

Effect of the country of origin of sires on the milk yield of their daughters during the first lactation

S u m m a r y

The effects of the country of origin of sires on changes in the milk productivity of primiparous cows utilized during the years 1989-2002 in north-eastern Poland were analyzed in the study. At the first stage of the study (1989-1992) the cows were divided into groups taking into account the country of origin of their sires, i.e. Poland, France, the Netherlands, Canada, Germany, Sweden and the USA. At the second stage of the study (1993-2002) another group of cows – daughters of Danish bulls – was considered. At the first stage of the experiment, primiparas coming from imported sires (mainly from the Netherlands and Germany) accounted for 2.55% of all cows only, whereas at the second stage their number increased to 18.84%, and the majority of them were daughters of French bulls. At the first stage of the study the cows descended from American bulls were characterized by the highest milk productivity. At the second stage of the experiment, the average milk yield increased in all groups of cows, descended from both domestic and imported bulls. The most significant progress in the yields of milk, milk fat and milk protein was observed in the cows descended from Dutch bulls.