

The World Trends in Sheep Breeding Development and Its State in Ukraine

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Review paper

SUMMARY

The analysis results of the modern world development of sheep breeding, its state in Ukraine and the tendencies of development are given. The study found that in 2018, there were 1,220.4 million sheep in the world.

An analysis of the global trends in sheep breeding over a 50-year period indicates a steady, gradual increase in the number of sheep in the world. At the same time, there are changes in sheep breeding in different countries - a significant decline in livestock in some and growth in others.

Under the conditions of the modern world market, the production of mutton, lamb meat and dairy products with the preservation of qualitative characteristics of wool, lambskin and fur raw materials is a promising direction of the industry's development.

25

10

- 30.7

- 43.1

60-70%

- 69%

- 62%

35%

(Bezhenar, 2015; Vdovychenko et al., 2016; 2018; Zharuk and Zharuk, 2012).

8-9

Over the past 25 years, sheep breeding in Ukraine has lost its ground. The number of sheep decreased by more than 10 times. Sheep breeding products production is characterized by an unstable proposition. Export volumes are very small and do not affect the global market conditions. The shortage of sheep production in Ukraine is lamb meat and mutton - 30.7 thousand tons, wool - 43.1 thousand tons. The industry level of loss making is 60-70%. The potential of the sheep industry, due to the influence of various factors, is not fully utilized: by reproduction - by 69%, by the production of mutton - by 62%, average daily gain can be greater by at least 35%.

In today's world and domestic markets, the production of mutton, lamb meat and dairy products with the preservation of quality characteristics of wool, lambskin and fur raw materials has been identified as a promising direction of the industry's development.

Key words: sheep breeding, livestock, breeds, breeding base, sheep breeding products, global trends, profitability

INTRODUCTION

Sheep breeding is the only livestock sub-sector that is a source for the production of various products with healing properties: dietary lamb meat, young mutton, milk, and also irreplaceable raw materials - wool, sheepskin, lamb pelt for production of goods that have no analogues in hygienic properties and contribute to maintaining health and prolongation of human life (Bezhenar, 2015; Vdovychenko et al., 2016; 2018; Zharuk and Zharuk, 2012).

Sheep breeding is known to be the least energy-intensive industry. Due to their biological characteristics, sheep use pastures with minimal labor costs of almost 8-9 months a year, therefore their breeding is advisable everywhere.

60.0-70.0 %
(Zharuk and Zharuk, 2012; 2015)

Sheep husbandry has historically been an integral part of the Ukrainian national economy; however, the current state of sheep breeding in Ukraine is characterized by a number of crisis phenomena and is caused, first of all, by a decrease in wool prices, which reduced the interest of producers in its production. Indeed, over a long period the economic advantage, and the mentality of those working in the industry, were focused on the production of precisely these products. For various reasons, the industry was not aimed at a more efficient development path, which led to its unprofitability, the level of which in recent years has been 60.0-70.0% (Zharuk and Zharuk, 2012; 2015).

The decline of sheep breeding is due primarily to the lack of a market for sheep breeding products. However, international and domestic practice shows that there are no objective reasons for underestimating this industry.

Therefore, at the present stage, scientists are faced with the task of analyzing the main trends in the development of the sheep breeding industry in the world and in Ukraine and, based on the experience gained, determine the directions of the revival of the sheep breeding industry in Ukraine.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

For research, the results of scientific works conducted in 2010-2019, statistical data, and literature sources were used. Applied methods: system analysis, statistical, comparative-calculation, comparison, forecasting, logical generalization.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

01.01.2018
2001
FAO
1040.0
1 202.4

An analysis of global trends in the development of sheep breeding products production according to FAO data showed that as of 01.01.2018, there were 1 202.4 million sheep in the world, compared to 1040.0 million in 2001, which indicates a

15.6% increase in the number of sheep. The leader in the list of countries with developed sheep breeding is China, the number of sheep in this country as of 01.01.2018 totals 161.4 million animals. Turkey is also gradually increasing its sheep population: 31.0 million in 2017 compared to 28.5 million in 2001. In India it was - 6,300,000 in 2017 compared to 6.0 million in 2001. The number of sheep in New Zealand continues to decline - from 40.0 million in 2001 to 27.5 million in 2017; Australia - from 110.9 million in 2001 to 72.1 million in 2017; Great Britain - from 36.7 million in 2001 to 34.8 million in 2017 (FAO Official Website (UN Food and Agriculture Organization)).

