

ADAPTATION OF THE ENGLISH LARGE WHITE AND SWEDISH YORKSHIRE PIG BREEDS IN LITHUANIA

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Summary. It is common that adaptive responses of pigs moved to an unusual to original breed conditions are pronounced in significant reduction of their fattening performance. The objective of performed study was to investigate the adaptation of pigs under a new environmental conditions. Decisions about adaptation of English Large Whites and Swedish Yorkshires were made when analysing changes in data of phenotype (productivity) of imported and born in Lithuanian Breeding Centres pigs. The work has been carried out in the years 1998-2005. It was shown that new environmental conditions had no negative influence on adaptation of English Large White breed pigs, but was highly pronounced in Swedish Yorkshire breed pigs. However, lean meat percentage of the above – mentioned pigs breed essentially did not change. Because of adaptation to a new environmental conditions, rate of piglets losses of English Large White and Swedish Yorkshire breeds, born in Breeding Centres of Lithuania, was significantly lower compared to imported primiparous sows ($P < 0.05-0.01$).

Key words: pig breeds, environment, adaptation, performance.