

and source of inputs were all arranged by the state. These measures received a strong resistance from the peasants. By 1956, despite government efforts there were only 10,000 collective farms compared to 3 million private farms.⁷ Following riots and protests in Poland, and Stalin's death in the Soviet Union, Wlaskyslaw Gomulka returned as a hero and was reinstated as the leader of Poland. This marked the end of collectivization in rural Poland.

AGRICULTURAL STRUCTURE

Hence, due to the Polish peasants resistance and Gomulka's postulate on rural land, Poland generated a different agricultural structure and land ownership system than is typically found in communist countries. Eighty percent of Polish agricultural land is in private hands; only 16.6 percent is managed by state farms, and 1.5 percent belongs to cooperatives. In addition, cooperatives and state farms contributed only 18.9 percent of total agricultural production while private farming was responsible for 79.7 percent.⁸

State farms are under the management of the director general of the Ministry of Agriculture. The farms are organized in regional boards, national boards, regional experimental farms and farms run by institutes of the Ministry of Agriculture. State farms are operated under a system of centralized management where the director decides the

⁷ Andrzej Korborski, p 172.

⁸ Maly Rocznik Statystyczny, p 138.