

TERRITORIAL ORGANIZATION AND REPRODUCTIVE PERFORMANCE OF PUBLIC MOUNT STALLIONS IN NORTH-EASTERN ROMANIA

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Abstract

The public mounting system plays a key role in horse breeding programs by ensuring controlled reproduction and genetic improvement at regional level. This study aimed to analyze the territorial distribution and reproductive performance of public mount stallions in North-Eastern Romania, based on official breeding records collected over multiple years. Data were analyzed for six counties (Neamț, Iași, Bacău, Botoșani, Suceava and Vaslui), considering breed structure and main reproductive indicators, including the number of mares covered, gestation rate, fertility and natality. The results highlight marked differences among counties in both stallion distribution and reproductive efficiency. In several counties, Romanian Semigreu stallions represented the dominant breed, while other improved breeds contributed locally to breeding activity. Overall reproductive performance was variable, with higher efficiency recorded in counties with a more stable stallion structure and higher mare utilization rates. The findings underline the importance of territorial management and breed allocation in optimizing the outcomes of public mounting systems.

Key words: *horse breeding, public mount, territorial distribution, reproductive performance, Romania*