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Iodine accumulation capacity of soils and permanent pasture in different areas of Middle Rhodope mountain and reflection on the iodine content in the sheep and cow raw milk, white brined cheese and yellow cheese

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SUMMARY

- The study on the iodine supply to ruminants during the grazing period revealed its irregular pattern.
- At the beginning of the pasture period the iodine content of grass exceeded up to 50% the needs of sheep and cow. This effect is more evident in the Middle Rhodope region. With advance of meadow vegetation from May to June increased the iodine content in grass (1000m asl.). Significant decline in the iodine content was found reaching its minimum in July (0.08-0.12 mg/kg DM) regardless of the altitude. These levels are within the marginal and chronic

40%

30

deficiency range and provide for 30 to 40% of the organism needs.

The naturally upset balance of iodine offer affects not only the fauna in both regions, but as well the iodine content in the raw milk and dairy products.

The necessitates of additional amounts of natural protectors as iodine, selenium and zinc in the nutrition of ruminants during the grazing period are very important for health and life expectance for the animals reared in endemic mountain regions.

Key words: iodine, deficiency, soils, plants, cow and ewe's milk, cheese, Rhodope Mountain

INTRODUCTION

The history of iodine started with the beginning of animal life and continues with prehistoric man, whose development started about 3.5 million and historical ending of 10,000-30,000 years.

The element was discovered in 1811 by Courtois during cleaning of "Kelp Pfannen" 'with hot sulphurous acid in the brown alga. Davy and Gay-Lussac in 1814 identified the new element and named it "iode" (violet crystals).

The necessity of life and toxicity of iodine were in 1820 accepted (Coindet). The iodine deficiency induced thyroid abnormalities became more frequent in certain regions of the world. They usually occurred in the livestock and people in mountain region and continental habitats.

10,000-30,000

1811 . Courtois "Kelp Pfannen"

. Davy and Gay-Lussac 1814 .

" " ().

1820 . (Coindet).

1831 .
 - 100-500 mg l/kg .
 (4) (3)
 () .
 WHO
 (Anderson et al., 2005).
 ,
 ,
 16 km
 200 µg /kg (Falbe
 Regitz, 1989).
 Bruggenit - $\text{Ca}(\text{IO}_3)_2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$,
 Iodargyrite - Ag, Iodembolit Ag (Cl,
 Br, I), Lautarit - $(\text{CaIO}_3)_2$ Marshit-
 .
 0.01
 6.0 mg/kg.
 ,
 ,
 0.5 - 3.0 mg/kg
 (0.2-0.5 mg/kg).
 0.1-10.0 mg l/kg.
 2.8
 mg l/kg (Kabata-Pendias and
 Pendias, 2001).

- The first controlled study in craw
 - sick families took place in 1831
 with 100-500 mg l/kg food salt.

As part of the thyroid
 hormones thyroxine (T4) and
 triiodthyronine (T3) affects the
 - iodine indirectly many metabolic
 processes (protein and fat
 syntheses) of the organism. Both
 primary and secondary iodine
 - deficiency leads to inadequate
 - thyroid hormone production and
 - goitre. According to WHO data
 worldwide about a third of
 population suffer from iodine
 deficiency (Anderson et al., 2005).

- The iodine is transported in the
 food chain from soil, flora, fauna
 and humans via water and air. It is
 subject to a constant cycle. The 16
 km thick crust contains about 200
 µg J/kg (Falbe and Regitz, 1989).
 In nature, the iodine occurs mainly
 in the minerals Bruggenit -
 $\text{Ca}(\text{IO}_3)_2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$, Iodargyrit - Agl,
 Iodembolit Ag (Cl, Br, I), Lautarit -
 $(\text{CaIO}_3)_2$ and Marshit - Cul. The
 iodine content in the rock varies
 from 0.01 to 6.0 mg/kg. The slate
 formation with high level of organic
 matter contained much iodine, as
 - well as the sandstone, limestone
 - and dolomite are abundant of
 iodine 0.5 - 3.0 mg l/kg than the
 granite and gneiss (0.2-0.5 mg/kg).
 The different surface of the Earth
 occur 0.1-10.0 mg l/kg. They
 contain on average most 2.8 mg
 l/kg (Kabata-Pendias and Pendias,
 2001). The iodine in the weathered

(,).
 ,
 ()
 (50 µg/l),
 (8-10 µg/l).
 ,
 ,
 " -
 (Abel et al., 1997; Angelow, 2001; Angelow et al., 1996; Anke et al., 1999; Anynim, 1997).
 ,
 ,
 ,
 -

- rocks is bound to a minor extent with the organic substance and the slide and engages with the water in the rivers and the oceans. It focuses there in marine organisms (algae, seaweed, seafood). On the other hand, the element is volatile at low temperatures and leaves the oceans in form of diiodomethane (photooxidation of organic iodine in the air) and achieved with the air and the rain again the coasts of continents.

Sea water is significant iodine reached (50 µg/l) as the drinking water in immediate vicinity of the coast (8-10 µg/l).

- In different rural and mountain regions in the world, the guarantee of sheep nutrition with inorganic nutrients during the lactation period is closely related to the different environmental factors, playing a key role in the transfer of essential nutrients through the food chain "soil-plant-animal organism-milk products" (Abel et al., 1997; Angelow, 2001; Angelow et al., 1996; Anke et al., 1999; Anynim, 1997).

- However, the large population size of different sheep breeds, their wide adaptability to climates and forage quality, make sheep much more widely accepted and genetically of greater potential.

- The aim of this study was to determine the distribution of trace

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 2013 . 2014 .
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 (1 g) -
 250 ml 0,5%
 NH₃
 20 ,
 200 ml.
 .
 -
 -
 , 1 g
 10 ml - 0,07 N
 2 -
 Ultraturax.
 25 ml
 ICP-MS Te
 () .
 4 ml H₂O + 1 ml 25%
 3
 90° . ,
 20 min (4000
 ./min) 25 ml
 .
 ICP-
 MS (AGILENT-7500c).

element iodine in the entire food chain as well as the changes of iodine content in the ewe's and cow milk and dairy products (white brined cheese, yellow cheese) during the pasture period,

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The soils, plants, milk and cheese samples were collected in 2013 and 2014 during the pasture period (May-July). The plant samples (1 g) are boiled in an Erlenmeyer flask with 250 ml of 0.5% NH₃ solution for 20 minutes and then bring to the certain volume of 200 ml. The samples are filtered prior to measurement. For determination of iodine in the milk and cheese, one gram (1g) dry substance had been taken and in 10 ml - 0,07 n TMAH solution was dissolved and 2 min by ultraturax homogenized.

The samples are diluted to 25 ml and directly measured by ICP-MS using Te as an internal standard. The yellow cheese samples were mixed with 4 ml H₂O + 1ml of 25% TMAH solution and digested for 3 hours at 90°C.

After cooling, the sample 20 minutes centrifugation (4000 rev. / min) and in 25 ml volumetric flasks are transferred. The analysis of samples is carried out by ICP-MS (Agilent-7500c).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The concentration of iodine in the soil samples ranged from 350 to 450 µg/kg (Table 1). The acidic soils at two altitudes ensure a low transfer factor of iodine from soil to plant /0.22 to 0.31/ considering that, there is a low iodine preservation of soil samples.

