

# HEAVY METALS AND SELECTED PHYSICOCHEMICAL PROPERTIES OF RENDZIC LEPTOSOLS OF THE PONIDZIE REGION (SOUTHERN POLAND)

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**Abstract:** The aim of the study was to characterize and compare physicochemical properties of Rendzic Leptosols formed in the Nida Basin. The highest heavy metal contents were observed in surface horizons. Average heavy metal contents were ( $\text{mg}\cdot\text{kg}^{-1}$ ): Zn – 59.9, Cu – 24.9, Pb – 23.4, Cr – 15.4. These values are typical of Rendzic Leptosols and moderate to heavy soils. The soils under study were characterized by high pH values, large content of organic matter,  $\text{CaCO}_3$ , high saturation of sorption complex with basic cations. The soils did not show greater differences in chemical properties.