

ROLE OF RUSTIC PIG BREEDING IN RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND EVALUATION OF THE MORPHOLOGICAL CHARACTERISTICS AND PRODUCTIVITY OF CERTAIN INDIGENOUS BREEDS

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Abstract

Belonging to the natural environment for the sustainable use of animal resources in the environmental conditions of our country, but also in the context of climate change, requires prospects for the growth of these breeds in the current picture of consumer demand for high-quality meat and of breeders for disease resistance and reasonable maintenance costs. The present research aims to highlight the genetic diversity and morpho-productive characteristics of some native pig breeds, their importance in the country's sustainable economy, and their reintroduction into traditional breeding systems. The first part of this presentation will describe the primitive pig breeds of Asia and Europe, their origin, and their contribution to the formation of new breeds. Classification and description of Romanian breeds and populations by geographical area, presentation of the origin of each breed and population, growth prospects, and their role in Romania's sustainable economy. The role of genetic conservation and its usefulness in improving, in particular, organic resistance and the organoleptic and preservation qualities of meat for the production of traditional Romanian food products. The estimation of production costs, taking into account the hardiness of native pig breeds (use of pastures, pigsties, food scraps). The research is based on morphological analysis in the field of local pig populations, followed by the collection of biological samples (blood) to establish genetic identity and diversity using molecular genetics laboratory methods (PCR – polymerase chain reaction) to demonstrate the spatial and temporal sustainability of individuals.

Keywords: *origin, phenotype, diversity, conservation, sustainability*