1. Table 1. Iodine content in soils, pasture grass and transfer factor in the region of v. Smiljan (Middle Rhodope Mountain)

p / region	samples	altitude	iodine µg/kg
, 2013 / soils	(n=3)	1000m	400±50
, 2013 / plants	(n=3)	1000m	125±49
/transfer factor			0.31
, 2013 / soils	(n=3)	1200m	400±50
, 2013 / plants	(n=3)	1200m	89±50
/transfer factor			0.22

Change the acidity of the soil and geological structure of the area affects negatively the transfer of iodine in the meadow grass. Investigated grass associations located at 1200m accumulate with 18.8% less iodine than the grass samples up to 1000 m.. The detailed study of Anke et al. (1993) demonstrates the role of geological formations on the transfer of iodine in different indicator plants (Table 2).

2.

Table 2. Iodine content of the flora dependent on the geological origin of the living areas

geological formation	relative %
(alluvial deposits)	100
(diluvial sand)	95
(phyllite)	92
(syenite)	87
(loess)	83
(gneiss)	80
(slate)	73
(new red sandstone)	71
(muschelkalk)	65
(keuper)	61
(granite)	54

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,
100 (
)
5 7%
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,
(
,
,
(54%)
.

The concentration of iodine for greater clarity is represented in relative percentage.

Quantitatively analyzed for iodine in wheat, rye, alfalfa and red clover are highest on alluvial geological formations, in which they receive relative value 100 (all other values are weakening against alluvial deposits).

- Diluvial sand and phyllites geological structures provide from 5 to 7 % less biologically available iodine for plants, compared with alluvial geological formations. Intermediate place take the loess, gneiss and slate. Triassic geological formations (sandstone, limestone, keuper) transfer small amounts of iodine vegetation. Granite structures provide the plants, at least iodine (54%) compared to alluvial deposits. Significant impact on the transport of iodine in the meadow vegetation

(10 µg/l 0.8 µg/l).
 10-15
 J
 (J)
 0,25 mg l/kg
 (3)

- can have a concentration of
 - elements in rainwater.

- By moving away from sea water
 - the iodine level decreased 10-15
 - times (10 µg/l to 0.8 µg/l). Through
 - the rain however becomes an
 - additional washing of iodine from
 - surface active soil layer (high
 - mobility of J⁻) and by groundwater
 - deposits in the alluvial part of the
 - rivers.

- The permanent transfer of
 - iodine on alluvial-diluvial sand
 - geological structures is a
 - prerequisite for a relatively high
 - accumulation capacity of meadow
 - grass from the riverside pastures.
 - Pasture vegetation in areas
 - located on forest soils contain up
 - to 0,25 mg l/kg DM. Using the
 - selected indicator plants it is
 - possible to adjust the transfer of
 - iodine at different grass
 - associations (Table 3)

3.

(30.04. – 30.06.)

Table 3: Iodine content in some indicator plants and meadow grass during the pasture period (30.04. – 30.06.)

	Indicator plants	/ iodine (µg/kg DM)
	<i>Victa vilosa Roth.</i>	255,0
	<i>Trifolium repens L.</i>	161,3
/ /	<i>Trifolium pratense /April/</i>	120,0
/ /	<i>Trifolium pratense /June/</i>	85,5
	<i>Lolium perenne</i>	87,5
	<i>Dactylus glomerata</i>	75,0
	<i>Festuca pratensis</i>	67,5
	<i>Festuca rubra L.</i>	57,4
	<i>mixed pasture grass</i>	68.9
	requirement	250.0

The iodine content of the

57,4 87,7 µg/kg

120 85,5 µg/kg

flora is subject to minimal variations, ranging from 57.4 to 87.7 µg/kg DM in *Lolium perenne*, *Dactylus glomerata*, *Festuca pratensis* and *Festuca rubra* L.. The large variation in the iodine content of the vegetation of the legume is caused by the geological origin of the site, the marine distance or the iodine concentration of precipitations, plant age and plant species. *Victa vilosa* Roth. and *Trifolium repens* L. accumulated twice more iodine in comparison to mixed grass and the other indicator plants. With advance of vegetation decreased significantly the I-content in *Trifolium pratense* from 120 to 85,5 µg/kg DM.

The study on iodine content in meadow grass on the investigated plots shows the dynamic changes in the levels of element, depending on the altitude and the vegetation stages of different grass associations (Table 4).

4:

(µg/kg)

Table 4: Seasonal dynamics of trace elements iodine in the meadow vegetation depending on altitude and season (v. Smiljan, Middle Rhodopes) (µg/kg DM)

Altitude	30.04.	30.05.	30.06.
800 m	148 ± 18	105 ± 15	65 ± 11
1000 m	70 ± 17	125 ± 49	36 ± 2
1200 m	134 ± 33	89 ± 50	86 ± 10

800 m

With advance of vegetation stage, the plants species that grow up to 800 m asl, a continuous reduction in the iodine concentration

had been showed. The same principles were found in the plant communities that present at 1200 m. The iodine content decreased in May by 33% (89µg/kg DM) and remained almost unchanged until the end of the investigated period. As an exception to the rule, was the iodine content in the grass at the test area (plot-2) at 1000 m above sea level. At the beginning of grazing period, the vegetation is poorer an iodine, than the other locations. A decrease of iodine concentration occurred after May 30.

To assess the contribution of each feedstuff, connected to the total iodine supply were 14 grain products and 3 hay samples included (Table5).

1200 m . . .

33% (89µg/kg)

1000 m . . .

30 . . .

14 . . .

3 (Ta 5).

Table 5: Iodine content in selected animal feed, fodder and feedstuffs (~g/kg DM)

Nr.	Fodder and feedstuffs	weight of sample	measuring units	volume	iodine content	iodine content
		g	l (µg/l)	ml	µg/kg	mg/kg
1	-1/ hay-1	1,003	0,4338	200	86,76	0,087
2	-2/ hay -2	1,000	0,4439	200	88,78	0,088
3	-3/ hay -3	1,000	0,3901	200	78,02	0,078
4	/ trecticale	1,000	0,5789	200	115,78	0,12
5	./sunflower meal	1,000	0,6777	200	135,54	0,14
6	/pellet product	1,000	3,0700	200	614,00	0,61
7	/feed mixture	1,000	5,8640	200	1172,80	1,17
8	/grain concentrate	1,000	0,7124	200	142,48	0,14
9	/grain concentrate	1,000	0,8628	200	172,56	0,17
10	. / fodder	1,000	2,2420	200	448,40	0,48
11	. / fodder	1,000	2,0720	200	414,40	0,41
12	. / fodder	1,000	3,7770	200	755,40	0,76
13	. / fodder	1,000	2,4670	200	493,40	0,49
14	/ sea salt	0,100	1,081	100	1081,00	1,08
15	/ rock salt	0,100	0,0409	100	40,90	0,041
16	. / VIA- salt	0,100	0,0170	100	17,00	0,017
17	/iodized salt	0,100	17,08	100	17080,00	17,08

100-1200 µg/kg /
 115 µg/kg, 614 µg/kg,
 1172 µg/kg,
 414-755 µg/kg/.

/ 41 µg/kg,
 1080 µg/kg/

(6).

The iodine content in the selected animal feed, fodder and feedstuffs as well as in different concentrate mixtures used in livestock, ranges between 100-1200 µg/kg (triticale 115 µg/kg, pellet 614 µg/kg, feed mixture 1172 µg/kg, full concentrate mixtures 414 - 755 µg/kg). The use of sea and rock salt in compound feed significantly change the content of iodine (rock salt 41 µg/kg, sea salt 1080 µg/kg) in the commercial products.

The iodine content in the cow and ewe's milk in the research area depends entirely on the season and botanical composition of the pastures. The concentration of iodine in the milk samples varied widely (Table 6).

Ta 6.

