# CAUSES OF OCCUPATIONAL ALLERGIC CONTACT DERMATITIS AMONG FARMERS



## RADOSLAW SPIEWAK INSTYTUT MEDYCYNY WSI, LUBLIN



#### **BACKGROUND**

Little is known about occupational contact dermatitis among farmers. Therefore, this study was undertaken aimed at identifying causes of invalidating occupational allergic contact dermatitis (ACD) among Polish farmers.

#### **MATERIAL**

Compensation records of all cases compensated by the Agricultural Social Insurance Institution from 1991 to 1999.

#### **METHODS**

Collecting data on causative factors responsible for occupational ACD.

#### **RESULTS**

87 cases of invalidating occupational ACD from 1991 - 1999 52 women and 32 men, aged 36 - 71 years Median impairment due to the skin disease: 20% (range 5 - 36%)

### Table 1. Animal and plant allergens causing occupational ACD among Polish farmers

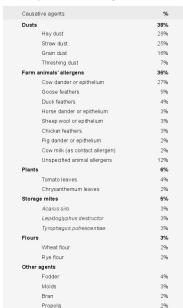




Table 2. Chemical substances causing

atio	onal ACD among Polish farmers	
Сац	sative agents	96
Met	als	29%
	Chromium	1996
	Cobalt	1396
	Nickel	1396
	Mercury	396
Pes	ticides	18%
	Malathion	796
	Captan	596
	Dicamba	596
	2,4-dichlorophenoxyacetic acid	496
	2-methyl-4-chlorophenoxyacetic acid	496
	Fenitrothion	396
	Chlorfenvinphos	296
	Cypermethrin	296
	Dichlorvos	296
	Thiometon	296
	Carbendazim	296
	Lindan	296
	Unspecified	496
Rut	ber additives	15%
	Thiuram	796
	Mercaptobenzothiazol	596
	N-isopropyl-N'-phenyl-p-phenylenediamine	496
	Unspecified	296
Fertilizers		5%
	Ammonium nitrate	396
	Unspecified	296
Dis	infectants	2%
Oth	er agents	
	Ammonia	396
	Colophony	296

#### CONCLUSIONS

Plant dusts and animal allergens are most frequent causes of occupational ACD in Polish farmers. Another important allergens are metals, pesticides and rubber chemicals.



Reference: Spiewak R: Occupational dermatoses among Polish private farmers, 1991-1999. Am J Ind Med 2003; 43(6): 647-655 (reprint at http://www.RadoslawSpiewak.net/2003-1.pdf).

XXIII EAACI Congress 12-16 June 2004 Amsterdam