Effect of breed and category of the slaughter value of cattle

Summary

We investigated 15918 head of Holstein-Friesian var. black-and-white (HO) and red-and-white (RW), commercial crossbreds or purebred (MM), Limousine (LM), Charolaise (CH), Polish Red (RP) and Simmental (SM) breeds, each in categories – young bulls up to 24 months of life (A), bulls from 24 months (B), heifers (E) and cows (D). Body mass was evaluated before slaughter. Post mortem evaluation of carcasses included dressing percentage and the assessment according to SEUROP scoring system (conformation score and carcass fatness). Carcasses of beef cattle, especially of Limousine breed, were characterized by the highest weight and performance after slaughter, as well as better conformation and lower fatness as compared to other breeds. From all analyzed categories, the highest post-slaughter, weight, the highest conformation score and lowest carcasses fatness were recorded for young slaughter cattle of category A and E of beef cattle.

KEY WORDS: cattle / breed / category / slaughter value