



PROF. JAN MAŁKOWSKI
(1935-2020)

Professor Jan Małkowski, employed at the Institute of Agricultural and Food Economics – National Research Institute, died on October 20, 2020, in Warsaw.

He was born in the village of Boruty near Różan on March 16, 1935. In 1959, he obtained a master's degree at the Faculty of Agriculture of the Central School of Planning and Statistics (SGPiS). After graduation, he started working at the Planning Commission of the Council of Ministers and then worked at the Institute of Agricultural Economics (from December 1965). At the Institute (currently known as IAFE-NRI), Professor worked for fifty years (until 2015). Since the beginning of his research work, his professional interests focused on agricultural economics – agri-food markets and, in particular, the market for meat.

Professor was awarded the degree of Doctor of Economics in 1970 at the Faculty of Production Economics of the Central School of Planning and Statistics and the postdoctoral degree in 1976, at the same university. In the 1976/1977 academic year, he received a scholarship of the Fulbright Foundation at the Iowa State University. He was appointed Professor in 1990.

The innovativeness of Professor Małkowski's research work during the centrally planned economy consisted mainly in the fact that, contrary to popular opinion on the absence of periodicity in the development of pig production, he proved that

it did exist. He believed that what made the “pig cycle” in the socialist economy different from that in capitalist economies was the irregularity of periodically fixed prices. In fact, the duration of both growth and decline stages in pig production were different. As one of his more important papers of this period, Professor considered a study on the development of pig production between 1970 and 1971. It was made in 1969 and included a forecast regarding a large decline in pigs purchases in 1970. In December 1969, this study was sent to Prime Minister J. Cyrankiewicz by the Director of the Institute – Prof. dr hab. T. Rychlik, in agreement with the Minister of Agriculture M. Jagielski. The fact that the then government had not taken that warning into account resulted in the protests of December 1970.

In 1991, on the initiative of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and the Agricultural Market Agency, the Institute started a collaboration with the Economic Research Service USDA (Ministry of Agriculture of the United States) in the field of developing outlook market reports analyzing the situation in the basic agricultural markets. At the Institute, the Department of Market Research was established with its head being Professor Małkowski, who, as one of few Polish scientists, also conducted market research on the vulnerable markets for pork and beef. The Professor’s experience and knowledge in the field of market analyses, and, in particular, the knowledge of theoretical foundations of the “pig cycle”, proved invaluable for building a team of market analysts and preparing market reports at a high level. The first three reports on the markets for cereals, milk, and meat (including the markets for pork, beef, and mutton) were prepared by employees of the Department of Market Research at the IAFE-NRI in cooperation with American experts and published in 1991. In the following year, the following markets important for Polish agriculture were subject to analyses: means of production and services for agriculture, poultry and eggs, rapeseed and oilseeds, potato, sugar, fruit, and vegetables.

In recognition for the important market research on agriculture and the food industry, in 1993 the employees of the Department of Market Research headed by Professor Małkowski, together with their colleagues from the United States, were granted the first-degree team award of the Minister for Agriculture and Food Industry for laying foundations, launching systematic analyses of the major agricultural markets, and implementing their results into the economic and market information system. It was the fifth team award received by Professor. In addition to team awards, Professor was also a winner of the first-degree individual award of the Minister for Agriculture in 1975. Professor Małkowski headed the Department of Market Research until May 2009. Until July 31, 2007, he was also a member of the Senate of the Economics College in Stalowa Wola.

Professor Małkowski authored numerous scientific publications, including a few individual books, and co-authored several dozen publications. He published several hundred scientific papers and authored many expert opinions carried out for the Ministry of Agriculture, government agencies, as well as the FAO, OECD, and others. He cooperated with organizations and industry associations in the field of agriculture and food industry. Between 1991 and 2012, he was a member of

the Team for Forecasting Agricultural Prices for the President of the Agricultural Market Agency, a member of the Advisory Team of the President of the AMA, and a member of the Team of Consultants of the President of the Republic of Poland for Agriculture and Rural Development.

In 1996, Jan Małkowski became the Honorary Agrobusinessman, nominated by the Jury under the auspices of the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development, the President of the Agricultural Market Agency, and the Agricultural Editorial Team of the Polish Radio Program 1. He was a researcher, but in his activities, he also devoted a lot of time to economic practice and the dissemination of knowledge. He gave numerous interviews and consultations to employees of various embassies and economic and agricultural departments from Poland, European Union countries and the United States. He was an undisputed expert in the market for red meat in Poland and abroad.

The esteemed scientist, as well as a warm-hearted and kind man, passed away. He will remain in our memory as a wonderful colleague, educator of the youth, always willing to offer good advice.

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