

COMPATIBILITY OF VARIOUS PIG BREEDS AT COMMON AND COMPLEX CROSSBREEDING

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Summary. Reproductive, fattening and carcass traits of pigs resulting from common and complex crossing are analysed in this paper. It has been determined that heterosis effect cannot be obtained at every crossing and for all farming traits. Crossing of pigs of various breeds does not always increase the litter size of sows, yet it almost definitely has a positive effect on the body development of pigs. Weaning weight of two – way crossbreds was by 8.1 to 25.6 % higher than that of purebred pigs. Crossbreeding has a positive influence on the fattening and carcass traits of pigs. The highest heterosis effect can be obtained at three – way crossing. The fattening performance of three – way crossbred pigs was by 16.3 – 25.4 % higher than that of purebred pigs. Crossbred pigs had lower backfat thickness at 6 th – 7 th rib and higher loin lean area, and meat percentage. The highest heterosis effect was determined by crossing F₁ generation German Landrace x Swedish Yorkshire crossbred pigs with Duroc boars. The average litter size of sows in this combination was 11.2 pigs, each weighing 1.64 kg at birth. Hybrid pigs reached 100 kg weight in 156 days, their daily gain was 988 g and meat percentage 54.7 %.

Keywords: breeding methods, crossing, hybridization, hybrids, pure – breeding, heterosis, breed, reproductive, fattening and carcass traits.