

EVALUATION OF PIG BREED INFLUENCE ON PIG FATTENING, QUALITY OF THEIR CARCASSES AND MEAT IN LITHUANIA

Artūras Stimbirys¹, Vigilijus Jukna²

¹*Department of Food Safety and Animal Hygiene, Veterinary Academy, Lithuanian University of Health Sciences
Tilžės 18, LT-47181 Kaunas, Lithuania. Tel. +37037 362695; e-mail: arturas@lva.lt*

²*Department of Animal Science, Veterinary Academy, Lithuanian University of Health Sciences
Tilžės 18, LT-47181 Kaunas, Lithuania*

Summary. The objective of this work was to estimate the influence of breed on the fattening characteristics, and quality of their carcasses and meat in old (LWo) and improved (LWi) genotypes of Lithuanian White, Large White (LW), Landraces (L) and Large White and Landraces crossbreds (LWxL) pigs groups. The growing speed and feed consumption (MJAE) of LWo and LWi pigs was slower than LW, L and LWxL. Improved LWi pigs grew up 15.43 % faster compared to LWo animals ($p>0.05$). The best feed consumption (MJAE) was detected in L pigs, which used on 15.9 % metabolizable energy lower than LWo ($p<0.05$), and on 9.02 % than LWi ($p>0.05$) animals. Landraces grewed up to 100 kg body weight on 38.2 days, 19.6 days, 17.0 days and 3.0 days earlier than LWo, LWi, LW and LWxL pigs, respectively. The highest lean meat content was detected in LW pigs. In LWo pigs carcasses this index was on 5.7 %, 9.3%, 6.0% and 8.5% lower compared to LWi, LW, L, and crossbreds (LWxL), respectively. The differences between all these groups were highly significant ($p<0.001$). It was detected that water holding capacity of LWo meat was higher, but not differed significantly ($p>0.05$) from other tested pigs groups. In LWo pigs cooking lost and drip loss were the lowest and significantly differed from LW ($p<0.05$) and L ($p<0.01$) pigs.

Keywords: pigs, fattening characteristics, pigs carcasses, technological and quality indexes of meat.