Thus, Asia is the leader in terms of livestock sheep numbers - 508 million. In Europe, 132 million animals remained compared to 266.7 million sheep in 1961, which indicates a decrease in the population by more than 2 times. The dynamics of the structural indicators of the abundance the sheep livestock of each continent on a global scale is shown in Figures 1 and 2.

In Asia, 45.3% of the world sheep population is located and approximately the same share of sheep breeding products is produced: mutton (52.2%), milk (48.2%) and wool (43.7%), i.e. all productivity directions of the sheep breeding are developed. On the American continent, wool-and-meat productivity prevails; on the African - dairy-and-meat directions, but in African countries the level of productivity is lower than the world one.

In Europe, the dairy direction of productivity prevails (27.4% of the global production of the sheep dairy products). Number of sheep the meat-and-wool productivity direction is 10.99% from the European total sheep population, and they give respectively: 12.4 and 12.2% of this productivity in the world production.

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. 1 2.

, %

Fig. 1 and 2. The dynamics of the sheep livestock population proportion on separate continents according to their total number in the world, %

42%

10-15%

3-4

- One of the important types of raw materials for the textile industry, which is obtained from sheep, is wool, it accounts for about 42% of the total cost products of these animals, and is an indispensable raw material for production of the high-quality various fabrics. Unfortunately, modern wool production volumes satisfy human needs by only 10-15%. Today there is a demand for thin assortments of wool. In recent years, the cost of fine wool has remained 3-4 times higher than the

5-6	-			
		15		
		3%,		
		(
	- 58%,	- 25%,		
	- 59%,	- 100%,		
	- 53%)			
		2017 .	9498356	
		8470267		
2012 . (10.5%)	4930303		
1961 .,		2-		
50				
	40	:	2017 .	
			2384 200	
	55 002		1961 .	
			2001	
2017 .,			15%	
	22.3%.			
	57%,		- 82%,	
	- 65%,		- 200%,	
	- 300%.			
		(25%		
400 000	15)	10	
			2,700,000	
			, 1 200	
000	-		1,300,000	
			500	

price of synthetic fibers and 5-6 times higher than the price of cotton. This has affected the world level of production. Over the past 15 years, production has decreased by 3% despite the fact that many countries have increased the volume of these products (including China - 58%, Turkey - 25%, Kazakhstan - 59%, Uzbekistan - 100%, Germany - 53%) with the exception of the countries of the American continent.

The global production of mutton in 2017 was 9498356 tons compared to 8470267 tons in 2012 (exceeding 10.5%) and 4930303 tons in 1961, which indicates an almost 2-fold increase in mutton production.

The largest producer of sheep meat is China, which over the past 50 years has increased the production of lamb more than 40 times: in 2017, production amounted to 2384200 tons compared to 55002 tons in 1961.

At the same time, it should be noted that in the period from 2001 to 2017, against the backdrop of a 15 percent increase in the number of sheep, the rate of mutton production increased by 22.3%. The relative increase in mutton production in different countries of the world is different. Some countries have impressive relative growths, but the absolute production volumes are insignificant and have no significant effect on world volumes. China increased production by almost 57%, Turkmenistan - 82%, Kazakhstan - 65%, Uzbekistan - 200%, Tajikistan - 300%.

However, there has been a steady increase in sheep milk production in the world (by 25% over the past 15 years) and amounts to 10,400,000 tons, of which 2,700,000 tons are produced by EU countries, 1,200,000 tons - China, 1,300,000 tons - Turkey. Significant market participants are Greece, Syria, Romania, Spain, producing more than 500 thousand tons of milk each.

1

100

15

16

100

2.

585 295

The data in Table 1 are indicative the state of the sheep breeding industry in some countries, which shows the dynamics of the population per 100 per capita over the past 15 years. Such a range of variability of indicators characterizes both the attitude to the industry and the presence of natural, economic and social conditions.

There are 16 sheep per 100 inhabitants of the planet, in Ukraine this figure is 2 ones. In New Zealand and Australia, it exceeds world's indicators and is 585 and 295 sheep respectively.

1. 100 2001-2017 .
Table 1. Sheep livestock capita per 100 people in the world in 2001-2017.

