

ESTIMATION OF BREED INFLUENCE ON SOMATIC CELL COUNT IN BLACK AND WHITE CATTLE BREEDS BRED IN LITHUANIA

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Summary. Somatic cells count (SCC) is one of the most important factor of milk quality and health of cows. From 2001 to 2003 the influence of cattle breed on SCC was estimated in different black and white cattle breeds bred in Lithuania. The highest SCC was registered in milk of Swedish (763 ± 31.2 thousand/ml), German black and white (710 ± 12.9), and Holstein Friesian cows (688 ± 15.2). According to SCC the best quality of milk was found in Dutch (378 ± 69.3), Danish (513 ± 33.9) and British black and white cattle (529 ± 45.5) bred in Lithuania, and in Lithuanian black and white cattle (528 ± 1.7), respectively. The dispersive statistical analysis have shown a significant correlation between cattle breed and SCC ($P<0.001$).

Keywords: black and white cattle, breed, somatic cell count.