

THE INFLUENCE OF THE GENOTYPE ON THE QUANTITATIVE TRAITS OF BOVINE SEMEN

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Summary. Neither the genotype nor the season have any influence on the main qualitative traits and the amount of defective fresh and cryopreserved semen of beef and dairy bulls provided the animal has good feeding and housing conditions. Charolais bulls had the highest ejaculate volume (7.97 cm³) but the lowest sperm concentration in fresh semen (1.24×10⁹ /cm³). The highest sperm concentration (1.39×10⁹ /cm³) was determined in the fresh semen of Simmental bulls. The best postthaw sperm motility (40.9%) was found in the Limousine semen, yet the best survival 5 h after thawing was determined for the Salers x Aberdeen Angus semen. Though the postthaw motility of the latter spermatozoa was the lowest (38.5%). Thus, sperm viability in the frozen semen does not depend on the postthaw sperm motility. However, these traits are interdependent with regard to individual genotype (in case of our studies – Salers x Aberdeen Angus and Simmental breeds).

Key words: bulls, genotype, semen, quality.