Country	2001			2017			2017 (%) 2001 From 2017 (in %) to 2001
	number of sheep, thousands	population, thousand	100 / sheep * per 100 people, animal	number of sheep, thousands	Population, thousand	100 / sheep * per 100 people, animal	
Total number in the world:	1040031	4835672	22	1202431	7550262	16	72,39
/ China	185120	1273111	15	161351	1441131	11	74,64
India	60113	1027015	59	63068	1339180	5	7,98
/ Australia	110900	19358	573	72125	24451	295	51,48
Great Britain	36716	59648	62	34832	66182	53	84,89
New Zealand	40010	3864	1035	27526	4706	585	56,51
/ Turkey	28492	66494	43	30983	80745	38	89,24
/ Russia	12561	145185	9	22744	143990	16	175,51
/ Greece	8993	10624	85	8593	11160	77	90,59
/ Romania	7657	22364	34	9875	19679	50	147,59
/ Poland	3434	38634	9	261	38170	1	7,60
/ Bulgaria	1368	7707	18	1360	7085	19	106,64
/ Ukraine	963	48416	2	699	44223	2	79,03
/ Hungary	1129	10106	11	1141	9722	12	106,69
/ Moldova	830	4432	19	711	4051	18	92,37
Czech Republic	96	10264	1	217	10618	2	204,37

*

FAO / Calculated by authors based on FAO data [6]

50-

An analysis of global trends in the production of sheep breeding products over a 50-year period indicates a stable, gradual increase in the number of sheep in the world. At the same time, there are changes in the attitude of sheep breeding

in different countries - a significant decrease in the number of livestock in some and growth in others.

So, over this period, in New Zealand and Australia, which were world leaders in the production of wool, the number of sheep fell by more than a third. During the same period, a significant increase in the number of sheep has been observed in Africa and Asia. This state of the world's development of sheep breeding indicates a change in the direction of production from wool to meat-and-dairy. This is due to scientific and technological progress in the production of artificial fibers, which replaced natural fibers. Need to increase food for the world's population, which is constantly growing, is also the main reason for these changes.

In Ukraine over the past 25 years, the industry has lost its position. The number of sheep decreased by more than 10 times. (Animal Breeding of Ukraine (Statistical Yearbook), 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018; Official site of the State Statistics Service). As of 01.01.2019, the total number of sheep in Ukraine is 698.5 thousand. 172.5 thousand, or 24.5%, are held in agricultural enterprises, and the rest - in the private farms (Table 2).

10 (Animal Breeding of Ukraine (Statistical Yearbook), 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018; Official site of the State Statistics Service). 01.01.2019 . 698.5 . 172.5 24,5%

2.

Table 2. The sheep number in different categories of enterprises at the year beginning

/Index	/Years						from 2019 (in %) to 2016
	2017		2018		2019		
	/animal	%	/animal	%	/animal	%	
Total livestock, thousand	718,9	100	727,2	100	698,5	100	97,2
including agricultural enterprises	179,4	25,0	178,1	24,5	172,5	24,7	96,2
private farms	539,5	75,0	549,1	75,5	526,0	75,3	97,5

* calculated by the authors on the basis of the State Statistics Service of Ukraine data

Along with a change in the ownership form of enterprises and a decrease in their number over 5 years

1049 688,
 500 600
 36.5%
 ; (88 .)
 63.5%, 115.8

from 1049 to 688 units, there have been changes in the structure of sheep breeding by the number of livestock on farms. In 600 enterprises, with a herd of up to 500 sheep, only 36.5% of the available sheep are kept; large-scale farms (88 units) account for 63.5%, or 115.8 thousand sheep.

3. 1
Table 3. Grouping of agricultural enterprises by the number of sheep livestock on January 1st

	/The number of enterprises				/The number of sheep			
	2014		2019		2014		2019	
	units	% ./of total numbers	Units	% ./of total numbers	Animal thou- sands	% of total numbers	Animal thou- sands	% of total numbers
Total number of enterprises	1049	100	688	100	248,5	100	182,3	100
of them small, sheep								
49	396	37,8	243	35,3	8,1	3,3	5,5	3,0
50 – 99	166	15,8	112	16,3	11,6	4,7	7,9	4,3
100 – 199	173	16,5	132	19,2	25,4	10,2	18,4	10,1
200 – 499	181	17,3	113	16,4	56,3	22,7	34,7	19,0
500 /and more	133	12,7	88	12,8	147,1	59,2	115,8	63,5

219.0
 85.6
 86.0
 " - 98.0
 " - 98.0
 " - 31.5
 33.8 ;
 Vandey,
 Merino Landscape - 1.6
 45.0
 245.9 115.2
 2016 .
 9.4%,
 6.8%.
 2.8%.

