

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE INITIAL RACES AND HERDS WHICH WERE THE BASIS OF CREATION TYPE OF SHEEP MOLDAVIAN KARAKUL

I. Buzu^{1*}, S. Evtodienco²

¹Institute of Zoology of Science Academy from Moldova, Chişinău, Republic of Moldova

²Scientific and Practical Institute of Biotechnologies in Zootechny and Veterinary Medicine, Maximovca, Republic of Moldova

*e-mail: ionbuzua@gmail.com

Abstract

The purpose of the present research was to highlight the biological and morpho-productive particularities of the initial Țuşca and Karakul sheep races and herds from experimental households, involved in the process of creating the new type (race) of Moldavian Karakul sheep. Scientific research was conducted on the biological material of purrace Karakul sheep, imported from Central Asia and the local race Țuşca and its crossbreeds (Țuşca x Karakul) of different generations, raised on farms: Kotovski sovkhos, Căinari district and the "Agrosargal" Agricultural Production Cooperative, Hânceşti district. Research has shown that the local Țuşca sheep race is an ancient one with mixed production skills for milk-furskins-wool, being a rustic one with well-preserved biological features, expressed by unpretentiousness in food and maintenance conditions, increased resistance to weather and disease, having a fairly good milk productivity. At the same time, the Țuşca sheep race is a late one, with a low body weight and low meat skills. The quality of the furskins obtained from lambs slaughtered 1-5 days after birth is low, characterized by the presence of inferior quality scattered curls, such as the types: rings and semi-rings, peas, manes, corkscrew. The Asian Karakul sheep race is unique in the world with distinct biological features from other races. Karakul lambs at birth have an extraordinarily beautiful furskin, characterized by the presence, on the entire surface, of valuable elastic curls of wave type, bob, narrow and long ridges of milled type, with silky and shiny hairy coating, of different colors (black, white, greyish, brown, gray, pink) and colors (greyish - blue, silver, marble, grayed; gray - gold, silver, bronze, platinum, diamond, amber), which is rightly considered a luxury fur. At the same time, the Karakul sheep race has some disadvantages, such as: very low milk production, body mass and meat skills quite low, increased sensitivity to air humidity and wet lowland pastures, excessive susceptibility to helminthic diseases. The initial flocks of sheep Karakul, Țuşca and their crossbreeds (Țuşca x Karakul) from the farms of the experimental households had the breeding value and the degree of development of the morpho-productive characters below the level of the standard-purpose requirements. Based on these findings, a genetic amelioration methodology was developed for the creation of a new type of Moldavian Karakul sheep, based on the application of methods and procedures for selection of Țuşca x Karakul sheep according to a defined complex of morpho-productive characteristics: furskin quality, body mass (meat aptitude) and milk production.

Key words: particularities, biological, morpho-productive, herds, initials, sheep, Țuşca, Karakul