

Importance of native cattle breeds in agrotourism

Summary

Native breeds of cattle are particularly valuable in rural tourism due to their adaptation to local conditions, resistance to diseases, healthiness, small feed requirements, good fertility and longevity. The best way to protect animals is to preserve them in the natural environment, on farms and in particular, in ecological and agrotourist farms or those located in protected areas. Extensive animal production in rural tourism may cover the demand for local products characterized by original and dietary values. Milk obtained from native breeds of cows is characterized by good quality features: high content of protein, fat and dry matter, short coagulation time and very good quality of curd and therefore, excellent usefulness for cheese production. Keeping native breeds in agrotourist farm plays important role of dissemination, promotion and education. Currently, native breeds of cattle do not occur too commonly in rural tourism. Introduction on a larger scale of our native breeds of cattle to agrotourist farms would constitute an important element in the protection of their genetic resources mainly through the use of the obtained raw materials (milk and meat) for the manufacture of branded food products.

KEY WORDS: native breeds of cattle, rural tourism, protection of genetic resources, local products