

European Countryside

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„Beekeeper – oak honey”
photo: Jarosław Janowski



„European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development: Europe investing in rural areas”.

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Krzysztof Grabowski

Deputy Marshal of the Wielkopolska Region

To whom it may concern,

I would like to present to you the 2021 third edition of the "Our European Countryside" newsletter, which is published shortly after the decision of the European Commission to accept changes to the Rural Development Programme for 2014–2020, which is very important for our region. We already officially know that the implementation period of this Programme will be extended by two years, which means that the last projects will be settled by the end of 2025, in accordance with the so-called n+3 rule. However, the most important is the fact that the extension of this financial perspective also means new funds for beneficiaries, including for investment projects in the construction or modernization of local roads, water and sewage management and land consolidation. I would like to invite you to read the article where we also publish statements of local government officials regarding investment needs in communes and districts of our region.

The local government of the Wielkopolska Region actively supports beekeeping activities. We are aware of the important role that bees play in the daily functioning of humans and the entire ecosystem, which is why for the next

year in a row we donate specific funds to beekeepers, this time for the purchase of bee feed. In connection with the Great Bee Day celebrated on August 8, in the Zawodzie district of Kalisz, we organized an outdoor event on that day, which we write about in the newsletter.

Until October 29, 2021, you can submit your works to the second edition of the "RDP through the lens" competition. Last year's edition was very popular, therefore we decided to continue this form of promotion of the Rural Development Programme for 2014–2020. The current prize pool is as much as PLN 25,000.

In the autumn edition of the magazine there are also other interesting articles, devoted to, inter alia, the Smart Village concept, which will be supported under the LEADER initiative, examples of good practices of RDP 2014–2020 and the traditional culinary recipe closing each edition of the "Our European Countryside" newsletter. This time honey was the culinary inspiration.

Enjoy your reading.

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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RDP

RDP beneficiaries are waiting for new calls for applications

The local government of the Wielkopolska Region asked mayors and district governors a question about investment plans in the field of water and sewage management as well as construction and modernization of local roads. This is related to the planned announcement of call for this type of operations under the Rural Development Programme for 2014–2020, extended by two years. Local governments could also submit proposals for revised selection criteria for operations.



Photo: The District Office in Kalisz

Reconstructed Emilianów - Dębsko district road in the Kalisz district. The task was co-financed from the RDP 2014–2020.

On August 31, 2021, the European Commission approved the amendment to the Rural Development Programme for 2014–2020. Its implementation will be extended by twenty-four months, and the budget for supporting activities implemented by region local government will also increase. First of all, an additional pool of funds will be allocated to co-financing road investment projects, water and sewage management and tasks in the field of

land consolidation. More funds will be allocated to local development through calls for proposals conducted by local action groups, which also support infrastructure projects.

— *Increasing the RDP 2014–2020 budget for local government investment projects in road and water and sewage infrastructure is very good news for the communes and*

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RDP

districts of Wielkopolska. We are waiting for the relevant regulations to enter into force in order to start calls for proposals immediately. We hope it will happen in 2021. The information provided by local governments shows that the investment needs in the rural areas of our region are still very large — says Deputy Marshal Krzysztof Grabowski.

The current pool of funds allocated to support from the Rural Development Programme for 2014–2020 investment projects in road and water and sewage infrastructure in the Wielkopolska Region has been exhausted. On October 7, 2021, the Board of the Wielkopolska Region adopted a resolution on updating the list of operations selected for financing, such as water and sewage management. All operations on this list have been funded. Updating the list made it possible to conclude contracts with the Jutrosin Commune, which obtained funds for the construction of a sanitary sewage system with connections and the reconstruction of the water supply system in Nowy Sielec. Funds from RDP 2014–2020 also went to the Kiszkowo Commune, intended for the construction of a central sewage system with connections in Berkowo and Sroczyń and the reconstruction of the water supply network in Berkowo. The list also includes the investment project of the Kotlin Commune, consisting in the construction of a sanitary sewage system in the villages of Sławoszew and Parzew. The total value of the co-financing granted for this type of investment project from the beginning of the Programme is PLN 161 m. PLN 135 m was allocated to support road investment projects.

As part of the new calls for proposals, the limit of financial aid is to be increased from PLN 3 to 5 m per beneficiary in the case of investment projects in the construction or modernization of local roads, and from PLN 2 to 5 m per commune in the case of water and sewage management projects. A new scope of support is also to be introduced for projects related to the collection of rainwater and snowmelt. The costs of building underground storage reservoirs, along with rainwater drainage, are also to be reimbursed. Funds for water and sewage management will come from the European Instrument for Reconstruction.

