

## EFFECT OF LACTATION AND OTHER FACTORS ON THE CHANGES OF MILK COMPOSITION AND IT'S QUALITATIVE PARAMETERS OF BLACK-AND-WHITE COWS

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**Summary.** The changes of milk yield, it's composition and a number of somatic cells of Lithuanian, German and Danish Black-and-White cows were investigated during different periods of lactation. The effect of the season on the composition of milk and main quality parameters during the year of 2002 and 2003 were analysed. A significant increase of somatic cells was noticed during the lactation period. The milk yield of Lithuanian and German Black-and-White cows was found to be notably increased in the sixth month of lactation. This might be related to the formation of placenta and the changes of the activity of hormones and enzymes. The changes of a season affected mostly the variation of milk's composition, number of somatic cells and a general bacterial contamination.

**Keywords:** cattle, composition of milk, lactation, season, milk quality.