machinery under Polish conditions.*

***Keywords:** small farms, mechanization, farmers co-operation*

***JEL Codes:** Q16*

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