

MORPHOLOGY OF CARPATHIAN BRAUNVIEH

JANKA BÉKEFI¹, ANDRÁS GÁSPÁRDY², BÉLA BÉRI¹

¹University of Debrecen AGTC, Institute of Animal Husbandry, Debrecen

²Szent István University, Faculty of Veterinary Science, Budapest
bekefi@agr.unideb.hu

ABSTRACT

The Carpathian Braunvieh cattle, an unassuming three purpose autochthonous breed of the Carpathian basin established by cross-breeding of the Schweizer Braunvieh and three local breeds Moganitza, Riska and Busa, approximately 150 years ago. Since it wasn't competitive with the modern high-productivity breeds, in the last decades it becomes rare and endangered. University of Debrecen presumed that-despite the long period of uncontrolled breeding - the population kept in Hungary is still differs from the other Braunvieh-type breeds, bred across Europe. We carry out body measurements, scaling 14 size traits and calculate the substantial trait rates to compare with literature.

Based on body measurements data and live weight we found that the examined breed is roughly uniform. On the strength of its morphological traits, the breed is clearly distinct from the high productivity Brown Swiss. The current Hungarian population favours to the one lived in Hungary in the 1960's, and to another, named Ukrainian Carpathian Brown. We established that – thanks to the aware sorting - the Hungarian population still represents the ancient, primitive Carpathian variant.

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