The country's sheep breeding is represented by a variety of seven main domestic breeds and sixteen intra-breed types. They are Tsigai - 219.0 thousand, Ascanian Meat-and-Wool with cross-bred wool - 85.6 thousand, Ascanian Fine-Fleeced - 86.0 thousand, Prekos - 98.0 thousand, Ukrainian Mountain Carpathian - 98.0 thousand, Smushki - 31.5 thousand, other breeds - 33.8 thousand; sheep of Meat and Meat-and-Wool breeds of foreign selection - Texel, Vandey, Charolais, Merino Landscape - 1.6 thousand, and crossbred's livestock of 45.0 thousand sheep.

The largest number of sheep is concentrated in Odesa and Transcarpathian regions, they contain 245.9 and 115.2 thousand, respectively. It should be noted that, compared with 2016, the number of sheep in the Odessa region decreased by 9.4%, while in Transcarpathian it increased by 6.8%.

In general, in Ukraine during this period the number of sheep decreased by 2.8%. However, a number of regions are increasing the number of livestock, in

(104.9-141.2%).

2016-2018 . -

2018 .

7.9% 2016 .,

11.3%,
7.4%,
2.8%, 3.6 2.5% (4).

particular: Dnipropetrovsk, Transcarpathian, Zaporizhzhia, Kyiv, Rivne, Sumy and Ternopil regions (104.9-141.2%).

As for the production of the main types of products, during 2016-2018 a slight reduction in production volumes took place.

Therefore, in 2018, wool production in all categories of farms decreased by 7.9% compared to 2016, including in agricultural enterprises by 11.3%, on the private farms by 7.4%, mutton by 2.8%, 3.6 and 2.5%, respectively (Table 4).

4.

Table 4. Production of wool in all categories of farms

Index	/Years						From 2018 (in %) to 2016
	2016		2017		2018		
	t	%	t	%	t	%	
/Made of wool, total, t	2072	100	1967	100	1908	100	92,1
including agricultural enterprises	266	12,8	255	13,0	236	12,4	88,7
Private farms	1806	87,2	1712	87,0	1672	87,6	92,6
/Made of mutton, total, t	13795	100	13963	100	13411	100	97,2
including agricultural enterprises	3437	24,9	3420	24,5	3312	24,7	96,4
/Private farms	10358	75,1	10543	75,5	10099	75,3	97,5

*

* calculated by the authors on the basis of the State Statistics Service of Ukraine data

2017 . 22.4 2014

19.3 . 94%

, 1.6% - , 1.4% -

2014-2017 .

3 , 2017 .

14.0 .

228

2017 . 303% -

2014 . 98.7% -

(Official site of the State Statistics Service)..

An analysis of the dynamics of exports and imports the sheep breeding products, in particular mutton, by our government in recent years, indicates an increase in exports in 2017 by 22.4 times compared to 2014; the value of exports increased by 19.3 times. Iraq bought 94% of total exports, 1.6% - Georgia, 1.4% - Turkey. The volume of imports during 2014-2017 increased 3 times, and in 2017 amounted to 14.0 tons. Import value increased significantly and amounted to 228 thousand US dollars, which is more than in 2017 by 303% compared to 2014. 98.7% of mutton was imported to Ukraine from New Zealand, the rest from Moldova (Official site of the State Statistics Service).

As for the export of wool, it is insignificant and amounts to 104 tons in

104 . 2011-2017 .
 1545 , 2017 .
 1521
 .
 , 17%
 ,
 8%.
 :
 - 30.7 ,
 - 43.1 (5).

2017. During 2011-2017, imports more than doubled and in 2017 amounted to 1,545 tons for a total of 1,521 thousand US dollars.

- At the same time, satisfaction of domestic needs remains extremely low,
- as the level of consumption of mutton is 17% of the norm of the Ministry of Health,
- the need for wool is satisfied only by 8%.

The shortage of sheep breeding products is mutton - 30.7 thousand tons, wool - 43.1 thousand tons (Table 5).

5.

Table 5. Actual and necessary production of sheep breeding production, t

Index	/Actual production			Need according to the MOH norms	Deficit
	agricultural enterprises	private farms	total		
() / Mutton (in slaughter weight)	900	13400	14300	45000	30700
/Wool	236	1672	1908	45000	43092

(Agriculture of Ukraine / Statistical collection, 2016).