Table 6. Influence of seasonal dynamics on the iodine content in cow's and ewe's milk

/ Milk		Smiljan 2014			
		I- I-series	II- II-series	III- III-series	1-60 1 st - 60 th day
		µg/l	µg/l	µg/l	µg/l
Rhodopian cattle	x	118	49	33	67,7 ± 45,1
	s	45	17	4	
Karakachan sheep	x	95	87	152	111,3 ± 35,4
	s	3	4	2	
Rhodope Tsigay	x	88	85	144	105,7 ± 33,1
	s	4	1	2	
- Middle-Rhodope breed	x	336	64	129	176,5 ± 142
	s	8,4	0,5	3,4	
Cross breed	x	111	73	110	94,0 ± 21,7
	s	2,7	6,6	24,8	

(01.05.) 49 µg/l
 (01.06.) -
 µg/l.
 µg/l)
 (X = 67,7 ± 45,1
 (200-250 µg/l).
 94,0 176 µg/l.
 -
 - 336 µg/l.
 (,
),
 (7).

- With advance of lactation
 - period the iodine content in cow's
 - milk decreased from 118 µg/l
 (01.05.) to 49 µg/l in June (01.06.)
 and reached its lowest value in
 July - 33 µg/l. In conditions of
 chronic iodine deficiency the
 average content of iodine in cow
 milk is three times lower
 ($x=67,7 \pm 45,1$ µg/l) in comparison
 with the reference values (200-250
 µg/l).

- The changes in the
 - concentration of iodine in the milk,
 - varied within wide limits in different
 - sheep breeds. Depending on the
 - type of grazing and vegetation
 - phase of grass associations, the
 - average level of iodine in milk
 fluctuates from 94.0 to 176 µg/l.
 Only in the milk of Middle-
 Rhodope sheep an optimal levels
 of iodine had been established -
 336 µg/l (in May).

- In the process for the
 - production of white brined cheese
 using various types of salt (sea,
 stone, technical) that change
 significantly the concentration of
 iodine in the milk products (Table
 7).

Ta 7.

Table 7. Iodine content in the white brined cheese in pasture breeding of cows and sheep in different mountain areas

/ White brined cheese		Smiljan 2014			
		I- I-series	II- II-series	III- III-series	1-60 1 st - 60 th day
		µg/kg	µg/kg	µg/kg	µg/kg
Rhodopian cattle	x	1342	587	42	657,0
	s	11	56	5,7	
Karakachan sheep	x	1263	490	60	622,1
	s	1396	478	46	
Rhodope Tsigay	x	1278	531	97	632,6
	s	1225	545	121	
- Middle-Rhodope breed	x	1563	573	300	826,5
	s	1559	533	432	
Cross breed	x	1409	484	334	779,5
	s	1541	470	441	

779,5 µg/kg.

622,1

1350 1500 µg I /kg.

8

4,68

9,73.

Data show, that in cows and sheep cheese the iodine content reaches an average from 622.1 to 779,5 µg/kg. In some of the cheese samples produced in the months of May and June were set values from 1350 to 1500 µg I/kg. This fact changes largely represented at the Table. 8 transfer factors ranging from individual breeds from 4.68 to 9.73.

8.

Table 8. Transfer factor of the element iodine from milk to cheese

a / Breed	Smiljan 2014		
	milk	white cheese	transfer factor
	µg/l	µg/kg	-
Rhodopian cattle	67,7	657,0	9,73
Karakachan sheep	111,3	622,1	5,59
Rhodope Tsigay	105,7	632,6	5,98
Middle-Rhodope breed	176,5	826,5	4,68
Cross breed	94,0	779,5	8,29

- The addition of a non-regulated quantities of salt leads to extremely high concentrations of iodine in the cheese, wherein the transfer factor reaches twice as high values (TF = 15-20).

(TF=15-20).

For the yellow cheese, made from cow milk, the transfer factors are lower than those of white brined cheese due to the smaller quantity of salt, used in the course of the process (Table 9).

(9).

9.

Table 9. Transfer factor of the element iodine from milk to yellow cheese

/milk	/ yellow cheese	/ transfer factor
67,7 µg/l	895 ±167 µg/kg	/ Parmesan 13,22
	324 ± 17 µg/kg	/ Gauda 4,78
	372 ± 39 µg/kg	/ Balkan 5,59

(2007),

WHO/UNICEF

40

,
13

According to WHO/UNICEF (2007), iodine fortification of salt has been implemented in 40 European countries, being mandatory in 13 countries,

16
 10-75 mg/kg
 15-30 mg/kg.
 ()
 ,
 100
 6,7 – 17,5
 µg , 50 31
 41 µg 25 .
 8,0 22 µg .
 (150-
 200 µg l/),
 45 80 µg l/
 25
 45%

voluntary in 16 and not regulated in the remaining countries; the amount of iodine added varies from 10 to 75 mg/kg salt with a majority of values in the range 15–30 mg/kg.

- Depending on the consumption of dairy products (white brined cheese, yellow cheese) it is possible to significantly improve the iodine balance in humans. The interpretation of the results follows that with a daily consumption of 100 ml milk accepted by 6,7 - 17,5 µg iodine, 50g cheese from 31 to 41 µg iodine and 25g yellow cheese from 8.0 to 22 µg iodine, respectively.

Based on the daily requirement of the body needs (150-200 µg l/day), it is clear that by milk and milk products are consumed by 45 to 80 µg l/day, which represents 25 to 45% of daily needs.

CONCLUSIONS

The survey follows the transfer of iodine from the soil by plants to milk and dairy products using different breeds of sheep – Karakachan, Rhodope Tsigay, Middle-Rhodope breed and Rhodope Cross breed. The concentration of iodine in the grass composition of both areas are slightly below average levels due to geological factors determined. A comparative evaluation of cow and sheep milk, depending on the seasonal dynamics had been done. Significantly lower were the

- levels of iodine in cow's milk compared with the sheep milk, due to differences in diet of small and other (cattle) ruminants.
-
- The production and consumption of white brined cheese and yellow cheese produced according to traditional recipes, involving the use of large amounts of iodized salt significantly distorts the normal products concentrations of iodine. This partially offset the deficit of iodine in raw materials, which have to calculate the average consumption of the products. It is necessary for the region of the Middle Rhodopes develop a special type of multi premix with a high content of iodine, as well as early protection of animal organism.

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Qualitative characteristic of the fat fraction and assessment of content on the trans fatty acid in different kind of yellow cheese

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SUMMARY

Natural sources of *trans* isomers of fatty acids are primarily the milk fat and other fats from animal origin. The study was conducted with three different types yellow cheese – Parmesan, Gouda and Balkan produced from cow's milk.

Another technological condition of preparing the yellow cheese creates conditions for proteolytic reactions that lead to changes in fatty acid composition.

The Parmesan is characterized by the highest total content of trans fatty acids – 1.87 g/100g fat, an omega-3 (0.69 g/100g fat) and omega-6 (2,36 g/100g fat) fatty acids and CLA- 0.20 g/100g fat.

- 1,87 g/100g
 -3 (0,69 g/100g)
 -6 (2,36 g/100g)
 CLA- 0,20 g/100g

- 63,39 g/100g
 3,36 3,82.
 (0,42 0,52 g/100g)
 (18,32 21,50)
 g/100g
 :
 , CLA, -3, -6

- For qualitative assessment of the fat fraction indicators as lipid preventive score atherogenic and thrombogenic index and the ratio between hyper and hypocholesterolemic fatty acids have been included. Lipid preventive score is the lowest in the Parmesan yellow cheese— 63.39 g/100g product, atherogenic and thrombogenic index in Parmesan, respectively 3.36 and 3.82. The analysed yellow cheeses were characterized as foodstuffs with a low content of trans fatty acids (from 0.42 to 0.52 g/100g product) and with a high content of saturated fatty acids (from 18.32 to 21.50 g/100g product).

