

THE EFFECT OF LEGUMINOUS GRAIN IN THE DIETS FOR COWS ON THE CHEMICAL COMPOSITION AND TECHNOLOGICAL PROPERTIES OF MILK

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Summary. Institute of Animal Science, 21 Lithuanian Black-and-White cows were used in a trial to determine the chemical composition, physical, chemical, biological and technological properties of milk. The results from the study indicated that nutritive and biological values of milk of cows fed diets containing flour from field peas or vetch (10.7 and 9.5 %) did not differ and by some tests for technological properties of milk (composition of fatty acids) were of even higher quality compared with the milk of cows fed soybean oil-meal (13.2 %) during the confinement period. Therefore, in order to develop dairy farming in Lithuania and reduce the cost of milk, it is advisable to replace (on a protein equivalent basis) expensive imported soybean oil-meal with local cultivars of field peas and vetch in the diets for dairy cows with no doubts as regards economic efficiency and positive influence on milk quality.

Keywords: quality of milk, peas, vetch, soybean oil-meal.