

ASSESSMENT OF BLOOD BIOCHEMISTRY, MORPHOLOGY, FEEDING QUALITY AND MATING SYSTEM IN LITHUANIAN HOUND POPULATION

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Summary. Lithuanian hound is an old native dog breed that was originated from local separate domestic dog groups used for hunting and accompanied by migrant hounds from Poland, Russia, st.Hubert and other hounds and biggles. Lithuanian hound is an almost not investigated dog breed except for exterior and efficiency of the work. There is no information about Lithuanian hound physiology and behaviour profiles, congenital information and health status. The objective of the study was to consider blood morphology and biochemistry, diet and mating system for valuing health state of Lithuanian hound population. It was found that blood morphological characteristics of Lithuanian hound breed were corresponded to physiological status. Lower levels of calcium ($2,1 \pm 0,3$ mmol/l), phosphorus ($0,8 \pm 0,2$ mmol/l) and magnesium ($0,89 \pm 0,2$ mmol/l) in the blood of Lithuanian hound breed were influenced by unbalanced feeding regimen. Coefficient of inbreeding in analyzed Lithuanian hound breed was of 2.09%, relatedness - 6.74%, and both of those parameters had tendency to increase in the following generations.

Keywords: Lithuanian hound, blood morphology, inbreeding coefficient.