

## **Bioevaluation of the functional value of beef and cow milk in experiments conducted on model animals**

### **Summary**

Two experiments were conducted using rats as laboratory animals. The first experiment evaluated the nutritional and dietetic value of beef from cattle fed on pasture forage or maize silage with concentrate. As a reference for the beef, rats were given fish meat. The meats were components of semi-synthetic mixtures. The effect of the meat in the rat diets on metabolic parameters, antioxidative status, and levels of mineral components and alpha-tocopherol in the liver was determined. The second experiment evaluated the functional value of milk obtained from cows whose feed rations were supplemented with herbal extracts – *Echinacea purpurea* and Herbatan dietary feed supplement. The milk was the only component of the rats' diet. The herbal extracts were found to improve the functional value of the milk with no negative effect on the animals.

**KEY WORDS:** beef, milk, herbal extracts, rats