

BIOLOGICAL AND FARMING QUALITIES OF NORWEGIAN LANDRACE PIGS BRED IN LITHUANIA

J. Kriauzienė

Summary. The Norwegian Landrace pig breed was raised using Danish and Swedish Landrace. Therefore its biological properties, type of body composition and productivity are similar to those of Danish and Swedish Landrace breeds. In Lithuania the Swedish Landrace has been bred since 1958, the Danish Landrace - 1978. The Swedish Landrace well adapted themselves in Lithuania, had good fattening and meat traits, were more resistant to stresses. The Danish Landrace had good meat quality, but adapted themselves worse in Lithuania and were very sensitive to stresses. In 1994 Norwegian Landrace was brought to Lithuania.

The Norwegian Landrace have long, narrow body, light front body part. Their indexes of compactness – 82,67%, extension – 183,89%, thoracic – 72,54 %, long-leggedness – 50,86%.

Average reproductiveness of the Norwegian Landrace sows ($n = 31$) – 9,20 piglet, weight of wetening piglets at the age of 42 days - 13,80 kg, saving % of piglets – 81,70%.

According to the control data the fattening properties of the Norwegian Landrace were average, but their meat properties were very high. Pigs of this breed have very thin fat, large hams, good muscle yield in the carcass, The morphological composition of the Norwegian Landrace carcass ($n = 12$) is: muscle – 63,95%, fat with skin – 20,09%, bones – 15,94%.

The meat of the Norwegian Landrace meet the demands for good meat quality pH – 5,5; colour intensity – 75,76; water binding –55,27%; tryptophane:oxyproline ratio – 5,83. The temperature of fat melting is 36,55 C°.

According to its degustation results the Norwegian Landrace meat was evaluated 5,56 points, bouillon - 6,02 points (according to 9 point scale). The Norwegian Landrace meat was hard and dry.

We can conclude that the Norwegian Landrace pigs are of good bacon type, processing very good meat properties. Their carcass is long, fat very thin, hams large. According to physical-chemical properties, meat and fat meet good quality meat demands, but meat tasting properties are worse than those of the native selection pigs. By their body conformation type, productivity and meat taste properties they are closer to the Danish Landrace genotype.

Keywords: Landrace, breeds, reproduction, fattening performance, carcass traits, carcass grade.