In connection with the changes to the Rural Development Programme for 2014–2020, the Local Government of the Wielkopolska Region asked representatives of communes and districts about plans for the construction or modernization of local roads and investment projects in the broadly understood water and sewage management. Potential beneficiaries were also asked to submit

their proposed criteria for the evaluation of applications that could be included in the amended legislation. Most of the 226 communes and 31 districts of the Wielkopolska Region expressed their opinion on this matter. We present selected positions of local government officials.



Edmund Ziółek

the mayor of the Chrzypsko Wielkie commune

In the case of operations in the field of „Construction or modernization of local roads”, we plan to implement the investment project with full infrastructure, a pedestrian and bicycle path and drainage of the route, with the requested aid amount of PLN 1.5 m. We will apply for support in the maximum amount of PLN 2.5 m for operations such as „Water and sewage management”. I am glad that we are also able to propose criteria for selecting an operation. For road investment projects, one of the important criteria should be the improvement of the safety of the traffic route and the comprehensiveness of technological solutions, allowing for the construction of a complete infrastructure without the necessity of staging activities.



Artur Miętkiewicz

the mayor of the Łądek commune

The Łądek commune is interested in the implementation of further investment projects co-financed from the Rural Development Programme for 2014–2020. These plans concern, among others reconstruction and equipment of water treatment stations in Wola Koszucka and Ratyń, as well as reconstruction of local roads Jaroszyń - Dziedzice, Wola Koszucka, Cmentarna street in Ciężęń, Krajobrazowa street in Łądek and the access street to the ferry in Ciężęń. The total amount of the requested co-financing will be approx. PLN 3.5 m for water and sewage works and approx. PLN 4 m for road investment projects. Regarding the change of the selection criteria for operations, we propose that in the case of water and sewage management, the rewarding for tasks conducted in localities where the water and sewage investment under RDP 2007–2013 is not implemented.

LEADER

Smart Village

Thanks to funds from the Rural Development Programme for 2014–2020, new concepts for rural development based on the use of modern technologies and pro-ecological solutions will soon be created under the LEADER approach. The funds will be distributed through local action groups. A grant in the amount of PLN 4,000 will be available for the development of a single concept.



Photo: LAG KOLD

Representatives of local action groups from Wielkopolska took part in a study trip to Germany, the aim of which was to learn about the functioning of „smart villages” in the country of our western neighbor. The trip was co-financed by the National Network of Rural Areas.

The developing ICT technology has an increasingly noticeable impact on the standard of living in the countryside. Almost everyone has free access to the network, regardless of where they live. This creates new opportunities, the proper use of which may contribute to better functioning of rural communities, more effective exchange of information between inhabitants and inclusion in the decision-making process of people who have not been involved in social activities so far. Additionally, well-thought-out projects that use renewable energy sources

can become a recipe for constantly growing electricity bills.

The idea of „smart villages”, gaining more and more popularity throughout the European Union, assumes the development and integration of the local community that consciously and actively guides its development, using innovative solutions and intelligent, digital, ecological and energy-saving technologies. Technology in the Smart Village concept is treated only as a tool to achieve

goals set by the community, such as effective improvement of the quality of life of rural inhabitants, rural development, preventing depopulation of rural areas, sustainable development of these areas or social and business integration between rural areas and the city. Therefore, it is necessary to define and use the advantages of a given place in advance. The positive effects of such actions should spread to the entire region, including the cities associated with rural areas. Ultimately, an integrated „village-city” network is to be created, operating under principles based on mutual benefits.

What does creating a Smart Village look like in practice? What is it actually about? The answer to these questions can be found, for example, by browsing the works sent to the „Moja Smart wieś” competition, organized in 2019 by the Institute for Rural Development and Agriculture of the Polish Academy of Sciences, which deals with this issue. Local government officials and social activists described, *inter alia*, activities such as setting up a closed Facebook group for inhabitants of one of the villages. Thanks to this tool, group members could quickly discuss plans and events that are important to them. In another village, in order to solve the issue of local flooding, a rain garden was established to collect excess water during heavy rains, and at the same time a nice square for the inhabitants of the village was created. On the other hand, in another place, solar lamps were used creatively to illuminate the recreational and sports space. In this way, two important problems for inhabitants were solved in one move: the need to save money and energy, and to ensure that inhabitants use the playgrounds and the park after dark. Simple methods are often the best. The point is to use them to achieve the goals set by the emerging regional needs.