Key words: yellow cheese, trans fatty acid, CLA, omega-3, omega-6

INTRODUCTION

- Due to the negative effects of some saturated fatty acids on human health, milk fat has a bad reputation because it consists of 65% - 75% saturated fatty acids.

- However, extensive recent studies on the effect of fatty acids on human health shows that just a few fatty acids are responsible for the negative effects on the health of consumers.

- Diets rich in saturated fatty acids such as lauric (C12: 0), myristic (C14: 0), palmitic acid (C16: 0) and stearic acid (C18: 0), are strongly associated with increased risk of atherosclerosis, obesity and coronary heart disease (Pilarczyk et al., 2015).

(Pilarczyk et al., 2015).

According to the index proposed by Ulbricht and Southgate (1991),

Ulbricht and Southgate (1991), (12:0), (14:0) (16:0) , (14:0), (16:0) (18:0), , - 3, - 6	lauric (C12: 0), myristic (C14: 0) and palmitic acid (C16: 0) are atherogenic and myristic (C14: 0), palmitic acid (C16: 0) and stearic acid (C18: 0) are thrombogenic, while the omega 3, omega 6 and monounsaturated fatty acids have anti- atherogenic and anti- thrombogenic.
. Rozbicka-Wieczorek et al. (2015) - 1,35 1,45 - 1,63 1,67. Souza et al. (2015) - 4,10 - 5,17.	Rozbicka-Wieczorek et al. (2015) found in sheep milk of two breed's atherogenic index from 1.35 to 1.45 and thrombogenic index from 1.63 to 1.67. Souza et al. (2015) found in cow's milk atherogenic index – 4.10 and thrombogenic index – 5.17.
Fernandez et al. (2007) 2,5, - - . Tonial et al. (2014), I-0,55- 0,60; TI- 0,82-0,87 hH- 1,56-1,63.	The ratio of hyper- and hypocholesterolemic fatty acids found by Fernandez et al. (2007) in the Iberian ham below 2.5, which is defined as positive relative to the other researches of these hams. Tonial et al. (2014), at two fish species get values for AI-0.55 to 0.60; TI- 0.82-0.87 and hH- 1.56-1.63.
0,5% No 1924/2006 20 2006 ., - 1,5 g/100 g 0,75 g/100 ml , -	The daily intake of trans fatty acids should not exceed 0.5% of energy intake. According to the regulation EU measure No 1924/2006 of the European Parliament and the Council on December 20, 2006, the content of saturated fatty acids and trans fatty acids in solid products does not exceed 1.5 g/100 g or 0.75 g/100 ml of liquid as in both cases the content of saturated fatty acids and

10%

trans fatty acids does not exceed 10% of the daily energy intake and these foods are identified as foods with low content of SFA.

0,1 g/100 g
0,1 g/100 ml
(Regulation (EC) No 1924/2006).

A claim that a food contains SFA, may be indicated only in cases where the content of SFA and TFA does not exceed 0,1 g/100 g of product or 0,1 g/100 ml of liquid (Regulation (EC) No 1924/2006).

The study was conducted with three different types of cheese— Parmesan, Gouda and Balkan produced from cow's milk.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

There were examined three different types yellow cheese – parmesan (4 pieces), Gouda (4 pieces) and mountain (4 pieces) for fatty acid composition and establishing the content of trans fatty acids, bioactive and anti-cancer substances in the fat fraction. The extraction of the total lipids was done by the method of Roese-Gottlieb (A.O.A.C, 2000), with diethyl and petroleum ether and subsequent methylation with sodium methylate (CH₃ONa, Merck, Darmstadt) and dried with NaHSO₄.H₂O.

Roese-Gottlieb
(A.O.A.C, 2000),

(CH₃ONa, Merck, Darmstadt)
NaHSO₄.H₂O.

/FAME/

Shimadzu-2010 (Kioto, Japan)

(AOC-2010i).

The fatty acids methyl esters /FAME/ were analyzed with the aid of gas chromatograph Shimadzu-2010 (Kyoto, Japan) equipped with a flame ionization detector and automatic injection system (AOC-2010i). The analysis was made on

CP 7420 (100m x 0.25mm i.d., 0.2µm film, Varian Inc., Palo Alto, CA).

up - . , make-
 -
 - 80°C/ min,
 15 min,
 12°C/ min 170°C
 20 min,
 4°C/min
 186°C 19 min 220°C
 4°C/min

:
 , (Ulbricht and Southgate, 1991),

(Regulation (EC) No 1924/2006).
 = +2 - - 0,5

AI= 12:0+ 4x14:0 +16:0
 / [MUFAs+PUFA n6+PUFA n3]
 TI=(14:0+16:0+18:0)/
 0.5x MUFAs+0.5xPUFA
 n6+3xPUFA n-3+PUFA n3/ PUFA
 n6]
 h/H=(C18:1n-9+C18:1n-7+C18:2n-
 6+C18:3n-3+C18:3n-6+C20:3n-
 6+C20:4n-6+C20:5n-3+C22:4n-
 6+C22:5n-3+C22:6n-
 3)/(C14:0+C16:0)

a capillary column CP7420 (100m x 0,25mm i.d., 0,2µm film, Varian Inc., Palo Alto, CA), with carrier gas-hydrogen and make-up gas - nitrogen.

Programmed mode is the furnace of four steps – the initial temperature of the column – 80°C/min, which was maintained for 15 min, then increase at 12°C/min to 170°C and maintained for 20 min, then new increase at 4°C/min to 186°C for 19 min and to 220°C at 4°C/min till finishing the process.

The qualitative assessment of the fat fraction comprises the following parameters: lipid preventive score, atherogenic and thrombogenic index (Ulbricht and Southgate, 1991), the ratio between hyper- and hypocholesterolemic fatty acids, trans fatty acids and the amount of saturated fatty acids (Regulation (EC) No 1924/2006).

LPS= FAT +2 SFA- MUFA- 0,5 PUFA

AI= 12:0+ 4x14:0 +16:0
 / [MUFAs+PUFA n6+PUFA n3]
 TI=(14:0+16:0+18:0)/
 0.5x MUFAs+0.5xPUFA
 n6+3xPUFA n-3+PUFA n3/ PUFA
 n6]
 h/H=(C18:1n-9+C18:1n-7+C18:2n-
 6+C18:3n-3+C18:3n-6+C20:3n-
 6+C20:4n-6+C20:5n-3+C22:4n-
 6+C22:5n-3+C22:6n-
 3)/(C14:0+C16:0)

The obtained data were statistically processed with

EXCEL 2010.

t-

- Statistica for Windows 2010 software. The credibility of the differences between the analyzed milk was established by t-test of Student.
-
-

3,81 5,38%.
-
- 27,54%
- 28,05% (1).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Studied yellow cheeses are characterized by ash content from 3.81 to 5.38 percent. The Parmezan has the highest content of protein – 27.54% and fat – 28.05% (Table 1).

1.

Table 1. Physicochemical composition of three yellow cheeses

	Parmesan		Gauda		Balkan	
	x	sd	x	sd	x	sd
Ash, %	5,38	0,38	4,01	0,08	3,81	0,04
Protein, %	27,54	0,46	25,98	0,82	26,00	0,81
Fat, %	28,05	0,49	25,98	1,32	23,51	0,98

- Fatty acid composition is an important feature of the oil fraction to determine the content of trans fatty acids and bioactive components. Of the three types of yellow cheese saturated fatty acids are most abundant in Gouda until monounsaturated and polyunsaturated are in the lowest concentration.
-
-
-
-
-
-

1,87 g/100g

1,67
-3

- The total content of trans fatty acids in the analyzed cheeses ranges from 1,67 to 1,87 g/100g fat. Omega-3 fatty acids are in a concentration of less than
-
-

1 g/100g
-6
2,08 2,36 g/100g

3,40

(<5).

