

THE INFLUENCE OF PROBIOTICS AND PHITOBOTICS ON MEAT CHARACTERISTICS AND QUALITY OF FATTENING BULLS

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Summary. The present study was designed to investigate the influence of probiotics and phitobiotics on meat characteristics and quality of cattle offspring. The Lithuanian Black and White breed fattening bulls three months before slaughter there used. The experiment was carried out at the Center of Practical Training and Experiments at Lithuanian Veterinary Academy. Three groups of 6 bulls in each: Control, I Experimental Group and II Experimental Group were formed. To the concentrated feed of animals from I Experimental Group – 2 kg/t probiotic YEASTURE-W, from II Experimental Group – 250 g/t phitobiotic YUCCA were mixed. The dynamics of weight of fattening bulls were determined by weighting animals one time per month before morning feeding. The weight per twenty-four hours was calculated according to weighting data. The control slaughtering of bulls was carried out at the end of experiment. Also the physical-chemical features of *musculus longissimus dorsi* were investigated.

It was established that bulls on the probiotic YEASTURE-W supplemented feed exhibited an 9.4 percent increase in the weight gain compared to the control animals ($P < 0.05$). Their yield of carcass was on 1.2 % higher, and The meat culinary and chemical properties were improved compared to the controls. The phitobiotic YUCCA had no significant influence on the growth of bulls compared to the controls.

Keywords: bull, weight, carcass, probiotic, photobiotic.