Ryczywół in the Oborniki district can be an example of “smart” activity in Wielkopolska. With the support of the LAG Kraina Trzech Rzek, a sports and entertainment hall was built there in 2017. A modern facility with carefully thought-out functions is an example of assumptions in line with the Smart Village idea. Despite modest funds, it was decided to act in accordance with the principle „I’m too poor to buy bad shoes.” The hall was designed to be multifunctional and at the same time to serve students of local schools during school activities and the local community to organize events, concerts and sports events. A number of modern technologies have been used, such as: soundproof plates so that concerts in the hall do not disturb the peace of people from nearby houses, LED lighting to save utility costs, central ventilation, ground

heat exchanger, biomass-fired boiler, automatically controlled external blinds. On that occasion, the nearby area was developed. Multifunctionality, energy efficiency, rationality and modernity - this is the „smart” operation.

Thinking and acting in accordance with the Smart Village concept has been popular on our continent for several years now. For the European Union, the implementation of the „smart village” concept is one of the priorities. In April 2017, the European Commission launched the EU Action for a Smart Village programme, and in October the European Rural Network (ENRD) Thematic Group on Smart Villages was established. The ENRD brings together National Rural Networks, including the NRN in Poland. The aim of the network is to exchange examples and experiences between initiatives for Smart Village. What do Wielkopolska local action groups think about this idea? We asked Małgorzata Blok, the President of the Wielkopolska LAG Network, about it.



Małgorzata Blok

*President of the Wielkopolska
Network of Local Action Groups*

The Smart Village concept is known to local action groups. Many of the initiatives conducted so far in our region were of a similar nature or were heading in this direction. Thanks to international contacts with local action groups operating in the European Union, we know examples of implementation of „smart villages” in other countries. „Smart villages” can be a response to the challenges of the modern world and I am glad that the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development appreciates the experience of local action groups and entrusts us with the implementation of this instrument, which is used throughout the European Union.

The European Commission, by the decision of August 31, 2021, approved the strategic change of the Rural Development Programme for 2014-2020, introducing, *inter alia*, transitional period for the Common Agricultural Policy for the years 2021-2022. As a result of this change, additional support for community-led local development was also provided in the form of co-financing of bottom-up concepts of local development on a micro scale, inspired by the Smart Village idea. Local action groups may include in their strategies the possibility of obtaining funds in the form of grants worth PLN 4 k for this purpose.

EVENTS

Great Bee Day in Kalisz

The local government of the Wielkopolska Region supports beekeepers and the protection of bees, allocating funds for this purpose for several years. As part of the Great Bee Day on August 8, it organized an outdoor event for the inhabitants of the region. The main goal of the organizers was to make the public aware of the important role that bees play in our lives.



Photo: Błażej Krawczyk, calisia.pl

Historical re-enactment, prepared by the Kancelaria Komesa Mikołaj Bronisz.

The problem of bee extinctions is becoming more and more serious. It applies not only to the honey bee, which is looked after in hives, but also to the species of solitary bees found in our gardens and meadows. For this reason, August 8 was proclaimed the Great Bee Day in Poland.

A beekeeping fair, beekeeping demonstrations, presentation of an educational apiary and apitherapy houses (honey treatment) or tasting of dishes made with honey are just some of the attractions prepared for the

participants of the outdoor event, which took place on this occasion in the Archaeological Reserve in Kalisz-Zawodzie. The event was an opportunity to summarize the activities of the Wielkopolska Region Local Government for apiculture, because for several years funds have been transferred from the region budget for this purpose.

— *The Wielkopolska Region, as one of the first regions in the country, offered beekeepers specific financial support. Since 2018, we have been allocating funds for them in the amount*

of approx. PLN 2 m per year. In previous years, financial aid made it possible to purchase wax foundation, i.e. templates with embossed cells in the shape of a slice, placed inside the hive. This year, we are subsidizing the purchase of bee feed, which is food for these invaluable insects. In addition, for four years we have also financially supported the purchase of honey tree seedlings in Wielkopolska. We also try to ensure that the beekeeping environment is as integrated as possible, and that the efforts of beekeepers are appreciated by the inhabitants of the region, hence the idea of organizing an outdoor event — says Krzysztof Grabowski, Deputy Marshal of the Wielkopolska Region.