, 1 g/100g of fat, while omega-6 in the range from 2,08 to 2,36 g/100g fat. The ratio between the two groups fat is from 3.28 to 3.40 at Gouda in Parmesan, therefore it has a low risk factor (factor <5).

2. (g/100g)
Table 2. Fatty acids composition of three types yellow cheese (g/100g fat)

Fatty acid	Parmesan		Gouda		Balkan	
	x	sd	x	sd	x	sd
12:0	3,58	0,07	3,90	0,06	4,00	0,03
14:0	11,60	0,10	11,93	0,05	12,02	0,10
16:0	34,71	0,16	35,00	0,28	34,52	0,18
18:0	9,24	0,14	8,72	0,05	8,53	0,08
18:1n-9	15,90	0,19	15,21	0,18	15,08	0,07
C-18:1t11	0,72	0,01	0,71	0,01	0,71	0,05
18:2n-6	1,54	0,01	1,39	0,03	1,44	0,02
18:3n-3	0,54	0,01	0,53	0,07	0,54	0,04
C18:3n-6	0,06	0,00	0,06	0,01	0,05	0,01
C20:3n-6	0,08	0,00	0,07	0,01	0,07	0,01
C20:4n-6	0,10	0,00	0,08	0,01	0,09	0,00
C20:5n-3	0,06	0,01	0,05	0,02	0,04	0,01
C22:4n-6	0,04	0,00	0,04	0,01	0,04	0,01
C22:5n-3	0,07	0,02	0,05	0,02	0,05	0,01
SFA	74,78	0,22	76,25	0,30	76,18	0,17
MUFA	21,96	0,18	20,81	0,11	20,85	0,09
PUFA	3,24	0,04	2,90	0,25	2,96	0,10
C-18:1TFA	1,87	0,08	1,67	0,09	1,77	0,12
n-3	0,69	0,02	0,64	0,11	0,65	0,04
n-6	2,36	0,03	2,08	0,09	2,16	0,02
n-6/n-3	3,40	0,09	3,28	0,39	3,37	0,22
CLA 9c,11t	0,20	0,02	0,12	0,09	0,06	0,02
CLA	0,54	0,02	0,45	0,08	0,45	0,05

, The main representatives of saturated fatty acids, which are

(12:0),
 (14:0) ,
 (16:0)
 (18:0).
 -
 4,00 12,02 g/100g
 ,
 -
 (35,00 g/100g) ,
 -
 g/100g (9,24) .
 -
 - 15,90
 .
 0,71-0,72 g/100g .
 1,39
 1,54 g/100g (-
 2),
 .
 0,06
 0,20
 ,
 0,24
 0,45 g/100g (-
 ., 2012).
 CLA-
 - 0,540,24 0,45
 g/100g ,
 0,45 g/100g .

- relevant to human nutrition are
 - lauric (C12: 0), myristic (C14: 0)
 acid, palmitic (C16: 0) and stearic
 acid (C18: 0).

The Balkan yellow cheese has the
 - highest content of lauric and
 myristic acid, respectively 4,00
 and 12,02 g/100g fat, while the
 - Gauda contain most palmitic
 (35,00 g/100g fat) and Parmezan–
 stearic (9 24 g/100g fat).

- Oleic acid in the studied samples
 in the highest concentration in
 Parmezan – 15.90 and the lowest
 - at Balkan.

- Trans vaccenic acid is in relatively
 equal amounts in all three types
 - yellow cheese – 0,71-0,72 g/100g
 fat. Linoleic acid in analyzes
 - yellow cheeses ranges from 1,39
 to 1,54 g/100g fat (Table 2), while
 - the content of the alpha and
 gamma linolenic acid is relatively
 - uniform irrespective of the
 , technological process.

- CLA is in very low concentrations
 of 0.06 in Balkan cheese to 0.20 in
 Parmesan cheese compared to
 cow's milk, which varies from 0.24
 to 0.45 g/100g fat (Ivanova et al.,
 2012).

The total amount of CLA- isomers
 is the highest in Parmesan – 0.54
 g/100g of fat, while the Gouda and
 Balkan is 0.45 g/100g fat.

Qualitative assessment of

:
,
-
(3).

- the fat fraction is based on the following indicators: lipid preventive score, atherogenic and thrombogenic index and the ratio between hyper- and hypocholesterolemic fatty acids (Table 3).

3.

Table 3. Quality indicators of fat fraction composition of three types yellow cheese

Indicator	Parmesan		Gauda		Balkan	
	x	sd	x	sd	x	sd
LPS						
(g/ 100g product)	63,39	1,10	59,81	3,07	54,08	2,35
AI	3,36	0,04	3,65	0,05	3,64	0,04
TI	3,82	0,03	4,07	0,13	4,00	0,05
h/H	0,40	0,00	0,37	0,00	0,37	0,00
TFA						
(g/ 100g product)	0,52	0,03	0,43	0,02	0,42	0,01
SFA+TFA						
(g/ 100g product)	21,50	0,37	20,24	1,02	18,32	0,77

g/100g
100g
(
,
-
,

Lipid preventive score in different types of yellow cheese are from 54.08 to 63.39 g/100g product. It is the lowest in Balkan yellow cheese 54,08 g/100g product. The atherogenic index gives the relationship between the amount of the major saturated fatty acids and unsaturated fatty acids, the former is considered to be pro-atherogenic (favoring the adhesion of the lipids in the cells of the immune and circulatory system), and the second anti-atherogenic (inhibit platelet aggregation and reduce the levels of esterified fatty acids, cholesterol and phospholipids, and thereby preventing the occurrence of

micro- and macro- coronary diseases).

Thrombogenic index gives tendency form clots in blood vessels and is defined as the ratio between protrombogenic (saturated fatty acids) and antithrombogenic (monounsaturated and polyunsaturated omega-3 and omega-6 fatty acid) fatty acids (Ghaeni et al., 2013).

The atherogenic index was lowest in Parmezan – 3.36, while in the Gauda – 3.65 and Balkan is 3.64. Thrombogenic index is the lowest in Parmezan – 3.82 and the highest in Gauda – 4.07. The analyzed yellow cheeses are characterized as a food product with a low content of trans fatty acids – 0,42 to 0,52 g/100g milk product and a high content of saturated fatty acids from 18.32 to 21,50 g/100g.

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CONCLUSIONS

From studied yellow cheeses the most poor of biologically active components is Balkan as Parmesan is the most extensive, therefore Balkan can be considered for cheese with low levels of anti-atherogenic and antithrombotic protection of the human organism in its use. Yellow cheeses are characterized as a food product with a low content of

	(0,42	0,52 g/100g	trans fatty acids (from 0,42 to 0,52 g/100g milk product) and a high content of saturated fatty acids (from 18.32 to 21,50 g/100g milk product).
)		
g/100g	(18,32	21,50	
)		

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1 - 2 , 73, 1113 ,

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Synchronization of the oestrus cycle of Danube horse breed mares for the implementation of assisted reproductive techniques

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SUMMARY

- In order to optimize the use of reproductive biotechnology in mares from Danube horse breed were implemented two schemes for synchronization of the oestrus cycle. One use of Regumate and prostaglandins and second based on two treatments in 14 days interval with prostaglandins (Oestrophan). The results show similarities with the results described in other breeds and favor a scheme providing for the use of Regumate and prostaglandins (Oestrophan) in this breed.

