

Effect of extended lactations on milk composition and somatic cell count

S u m m a r y

Statistical analyses (GLM and FREQ procedures of SAS software) were performed on 561 451 test-day yields of the active population of cows from the Pomerania and Kujawy regions in Poland. The cows calved in 2000-2001 and were used until 2007. It was shown that the period by which lactation was extended had a significant effect on daily milk yield, basic chemical composition of milk and SCC. As lactation extended, the daily milk yield and lactose decreased, with steady increases in protein content, fat content and SCC, and a slight increase in protein to fat ratio. With advancing lactation, the proportion of milk samples that failed to meet the PN-86002/1999 standard due to high somatic cell count ($>400\ 000/\text{ml}$) and could not be sold to collection centres increased by about 10-12%.