

Analysis of changes in rump angle on zoometric measurements and their effect on the course of parturition in Polish Holstein-Friesian cows of Black-and-White variety

S u m m a r y

Body measurements of 1032 cows concerning rump conformation and frame size were analyzed and conformation of the animals was evaluated on a scale of 1 to 9. It was found that rump angle expressed in degrees was determined not only by pelvic height (at pins and hips) but also by height at sacrum. The measurement of height at hips is of greatest importance as it determines pelvic position. The score for rear leg set and claw conformation must not be directly associated with rump angle. It was also found that determining rump position based on the measurements taken is directly correlated with rump score. The complete rump conformation score obtained by the cow before the first calving provides a detailed description of her rump angle for the next three calvings. Analysis of the results obtained also demonstrated that measurable traits of rump conformation had a significant effect on the course of calving.