THE EFFECT OF OVERDRILLING OF DRY MEADOWS IN DIFFERENT HABITAT CONDITIONS

Key words: biomass yields, botanical composition, dry meadows, effectiveness of overdrilling, protein and soluble sugars yields

Summary

The aim of the study was to evaluate the effects of overdrilling of dry meadows with mixtures of grasses and legume in different weather conditions. The study was conducted in three meadow experiments located in north-eastern Poland. Renovation of meadows was made by direct sowing of grasses and legume seed mixtures in spring 2012. The effectiveness of overdrilling was assessed by changes in the botanical composition of the sward, biomass, protein and soluble sugars yields. A clear effect of overdrilling was obtained in two experiments, where favorable soil and weather conditions were observed. An enrichment of the species composition of the sward, improvement of utilisation value, an increase of biomass, protein and soluble sugars yields were recorded. The study showed that the success of the renovation by introduction of intense varieties of grasses and legume species into sward by overdrilling is not always effective and may vary depending on meteorological conditions after renovation.