

The influence of the intensity of the growth of sows on the morphological features of their reproductive organs

S u m m a r y

The research was carried out on 145 sows-hybrids from the reciprocal crossing of the Polish Large White breed and the Polish Landrace breed, kept on small-production farms situated at the territory of the Zamość region. The sows under the research were divided into five groups using the criterion of the growth intensity (vital growth). The first group included sows whose vital growth was from 400 to 450 g, the second group's vital growth was from 451 to 500 g, the third group's from 501 to 550 g, the fourth group's from 551 to 600 g and the fifth group's from 601 to 650 g. Just after the slaughter the reproductive organs of the sows were prepared and underwent morphometric estimation. The following measurements were made: the weight of the whole reproductive system, the length of the uterine cervix with the body of the uterus, the length of the uterus corners, the length and width of the uterine tubes, the weight of the ovaries and the length and width of the ovaries. It was shown that the intensity of the growth of sows measured using the criteria of the vital growth significantly influenced the morphological development of the reproductive organs. The most favourable parameters of the reproductive system were shown in the sows whose growth was moderate – from 400 to 450 g. In this group of sows no developmental anomalies of the reproductive system were found.