Key words: synchronization, estrus, mares Danube breed

Regumate
14
(Oestrophan).

Regumate
(Oestrophan)

INTRODUCTION

The population of the Danube

- horse breed is severely reduced
- after the closure of the stud
- Clementine. Highly limited number of specimens placed under
- selection control necessitates the use and optimization of assisted
- reproductive techniques, artificial
- insemination with fresh and
- cryopreserved semen and embryo
- transfer in order to preserve and
- higher population of one of the three local Bulgarian horse breeds.

Embryo transfer is a valuable method in equine reproduction and

- will produce more offspring from genetically valuable animals, those who can not carry a successful pregnancy, or in horses used for work (Reenskaug, 2014).

(Reenskaug, 2014).

- In this case synchronization
 - oestrus cycle of the donor and
 - recipient is a necessary condition for the success of embryotransfer
- Campbell (2014). The aim of this study is determining the appropriate protocol for manipulation of the oestrus cycle of Danube horse breed mares in order synchronization him.

Campbell (2014).

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Used mares aged between 5

5 12

and 12 years old Danube horse

breed mares, divided into 3

3

- groups. The survey was conducted
- between March to July, due to

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - large individual differences in the duration of estrus and the influence of the season on ovulation (Nagy, 2000).
Nagy (2000).	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All experimental animals are in reproductive age and without evidence of dystocia in previous gestations. The mares were healthy, with no changes in the anatomy of the reproductive tract. Incurred microbiological analysis did not detect abnormal microflora. - Blood count, biochemical analysis and hormonal profile included of the experimental animals also were in the norm. Results from samples taken from test animals were normal. All animals included in the study were fed with concentrated feed and hay grown in pens, as they were provided daily movement in the paddock.
6	<p>The mares were divided into two experimental groups comprising 6 animals and a control group consisting of 6 animals.</p>
6	
Sitzenstock (2013),	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prostaglandins and progestin products are most often used independently of estrous cycle synchronization in other horse breeds (Sitzenstock, 2013), and for these reasons were selected similar treatment regimens.
1	
(Regumate®) 14 ml	
per os 15-14	<p>The mares from group 1 were submitted to treatment with Altrenogest (Regumate ®) 14 ml per os for 14 days. On 15th day of the experiment, animals of this</p>

Cloprostenol
(Oestrofan®) 0,25 mg/ml, 1 ml i.m.
2
Cloprostenol
(Oestrofan®) 0,25 mg/ml, i.m. 1 ml
14-

group were treated with Cloprostenol (Oestrofan @) 0,25 mg/mL, 1 mL i.m. Mares from test group 2 were treated with Cloprostenol (Oestrofan @) 0,25 mg/ml, i.m. 1 ml at the 1st and 14th day of experiment. Mares in the control group were not subjected to manipulation of the oestrus cycle.

After the last treatment, the experimental and control animals were subjected to daily ultrasound, transrectal control of the oestrus cycle to track folliculogenesis(Fig. 1, 2, 3 and 4), and the condition of the endometrium. Signs of oestrus were monitored by test stallion also.

(1, 2, 3 4),

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Four mares included in group 1, 1 undergoing synchronization have shown signs of oestrus 4 days following after the last treatment. One of the experimental animals showed signs of oestrus 5 days after the last treatment and one animal 6 days after the last manipulation of the oestrus cycle.

1,

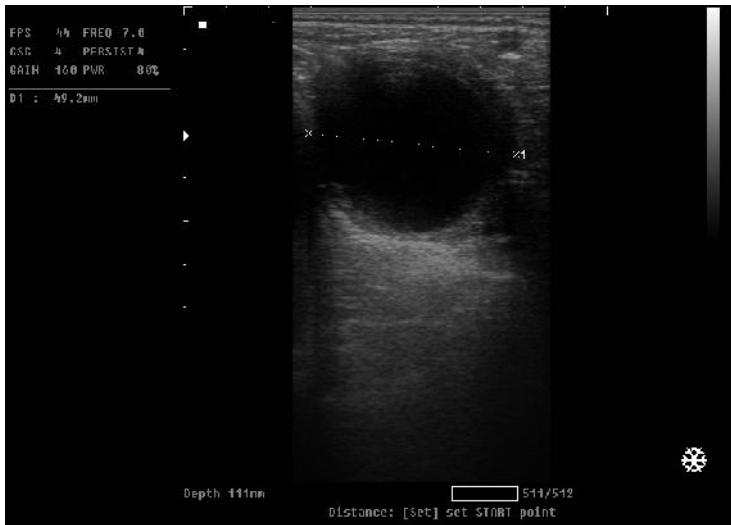
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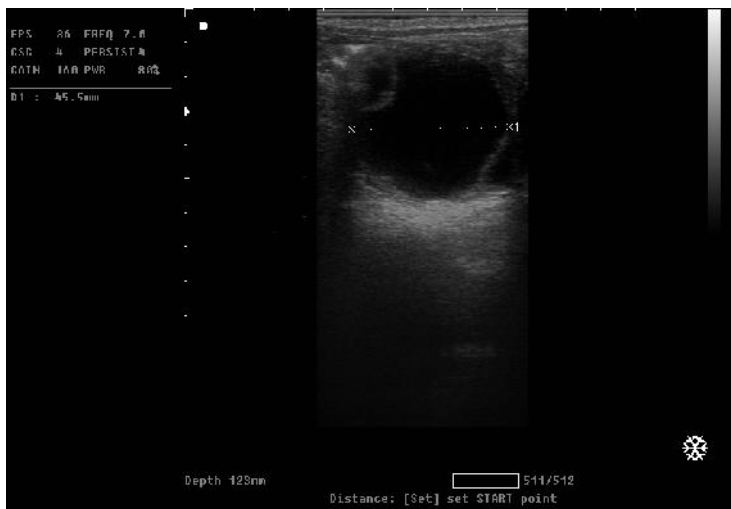
6

35 mm,

By ultrasonography has been observed endometrial edema, development of the dominant follicle size over 35 mm, and opening of the cervix. In two of the mares from the test group number 1 was observed development and ovulation of two dominant follicle, which is rare in mares.



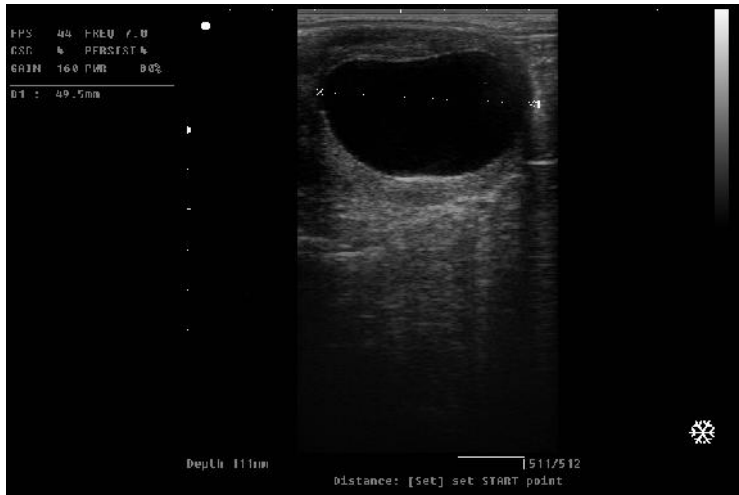
1. , 1 49.2 mm
Fig. 1. Dominant follicle test group 1 with dimensions of 49.2 mm



