EXTERIOR AND BODY COMPOSITION FEATURES OF HOLSTEIN COWS OF DIFFERENT GENOTYPES

Key words: Holstein breed; selection; exterior; body type; milk type.

Summary

The aim of the research is to identify exterior features of the Holstein first calf heifers, and relationship of these features with milk yield. Research was done on Holstein first-calf heifers of German, Finnish and Hungarian breeds. To establish the exterior features bodies of the animals were measured and body composition indices were estimated. The milk yield was analyzed based on 305 days. The analysis specified the mass fraction of fat and protein in milk. The research revealed that Holstein first calf heifers of different breeding groups have differences in the development of exterior characteristics and milk production. Hungarian breed cows feature a more stretched body, a deeper chest compared with German and Finnish breed cows, and stronger bones resulting in higher milk yield and protein content in milk. Comparative analysis showed that Hungarian breed cows exceed German breed cows by 914.2 kg in milk yield, in mass fraction of milk protein they exceed German breed cows by 0.25%. Likewise, in comparison with Finnish breed cows, Hungarian breed cows showed milk yield figures exceeding by 215 kg and mass fraction of milk protein exceeding by 0.34%.

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