STUDY ON THE PERFORMANCE OF MILK PRODUCTION AND GENETIC PARAMETERS IN A HERD OF FLECKVIEH COWS EXPLOITED IN A FARM FROM THE NORTH-EAST OF ROMANIA

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Abstract. The present study analyzes the level of productions achieved in a herd of Fleckvieh cows in normal lactations and the values of the genetic parameters. The statistical estimators were calculated with the S.A.V.C. computer program and the genetic parameters were estimated using the REML method. In the case of normal lactations, the highest production average is 7,122.91 kg reached in the third lactation, with 4.14% fat content and 2.99% protein. The heritability of milk production is 0.21 and this character is genetically correlated very strongly with the amount of fat and that of the protein, the coefficient value being 0.99 and respectively 0.88. The average productions of the cows are very good but all values are inferior compared to those in the ancestry, where for father's mother are the highest, 10,929.47 kg. Then cows do not phenotypically express their genetic potential due to the influence of external environmental factors.

Keywords: Fleckvieh, phenotype, variability, heritability, correlations.

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1. Introduction

The improvement of dairy herds has been carried out for decades in order to increase the productive performance of dairy cows, but this has led to the worsening of many functional traits that are negatively correlated with milk production. Therefore, although increasing milk production and milk quality (fat

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