

Colostrum quality and calves' rearing results

S u m m a r y

Early feeding the calves with an adequate quantity of good quality colostrum is one of the most important factors influencing their health. Colostrum is not only the first feed in the calves' life, but also protective remedy against infections. The aim of the presented study was to determine the relationship between the level of passive colostral immunity and the rearing results of calves destined for herd replacement. The mean immunoglobulin (Ig) level in examined colostrums was $70,32 \text{ g}\cdot\text{l}^{-1}$ – it was assumed as a good quality, but 17,3% of used colostrums showed Ig concentration below $40 \text{ g}\cdot\text{l}^{-1}$, and this was defined as unsuitable for the first feeding. Unfortunately bad colostrums was fed to calves and resulted in occurrence of 65% of calves showing failure of passive transfer (FPT) or partial failure of passive transfer (PFPT). The obtained results indicated the important influence of colostral protection quality on calves' rearing results.