

ADAPTATION OF THE LANDRACE, DUROC AND PIETRAIN PIG BREEDS IN LITHUANIA

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Summary. A study was conducted to analyze changes in the productivity and to investigate the adaptation of imported Danish Landrace, Danish Duroc and Dutch Pietrain pig breeds and their offsprings born in Lithuanian Breeding Centres. The experimental work has been carried out from 1998 to 2006. There was significant positive influence of adaptation in the litter size, milk yield and survival rate of piglets from primiparous sows of Landrace and Duroc breed, born and grown in Lithuania compared to piglets from newly imported primiparous sows. In addition, it was demonstrated that adaptation of Durocs had no influence on their fattening performance and meatiness. In Danish Landraces, borned in Lithuania improved fattening performance was registered. However, with increasing daily gain the meatiness traits in this group were reduced. Leanness of adapted Landraces was on 1.7–2.9 % higher compared to imported pigs of this breed ($P < 0.05$ – 0.01). It was shown that the adaptation reduced reproductive traits, fattening performance and had no influence on lean meat percentage in Pietrain breed pigs. It is likely that Pietrains are most difficultly adapting breed to a new environmental conditions.

Key words: pig breeds, adaptation, productivity.