Photo: UMWW

Deputy Marshal Krzysztof Grabowski and regional councilors - Joanna Król-Trąbka and Jan Grzesiek - at the stand prepared by the Circle of Rural Housewives in Rusko.

The sunny aura and the attractive program of the event attracted over 4 k people to the Zawodzie district of Kalisz. The Great Bee Day in Kalisz was attended by, among others the district governor of Kalisz Krzysztof Nosal, the deputy mayor of Kalisz Mateusz Podsadny, councilors of the Wielkopolska Region - Jan Grzesiek, Andrzej Plichta and Joanna Król-Trąbka, mayors and representatives and leaders of local beekeeping associations: Piotr Borowiak - President of the Regional Association of Beekeepers in Poznań, Waleenty Pawłowski - President of the Regional Association of Northern Wielkopolska Beekeepers in Chodzież, Kazimierz Zaleski - President of the Regional Association of Southern Wielkopolska Beekeepers prof. Teofila Ciesielski in Kalisz, Roman Kowalak - President of the Regional Association of Beekeepers based in Konin and Zbigniew Wach - President of the District Association of Beekeepers in Leszno.

The event began at noon. At the shared table, with honey delicacies, visitors and guests were greeted by Deputy Marshal Krzysztof Grabowski. As part of the event,

a competition was also organized for the „The most beautiful stand of the Great Bee Day, prepared by a group of rural housewives from the Wielkopolska Region”. Products with honey were presented by the Circles of Rural Housewives from Lisków, Stawiszyn, Czekanów, Tuesday, Ruska, Sobótka, Kołatajewa, Kuźnia and Lewków. All participants in the competition received material prizes, and the participants of the event were thanked by Deputy Marshal Krzysztof Grabowski. The organizers of the ceremony also took care of the appropriate musical setting, for which the Kopalnia Węgla Brunatnego Konin SA Brass Orchestra was responsible.

Historical performances prepared by Kancelaria Komesa Mikołaj Bronisz, belonging to the Knights Brotherhood of the Kalisz Region, enjoyed great popularity among the participants of the Great Bee Day. The actors, in costumes from the Middle Ages, conducted demonstrations of making Cistercian candles and making wax seals. They also arranged a „honey theft” scene, which depicted a thief climbing a tree and selecting honey, then caught by guards and handed over to the authorities. Historical reconstructions from the Middle Ages reminded us of the role played by forests at that time, along with beehives and benefits obtained from them.

The organization of the outdoor event was possible thanks to its co-financing from the technical assistance funds of the Rural Development Programme for 2014–2020 under the National Network of Rural Areas.



Photo: UMWW

In the years 2018-2020, the local government of the Wielkopolska Region provided beekeepers with PLN 6 m for the purchase of wax foundation. More than 4,6 k apiaries were supported, enabling beekeepers to replace hoses in over 140 k bee trunks. The photo shows a comparison between the new wax foundation (at the bottom) and the two-year-old one.

GOOD PRACTICES

Inhabitants of Anastazewo lived to see a village day-room

Co-financing in the amount of PLN 500 k from the Rural Development Programme for 2014–2020 made it possible to build a modern facility in the Powidz commune in the Słupca district. The local community has been waiting for this facility for years, because earlier inhabitants had to meet in a day-room located in another village. The commune also obtained funds for the equipment of the day-room and the development of the surrounding area. Funds for this purpose come from the Wielkopolska Village Renewal programme, financed from the budget of the Local Government of the Wielkopolska Region.



Photo: UG Powidz

A village day-room in Anastazewo - a facility for the 21st century.

The value of the entire project is nearly PLN 997 k. More than half of this amount comes from the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development, intended to support investment in facilities with cultural functions. The contract for co-financing was signed in October 2018, and the building was officially commissioned in February 2021. Deputy Marshal Krzysztof Grabowski participated in the ceremonial opening of the day-room.

— *The holiday resort of Anastazewo, beautifully situated in the Powidzki Landscape Park, between the Budziszawskie and Powidzkie lakes, is one of the villages most distant from Powidz in the commune. Our own day-room was a long-awaited and finally fulfilled dream of the inhabitants* — says Jakub Gwit, the mayor of the Powidz commune.

