

QUANTITATIVE MEAT PRODUCTION IN TRANSYLVANIAN NAKED NECK CHICKENS

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Abstract

In many countries, meat and eggs obtained from local breeds or populations are preferred, both out of respect for the national genetic heritage and due to the clearly superior nutritional and sensory characteristics compared to those from industrial hybrids. The only chicken breed originating in Romania is the Transylvanian Naked Neck, which belongs to the dual-purpose group (meat and eggs) and is characterized by remarkable organic resistance and a very good adaptability, especially in warmer regions. The study was conducted on male birds of the Transylvanian Naked Neck breed raised in an extensive system until the age of 120 days. At the time of slaughter, the live weight of the birds was 2115.86 g, and the weight of the chilled carcasses was 1495.28 g, resulting in a dressing percentage of 70.67%. Relative to the cold carcass weight, the breast accounted for 19.48%, the legs for 21.54%, the wings for 12.07%, and the giblets for 27.72%; the head, neck, and feet had a combined share of 19.19%. The presented data indicate that the Transylvanian Naked Neck breed ensures a satisfactory quantitative meat production and can represent a valuable genetic resource for free-range production systems.

Key words: Transylvanian Naked Neck, slaughter yield, anatomical portions, internal organs