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## **ASSESSMENT OF SUITABILITY OF SIMMENTAL BREED COWS FIRSTBORN TO MACHINE MILKING**

To predict the potential milk production of cows the most scientists breeders preferred features of their exterior, using linear measurements, indices of body structure and constitution types of animals.

In terms of intensification of dairy industry is quite important the technological quality of cattle that are caused not only excellent exterior, but udder morphological parameters that formed its functionality and, consequently, the level of milk production.

The most important exterior feature is the udder of dairy cattle, because by its morphological and functional characteristics determine suitability cows for machine milking. The need for evaluation and selection of cows for udder shape and properties due to the fact that these features have positive relationship with the largest yields and good inherit by descendants.

The aim of our research was to study morphological and functional properties of the udder of cows firstborn of Simmental breed.

In assessing udder the special attention paid to its development. It must be large in volume (circumference exceeding 110–120 cm), proportionally formed, bath- or cupped form, bottom placed at a sufficient distance from the ground, front part tight to the abdomen, and back highly and firmly attached with clear, deep groove of supportive relationships, are in the middle of teats particles at the ideal distance, cylindrical shape, desired length and thickness, directed vertically downward.

Morphological properties of udder cows firstborn studied for 2–4 months after calving for 1–1,5 hours before milking by taking measurements of length, width, depth and coverage of the udder, the height from the floor to the bottom of the udder, length and diameter teats.

To bath-similar attributed udder shape for the benefits of its length over a width of 15 % or more, to bowl-similar – within 1–14 %, to round – less than 1 %. Udder notional value was calculated as the product of his girth and depth measurements.

Cow firstborn of Simmental breed farm "Litynskie" for morphological and functional properties of udder correspond to

requirements of milking machine, which is desirable in the intensive technology of milk production.

Thus, of the estimated 17 cows firstborn Simmental breed 10 (59 %) bath-similar udder shape, 7 cows (41 %) – bowl-similar.

The positive connection of parameters width, depth and coverage of the udder with the level of yield was established that indicated on expediency selection of firstborn cows for measurements of milk gland.