FATTENING RESULTS AND CARCSS QUALITY OF YOUNG BULLS PRODUCED BY MATING POLISH BLACK-AND-WHITE COWS TO CHAROLAISE AND SIMENTAL SIRES

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Abstract. The experiment was performed on 49 young crossbred bulls (Polish Black-and-White cows x Charolaise or Simental bulls). It constituted a part of a bull progeny testing program aimed at determining the suitability of beef bulls for crossing with Polish Black-and-White cows. In the study the progeny (8 to 11 young bulls) of three Simental and two Charolaise sires were examined. The young bulls were fattened from approx. 120 kg to approx. 500 kg body weight. During experiment the animals were kept in the same barn and were fed identically. It was found that the young bulls by Charolaise sires, compared with those by Simental sires, showed a tendency towards higher birth weights and higher gains. They also utilized fewer oat units per kg of body weight gain and were characterized by a higher carcass dressing percentage, higher proportions of primary elements in the carcass and better quality of meat. The evaluation of three Simental and two Charolaise bulls, performed on the basis of the slaughter value and meat quality of their progeny, confirmed their suitability for mating to Polish Black-and-White cows. This indicates that suitability for commercial crossing with dairy cows should be one of selection criteria in the case of beef bulls, as appropriate selection may substantially improve the fattening results and slaughter value of beef cattle.

Keywords: bulls, Charolaise, Simental, progeny testing.