

Estimation of chosen milk performance traits, length of lactation and udder health in high-yielding Polish Holstein-Friesian cows of Black-and-White variety

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Analysis of chosen milk performance traits of high-yielding 764 cows, producing during 305 day lactation in the period 2000-2003 over 8000 kg FCM milk, was performed. The 305 day lactation milk yield and lactation length averaged: 8964 kg and 407 days. The extra milk production during the extension period of standard lactation amounted to about 20% of the average milk yield during 305 day lactation. The mean somatic cell count in raw milk was 353 thous./l ml. It means, that milk produced by high-yielding cows indicated for the good hygienic udder condition. Analysing the lactation course of high yielding cows two main types of lactation curves were found. The first type of lactation curve was characterized by the relatively low peak lactation (30,5 kg) yield and high persistency of lactation index ($\leq 40\%$) and the second type by high peak lactation (42,7 kg) yield and low persistency of lactation index ($> 60\%$).