

Relationships between fertility, milk yield and some body measurements of cows

Summary

The study was performed on 1104 Polish Holstein-Friesian cows of Black-and-White variety, belonging to four herds. The aim of the study was to characterize the body measurements of cows as well as to determine the coefficients of phenotypic correlations between body measurements, production traits and fertility. In the majority of cases the coefficients of phenotypic correlations between body measurements and milk yield were positive. The highest correlations were observed between milk yield and the width and length of pelvis as well as between milk yield and body weight, especially in primiparous cows. A significant positive correlation was also found between the body measurements of primiparous cows and fertility traits. Fertility was negatively correlated with pelvic angle, irrespective of cow age. This shows that a sloping rump has a positive influence on fertility traits.