2. , 1 45.5 mm
Fig. 2. Dominant follicle test group 1 with dimensions of 45.5 mm

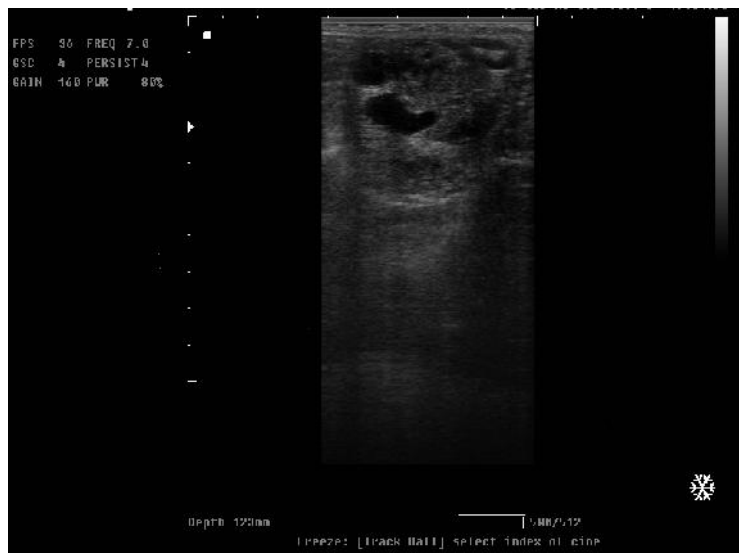
2
 :
 ,
 5

- The mares included in the experimental group 2 and treated twice with prostaglandins exhibit signs of estrus, as follows: a mare two days after the last treatment,
- three animals shown signs of oestrus three days after treatment and two animals manifested oestrus 5 days after treatment.



3. , 2,
Fig. 3. Dominant pre-ovulatory follicle test group 2, size 49.5 mm

49.5 mm



4. , 2
Fig. 4. Dominant follicle at a time of ovulation and formation of the corpus luteum test group 2

- | The animals included in the control group showed signs of oestrus independently of one another, in a period of 25 days, there was no pattern or synchronization between them.

There were no significant differences in the size of the follicles as compared with the test groups.

Analyzing the data obtained, it can be assumed that the two-way synchronization of oestrus cycle of mares given breed show similar results with those obtained by other authors in other breeds. (Vanderwall, 2007; Riera, 2011).

(Vanderwall, 2007; Riera, 2011).

However, unlike the use of such schemes and preparations in the test group 1 there are cases of double ovulation in the same ovary in an oestrus cycle without the use of preparations inducing superovulation (Squires, 2007; Roser, 2012).

Roser, 2012).

It was found better synchronization of oestrus cycle of the animals in Group 1 compared to Group 2, and on this basis it can be assumed that the use of Altrenogest in combination with a prostaglandin is more suitable for use in this horse breed for the purpose of synchronization of oestrus cycle in preparation for embryo-transfer. As disadvantage of this protocol should be highlighted cost of hormonal preparations used in it. Advantage is well synchronized estrus, fundamental condition for successful transplantation of embryos and observed double ipsilateral ovulation, which will be subjected to further research.

Altrenogest

- This would allow the creation and
- collection of a large number of
- valuable embryo specimens of this
- breed.

CONCLUSIONS

This study states as more suitable for the synchronization of oestrus cycle of mares breed horse Danube Protocol No. 1, which provides the use of Altrenogest (Regumate[®]) and Cloprostenol (Oestrofan[®]).

(Regumate[®])
Cloprostenol (Oestrofan[®]).

Despite its high price, it allows increasing the success rate of embryotransfer in this breed, also gives you the opportunity of a higher number of embryos of valuable genetic perspective mares.

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	”	” created in CA "Clementine" Bulgaria is located near the town. Pleven. For breeding were used stallions and mares of different breeds belonging-Arab, half-local enhanced, Donskoy, Hungarian, polutezhkovozni and others.
1893	.	The ambition was to collect and put in good conditions of feeding and breeding certain groups of horses in order to produce larger stallions. In 1893 Hungary imported horses from breeds Nonius, Lipitsanski, Risatsi, Anglo-Arabian, Shaggy and others, and later small number of thoroughbred horses from France.
	25	For 25 years it was carried out unsystematic crossing. The actual work on the creation of the breed began in 1924 founded a new section of the horse farm for vernier.
1924	.	They were originally used different methods of breeding, and later as the main method is used pure-bred breeding horses breed Nonius that formed the basis of tribal herd.
20	85	At present in the country are only 20 stallions under selection control and 85 mares this requires the use of assisted reproductive techniques to preserve and enhance the existing gene pool.
		With this study we aim to investigate the possibilities for

- increasing the fecundity through IE with cryopreserved semen and assessing the resulting embryos as a prerequisite for successful embryo transfer.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

- The study included two groups of 6 experimental animals under identical conditions between March and July, between 5 and 12 years of age, in excellent reproductive health.

- Artificial insemination was performed with cryopreserved semen stored in straws of 0.5 ml in a container of liquid nitrogen and thawed in a water bath immediately prior to depositing at a temperature of 37 °C, for an interval of 60 seconds.

- Standard semen dose 800 million sperm in 2 ml used cryoprotectant Equipro one step®(Minitube, Germany). Insemination was carried out within 2 hours after the onset of ovulation established by transrectal ultrasound performed every 2 hours.

- This scheme has been applied in animals from test group 1. In mares from test group 2 interval of transrectal study was reduced to one hour in parallel with semen dose reduced to 400 million sperm in 1 ml.

The analysis of the semen was made by CASA, NIKON Eclipse

6
5 12
0,5 ml,
37 °C,
60
800
2 ml,
Equipro one step®
(Minitube, Germany).
2
2
400
1 ml.

Eclipse 200.	CASA, NIKON	200.	The semen was deposited deep into the uterine horn. All experimental mares were inseminated with cryopreserved semen from one and the same stallion in order to minimize the differences. Preparation of the embryos was accomplished by uterine lavage with 2 l.
Dulbecco's medium,	2	1.	Dulbecco's medium, by means of two-way Foley catheter. Endometrial flushing was performed seven days after insemination. After washing, the resulting liquid was filtered through a filter with a pore size of 75 microns, with the purpose of separating the embryo from the medium, and received embryos were evaluated for stage of development and quality. The animals of the test groups were subjected to the manipulation of the oestrus cycle, in order to synchronize, in a previous study. The mares from group 1 were treated with Altrenogest (Regumate®, MSD Animal Health) 14 ml, P.O., 14 days, after which a 15-day and were treated with prostaglandins Oestrophan® (Bioveta) 0,25 mg/ml, 1 ml I.M.
7		75	
Altrenogest (Regumate®, MSD Animal Health) 14 ml, P.O., 14	1		
15-			
Oestrophan® (Bioveta) 0,25 mg/ml, 1 ml I.M.	2		
14			
Oestrophan® (Bioveta), 0,25 mg/ml, 1 ml I.M.			

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Figure 1 and 2 present data of semen analysis of a stallion from the Danube breed used for

1 2.

68%, 59%

9%

4.1%

5.6 %

58.7%

(Katila, 2001).

