

## The influence of chosen factors on beef breed cows' pregnancy length

### S u m m a r y

The results of beef cattle recording scheme conducted by Polish Beef Cattle Breeders & Producers Association was the material for investigation. The data for seven beef breeds, i.e. Charolaise, Heretbrd, Limousine, Piemontese, Angus, Salers and Simmental, concerning pregnancy length, calving course, calf sex and body weight at birth, cow weight, calving number and season were analyzed. The longest pregnancy (283.39 days) was recorded in case of beef type Simmental breed. The differences in pregnancy length of the above mentioned breed and the remaining 6 breeds were statistically significant at  $P \leq 0.01$ . The shortest pregnancy (279.98 days) was observed in Angus cows. Significant influence ( $P \leq 0.05$ ) of pregnancy length on calving course was recorded. Along to pregnancy length increase, calf weight at birth was also increasing. Calf sex has not had any statistical influence on pregnancy length, but if bull-calves were born, the pregnancies were longer by about 1 day. There were no significant dependencies between pregnancy length and cow weight and calving number, but slightly longer pregnancies were observed in the older cows. Calving season significantly ( $P \leq 0.01$ ) influenced pregnancy length. Pregnancies finished from January till May were longer by about 1 day than those finished in the remaining months. Correlations between pregnancy length and calf weight at birth and cow weight were statistically significant ( $P \leq 0.01$ ).