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## Effects of breed and diet on the growth and development of young bulls during individual evaluation

### S u m m a r y

The experiment was performed on young Hereford, Limousine and Charolaise bulls fattened from 7 to 14 months of age. The aim of the study was to determine the effect of breed and diet on parameters of growth and development of bulls during individual evaluation. The animals were fed a traditional diet composed of maize silage or grass silage supplemented with concentrates. During the period from birth to weaning the lowest total body weight gain was observed in Hereford bulls – 180.1 kg in those fed maize silage and 187.2 kg in those fed grass silage. This gain was lower than that recorded in Charolaise and Limousine bulls, by 98.1 kg and 102.1 kg and by 49.7 kg and 62.7 kg, respectively. Bulls fed grass silage had higher final body weights, compared to those fed maize silage. The difference was equal to 8.7 kg, 21.8 kg and 20.0 kg in the groups of Hereford, Charolaise and Limousine bulls, respectively. The highest value of height at withers, width of rump, oblique length of trunk, chest girth and thigh girth were found in Charolaise bulls. A basic diet containing grass silage, compared to maize silage, had a more beneficial effect on body weight and measurements of all evaluated bulls, both during and at the completion of the test period.