The infrastructure of the modern day-room in Anastazewo is impressive. The one-story building with a usable area of over 185 m² is equipped with a heat pump and photovoltaic panels, which makes it an energy-saving facility. More than 50% of the demand for electricity, necessary for the functioning of the day-room, will come from renewable energy sources. In addition to the large hall, part of the space has been used for a kitchen and sanitary and technical

facilities. The facility will be used to organize cultural and social meetings, which will certainly be supported by the funds obtained by the commune as part of the 11th edition of the „Piękna Wielkopolska Wieś” competition, implemented under the Wielkopolska Village Renewal programme by the Local Government of the Wielkopolska Region. PROJECT entitled „Development of public space and purchase of equipment for a village day-room in Anastazewo” assumes, *inter alia*, construction of a beach volleyball court and paving the area around the day-room. The related works are scheduled to be completed by November 15, 2021.

— *Projects implemented under the Wielkopolska Village Renewal programme, financed from the region local government’s own funds, very often complement the activities and infrastructure co-financed under the 2014–2020 RDP. The flagship competition of this programme is „Piękna Wielkopolska Wieś”, the 11th edition of which was decided in June 2021. In this year’s regional budget, we have planned a pool of as much as PLN 5.5 m to support village initiatives. The list of co-financed projects includes 256 items* – says Deputy Marshal Krzysztof Grabowski, responsible for the implementation of this programme.

A new road and day-rooms in the Łobzenica commune

On August 9, 2021, the ceremonial opening of a day-room in Luchów and the commissioning of a reconstructed section of the municipal road connecting the villages of Łobzenica and Kościeżyn Mały took place. For the implementation of both tasks, the commune of Łobzenica (Piła district) received funds from the Rural Development Programme for 2014–2020.



The ceremonial commissioning of the Łobzenica - Kościeżyn Mały road in the Łobzenica commune.

Photo: Grzegorz Zięba

The facility in Luchów was rebuilt and expanded as part of a project covering two day-rooms, co-financed in the amount of PLN 654,251 from the funds allocated to support the operation of the „Investments in facilities with cultural functions” type. The other day-room is located in Kunowo. Due to the very poor condition of the buildings, demolition to the foundations and construction of the facilities from scratch turned out to be the most profitable solution. The newly created infrastructure not only pleases the eye, but is also used on an ongoing basis. Art classes for children, childcare and educational workshops for students, about the culture of the region for young people under 30 and similar for seniors are held in the day-rooms.

The opening of the day-room in Luchów was attended, among others, by Krzysztof Grabowski, Deputy Marshal, Jarosław Maciejewski, Deputy Chairman of the Region Assembly and Mirosława Rutkowska-Krupka, Region Councillor. On the same day, representatives of the Local Gover-

ment of the Wielkopolska Region also had the pleasure of cutting the ribbon over the Łobzenica - Kościeżyn Mały commune road, which was rebuilt with the participation of funds from the RDP 2014–2020. The implemented project was one of the largest road investment projects in the Łobzenica commune in recent years. Works were conducted on a 2.6 km section and a road lane width of 5 m. The total cost of the project was PLN 3.5 m, of which PLN 763,488 was covered by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development, while the remaining funds came from the Łobzenica commune budget.

— *The funds from the Rural Development Programme for 2014–2020 are an important support for the Łobzenica commune, without which the implementation of the co-financed tasks could not take place so quickly. We are interested in applying for further funds for road projects, as well as water and sewage investment projects* — says Mayor Piotr Łosoś.

PARTNERS OF THE NNRA

Eastern Wielkopolska focuses on the cultivation of cucumbers

The Cucumber Day in Karszewo in the Dąbie commune has become a permanent fixture in the calendar of outdoor events organized in the Wielkopolska Region. On August 8, 2021, the fourteenth edition of this event took place. For several years, the Dąbie Commune has been successfully acquiring EU funds to finance this event. Funds for this purpose come from the Rural Development Programme for 2014–2020, as part of competitions for Partners of the National Network of Rural Areas.



Photo: UM in Dąbie

Tomasz Ludwicki, the mayor of Dąbie, tried his hand at fitness competitions.

— In 2021, we supported a record number of projects by the partners of the National Network of Rural Areas. Thanks to financial aid in the amount of PLN 1.3 m, it became possible to implement as many as 42 tasks. One of these undertakings is the Cucumber Day in the Dąbie commune — says Krzysztof Grabowski, the Region Deputy Marshal.