93%

7 %

– 3%

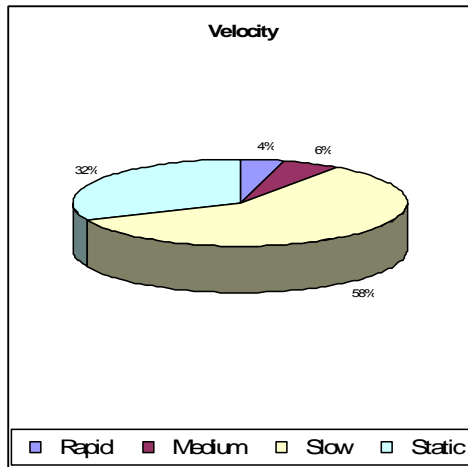
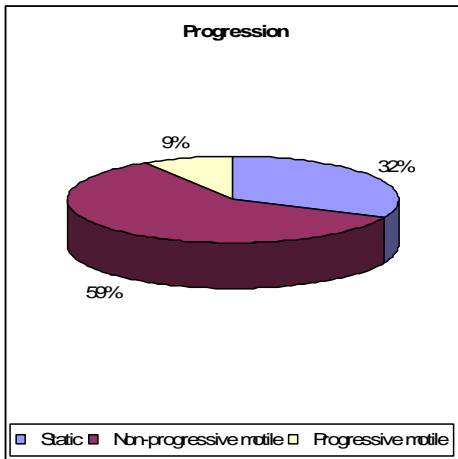
4%

(2).

insemination of experimental mares in groups 1 and 2.

The documents semen analysis shows that after thawing semen has a total sperm motility 68% - 59% have been moved non-progressive, and 9% are straightforward offensive movement. Of the total motile sperm 4.1% are quickly removable, 5.6 average mobile and 58.7% are slow-moving, which differs from the data referred to other horse breeds. (Katila, 2001)

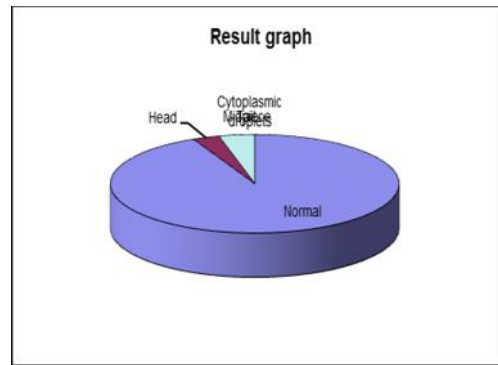
When the morphological analysis of sperm used for insemination were established 93% spermatozoa with normal morphology and only 7% with deviations – 3% in the sperm head and 4% in the sperm tail (Figure 2).



. 1.

Fig. 1. Spermogram of frozen semen from a Danube breed stallion used for insemination of mares from both test groups

MORPHOLOGY		
Normal	93	93,00
Head	3	3,00
Midpiece	0	0,00
Tail	4	4,00
COUNT CHANNEL		
Cytoplasmic droplets	0	0,00
Normal	93	93,00
Abnormal	7	7,00



. 2.

Fig. 2. Morphological analysis of frozen semen from a Danube breed stallion used for insemination of mares from both test groups

1 2 3

50 %

(Barbacini, 2000; Squires et al., 2006).

12
6

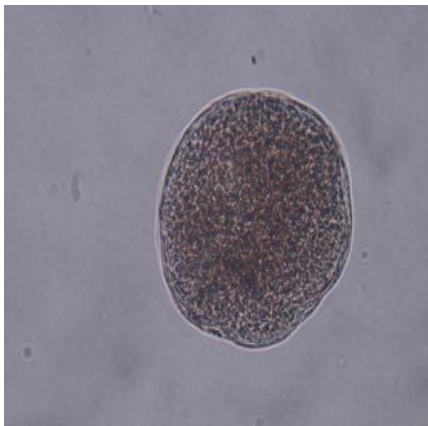
6

(Scherzer, 2011).

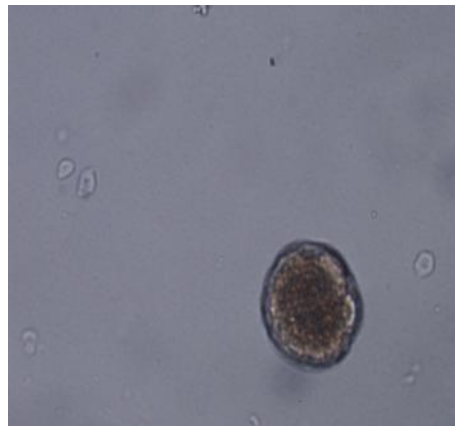
In experimental animals of group 1 and 2 were obtained 3 embryos from each group. This result suggests fecundity than 50% and is consistent with data obtained from other horse breeds have been artificially inseminated with frozen semen (Barbacini, 2000; Squires et al., 2006).

In such cases it is particularly important mares inseminated be as close as possible to the time of ovulation, it is considered that the optimum time for this is about 12 hours before ovulation or 6 hours after.

If only one dose of semen has been used, as in this study, it is good mares to be examined by ultrasound at 6 hour intervals and to carry out insemination as soon as possible after the establishment of ovulation (Scherzer, 2011).

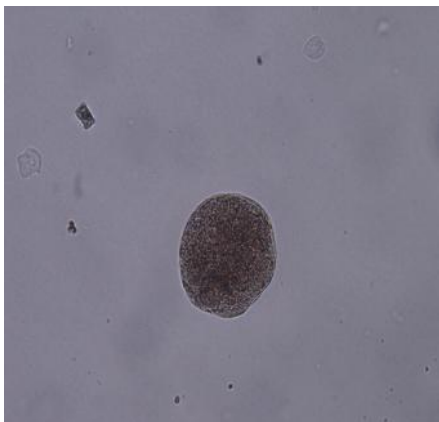


3.)
6-

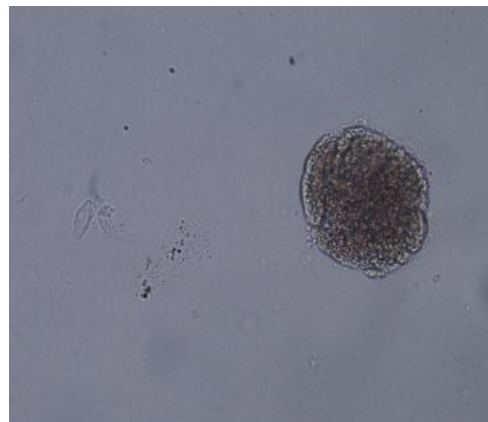


1 a))/b)
,) , 7-

Fig. 3. Embryos mare from test group 1 a) early blastocyst stage received on 6th day after insemination b) blastocyst derived on 7th day after insemination



4.)
6-



2,))/b)
,) 7-

Fig. 4. Embryos mares from test group 2 a) early blastocyst stage received on 6th day after insemination b) blastocyst derived on 7th day after insemination

- The results of this study
- show that mares from Danube
- horse breed can successfully be
- inseminated with cryopreserved
- sperm, as it does not affect the
- fecundity and did not affect the

quality of the embryos.

These results indicate the possibility of keeping the fecundity in this breed, reducing semen dose in artificial insemination with frozen semen, combined with proportionately reduced interval transrectal ultrasound monitoring of ovulation, regardless of previous manipulation of the oestrus cycle with prostaglandins.

These results can be explained by the shortening of the interval ovulation – insemination, achieving insemination immediately after ovulation, which is the cause of increased fecundity.

(Vidament, 1997).

Some authors apply insemination before and after ovulation to achieve the same effect (Vidament, 1997). This allows us to optimize our stocks cryopreserved semen from genetically valuable breeding sires, as well as artificial insemination and to obtain embryos for the purpose of transplantedation. The results of this study indicate good quality of the resulting embryos.

CONCLUSIONS

The results of this study allow us to conclude that by reducing the

- range of transrectal ultrasound monitoring of ovulation leading to insemination immediately after ovulation, allows us to increase our fecundity and/or to optimize existing stocks cryopreserved semen from genetically valuable stallions. Optimizing fecundity of this scheme does not lead to deterioration in the quality of the embryos.

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