

Observations of behaviour and extent of adaptation to the environmental conditions at selected population of watchdogs

S u m m a r y

The purpose of the study was to verify whether unification of some behaviour and habitual features of watchdogs as well as their exceptional adaptation ability described in bibliography occur in selected group of dogs. Observations included 194 dogs from 60 randomly selected farms, situated in the area of 9 neighbouring villages. The effect of environmental conditions, maintenance and feeding system on the behaviour and condition of animals was estimated. Information concerning the degree of relationship were collected in the interviews with farmers. Additionally a simple mental tests based on trials of displaying the distrust or the agressiveness of examined animals were performed. Preliminary results of the observations indicate that the isolation of dogs resulted in the development of specific behaviour. Besides, the maintenance and feeding systems do not secure a welfare of watchdogs. Despite of that the good condition of animals suggests their high adaptation ability.