The sunny, summer aura was favorable to the organizers of the event: Dąbie Commune, Kolskie District, PPH „Ogórecki” Krzysztof Górecki, Wielkopolska Agricultural Advisory Center, Municipal and Communal Cultural Center in Dąbie and Dąbie public library. Thanks to this, it was possible to implement all the planned points of the program, and the numerous inhabitants of not only the district, but also the region, could fully participate in the attractions planned for them. And there were many of these. The participants could participate, among others, in competitions with prizes in several thematic categories: „the weirdest cucumber shape”, „the biggest field cucumber”, „the most interesting composition - cucumber headdress”, „the most interesting

cucumber rhyme”, as well as fitness competitions in which the cucumber was the leitmotif. There was also a quiz about cucumber, a lecture „Production and sale of food from the farm as part of short supply chains”, a show „The magic of tastes, smells and colors - herbs around us”, as well as consultations on the „Clean air” programme.

The event was an opportunity to taste cucumber dishes prepared by local circles of rural housewives, especially tasty soup. There were also presentations of cucumber varieties, local handicrafts, advice on field cultivation and new varieties of cucumbers, as well as stands of producers of this vegetable plant. The youngest participants of the event were delighted to play in the amusement park, which was created especially for this occasion. The organizers also took care of the artistic accents, thanks to the performance of the „Nadnerzanki” singing band. The long-term goal of the Cucumber Day in Dąbie is the establishment of groups of cucumber producers and the establishment of small agricultural products processing companies.

We encourage you to participate in the photo competition

Until October 29, 2021, works can be submitted to the second edition of the „RDP through the lens” competition. The aim of the competition is to promote the Rural Development Programme and increase the knowledge of the inhabitants of the Wielkopolska Region about its effects, as well as to popularize the cultural heritage of the region and rural tourism. Below we present one of the photos awarded in the first edition of the competition, resolved in 2020.



Photo pt. „Traditional crafts”, made by Robert Cierniak, won the first place in the category „**Disappearing professions and forgotten art in the Wielkopolska countryside**”.

The photo was taken during a promotional event in Złotów, where local craftsmen and entrepreneurs presented their products and handicrafts.

— *I immediately noticed an old man who created such wonders and the first thing I thought was the perfect shot for the competition* — says the author of the winning photo.

A few words about the author:

Robert Cierniak

(born 1983) - inhabitant of Złotów, an upholsterer by profession, an economist by education, and a photographer by passion. The initiator of the website „Złotów through the lens” on Facebook and the creator of photos for the Złotów calendar for 2021.

Regulations of the second edition of the „RDP through the lens” competition are available on the website www.wielkopolskie.ksow.pl.

Poznań pipes

Shortbread cookies with a gingerbread and honey flavor, bent like roof tiles, are, next to St. Martin's croissants, the most traditional Poznań baking. We will not find these cookies in patisseries and bakeries, rather at fairs. Like St. Martin's croissants, Poznań pipes were once baked only for a special occasion - for a Corpus Christi procession.

The pipes, known as trumpets before the war, were once baked only by nuns. Legend has it that the nuns gave the cookies the shape of trumpets in memory of the miracle that was to happen during the procession in Poznań's Old Market Square. Apparently, the fire brigade was playing trumpets so loud that tiles began to fall from nearby houses. Luckily, nothing happened to anyone, which was considered a divine interference. Initially, the bending of the biscuits caused them to crumble frequently, so over time the nuns gave them a softer shape, resembling a tile. It is not known exactly where the name „pipe”, popular later, came from, but cookies were most likely baked on the stove pipe.

Ingredients:

- 300 g of wheat flour
- 5 tablespoons of honey, preferably honeydew

- 1/3 cup of water
- 50 g of sugar
- 1 tablespoon of ammonia, possibly 1 tablespoon of cinnamon

Preparation:

In a saucepan, heat the honey and sugar until it caramelizes. Mix the sifted flour with ammonia or cinnamon. Add water and cooled honey with sugar. Knead the dough and leave it in a warm place, covered with a clean cloth, for about 30 minutes. Then roll out the dough to a thickness of about 2 mm and cut rectangles or squares with dimensions of 15 x 15 or 10 cm. You can use a tooth cutter to make the edges more decorative. Place the forms at intervals on a baking sheet lined with baking paper, and coat their top with yolk. Bake at 180°C for about 10 minutes. Just after baking, place the still soft cookies on a rolling pin or bottles to give the shape of an arch.



Photo: Piotr Chudzyński

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