

Economic aspects of enhancing animal welfare standards in fatteners' production

Summary

The goal of the paper was to define economic consequences of the introduction of higher animal welfare standards in pig production. The case study describe a farm from Łódź province producing 800 fatteners a year on average. The data came from 2010. Economic results of the fatteners production with different levels of animal welfare (day light or artificial light, access to the pig-yard, access to the fodder, allowance of roughage on a diet) showed that costs increase by about 0.12% with the Moderate Standard and by about 9.3% with the Premium Standard. Gross margin increased by about 11% with the Moderate standard and decreased by about 45% with the Premium Standard.

KEY WORDS: animal welfare, fatteners, costs, gross margin