EVALUATION OF GENETIC POTENTIAL FOR MILK PRODUCTION IN THE ROVASI SHEEP BREED

C. Pascal[1,2], C. Cristian[2], D. Bulmagă[2]

[1]Iasi University of Life Sciences, Faculty of Food and Animal Sciences, Romania
[2]Research and Development Station for Sheep and Goat Breeding, Secuieni-Bacău, Romania

Abstract

The main purpose of conducting milk production control is to identify high-performing milk-producing ewes that can serve as the foundation for future selection nuclei, aiming to obtain offspring with superior productivity potential. The practical importance of establishing elite nuclei is also ensured by the fact that future ram dams will be selected only from the females forming this elite group. The research was conducted on two batches of lactating females (L1 and L2). In order to evaluate their milk production potential as objectively as possible, control works were carried out both during the suckling period of the lambs and during the exclusive milking period of the ewes. Accepted working methods were used for both periods, and the two groups benefited from identical conditions. Statistical analysis of the data for the suckling period indicates the existence of differences between the groups ($P < 0.01$). Regarding the total milk production obtained in the respective lactation, it was observed that the highest quantity was obtained from L2, which provided a superior production by 28.75% compared to L1.

Key words: *sheep milk, Rovasi, Țigaie, nursing, milking, lambs*