

THE DISTRIBUTION OF DAIRY COW MASTITIS IN LITHUANIA

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Summary. The distribution of dairy cow mastitis during 1999–2003 was analysed using annual reports of Lithuanian State Food and Veterinary Service (SFVS), National Veterinary Laboratory (NVL) and Lithuanian districts' State Food and Veterinary institutions. For laboratory research milk of cows with mastitis from different size of herds in all districts of Lithuania and in different seasons was collected during 1996–2003. Bacteriological researches of mastitis were performed in NVL and in nine Lithuanian districts' State food and veterinary institution laboratories.

Analysis of data have showed that from all sick cows 21.06 % get mastitis. Reports about productivity of the herds of controlled cows showed that 10.1 % of cows were rejected due to udder diseases and 5.0 % due to decrease of productivity, i.e. cows, which productivity decreased due to mastitis. At NVL and district SFVS laboratories were analyzed 58,819 cows sick with mastitis. The majority of reasearch was performed in 1996 (10,062), 1998 (10,215) and 1999 (13,369) in districts of Kaunas, Marijampolė, Panevėžys, Šiauliai and Utena. In addition, positive correlation ($r=0.8807-0.8766$) was observed between numbers of mastitis and density of animal population. The main agents of bacterial mastitis were *S. aureus* - 59.74 %, *S. agalactiae* - 15.1 %, *P. aeruginosa* - 0.62 % and *Corynebacterium spp.* - 0.97 %, respectively. Furthermore, hidden mastitis were registered in 90.5 % and clinical mastitis in 9.5 % of total cases. The highest risk of mastitis was detected in young (2-4 years) and middle age (5-7 years) cows, and during the housing period.

Keywords: distribution, mastitis, cow, bacteria.