Institute of Soil Science and Plant Cultivation – State Research Institute w Puławach conducts scientific activity in the following areas:

- Studies of the genetic basis and the processes and mechanisms that determine the importance and function of plants and microorganisms,
- Agricultural production technologies and systems,
- Crop quality,
- Development and improvement of monitoring systems used in agriculture,
- Basic functions, use and protection of soils,
- Support of bioeconomy development,
- Fertilizer management and assessment of environmental effects of fertilization,
- reduction of adverse impact of human activity on the environment.

The scientific and research activity of IUNG-PIB is carried out within the framework of statutory research, research and research and development projects financed from domestic and international sources, as well as long--term programmes/target subsidies from the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development.

The Institute conducts research in laboratory conditions, in greenhouses, vegetation halls, on experimental plots and in fields located in Agricultural Experimental Stations and at individual farmers.

The recipients of the results of research and development work carried out at IUNG-PIB are the broadly understood agricultural sector, government and local government administration, and residents of rural areas.