At present, in Ukraine, sheep are bred in different directions of productivity. The following is a description of the most numerous and promising breeds, from the point of view of their use in the conditions of the modern world and domestic market for sheep breeding products (Agriculture of Ukraine / Statistical collection, 2016).

Ascanian Meat-and-Wool sheep breed with crossbred wool.

The Ascanian Meat-and-Wool sheep breed with crossbred wool, one of the most productive in the world, was tested in 2000 with five intra-bred types, namely: Ascanian crossbreds and Ascanian Black-Headed sheep, Odessa, Bukovina and Dnipropetrovsk' types.

The Ascanian crossbreds were tested in 1990. They were derived by complicate reproducing the crossing of Ascanian Fine-Fleeced and Tsigai ewes with the English and Argentine rams-sires

2000 .

a

1990 .

123.4 kg,
 - 19 cm, - 9.3 kg
 72%;
 77 kg, 14.7 m, 5.6 kg 68%.

1995 .

136.8 kg; - 79.9 kg, -
 18
 14.4 cm, 8.1 4.8 kg -
 68-73%, - 150-162%,
 120 - 201.2
 kg -
 73-78 kg.
 : 4.5
 37.1-38.2 kg,
 17.5-18.8 kg,
 48.4 - 50.4%, "
 " - 19.0-21.2 cm²
 (1:1), 9.5
 - 47. 9-49.3 kg, 23.0-
 26.8 kg, 50.7 -54.3%, 22.7-25.6 cm².

1925-1935 .

1980

60-58
 64-

1993

of the Lincoln breed. The average live weight of Ascanian Cross-bred rams - 123.4 kg, length - 19 cm, clip of pure wool - 9.3 kg with a yield of pure fiber 72%; ewes - 77 kg, 14.7 cm, 5.6 kg, 68%, respectively.

The Ascanian Type of Black-Headed sheep with crossbred wool was tested in 1995. The basis of its breeding is the reproductive crossing of ewes of the Tsigai breed with the English meat rams-sires - Suffolk and Oxford dawn with the subsequent "blood flow" of Ascanian crossbreds. Ascanian Black-Headed sheep are large, long and multifaceted, with high maturity and excellent meatiness.

The average live weight of the rams-sires is 136.8 kg; ewes - 79.9 kg, length and clip of pure wool - respectively 18 and 14.4 cm, 8.1 and 4.8 kg at the yield of pure fiber 68-73%, multiplicity - 150-162%, milk yield for 120 days of lactation - 201,2 kg, production of meat on ewe - 73-78 kg.

Meat maturity of Ascanian Meat-and-Wool lambs is high. Their live weight at 4.5 months of age is 37.1-38.2 kg, the carcass weight is 17.5-18.8 kg, the slaughter output is 48.4- 50.4%, the area of the "muscular eye" - 19.0-21.2 cm² at the optimum ratio of protein and fat in the pulp of the carcasses (1: 1), at 9.5 months of age - respectively 47, 9-49.3 kg, 23.0-26.8 kg, 50.7-54.3%, 22.7-25.6 cm².

Ascanian Fine-Fleeced breed.

Academician M.F. Ivanov bred it in the period 1925-1935. In order to improve the quality of wool since 1980, it has been initiated the cross breeding process of Ascanian ewes with Australian Merino rams-sires of "strong" type with a thinness of 60-58 qualities of wool and partly "medium" - 64 qualities on the breeding farms. In 1993, an array of improved Merino was tested and recognized as a

				new breeding achievement called the Taurian intra-breed type of Ascanian Fine-Fleeced breed of sheep.
				Ascanian Fine-Fleeced breed mixed Wool-and-Meat productivity direction. Animals of this breed combine great live weight with satisfactory maturity and high wool performance. Their live weight - 55,0-59,4 kg, clip of washed wool - 3,3-3,85 kg at length of wool of 12-14 cm and output of pure fiber of 51,1-56,3%, at prolificacy of ewes 130- 150%.
55.0-59.4 kg,	- 3.3-3.85 kg - 12-14 cm 51.1-56.3%, 130-150%.			
		176/36	18	Ascanian Karakul breed of sheep. This breed of sheep was approved by the order of the Ukrainian Agrarian Policy Ministry No. 176/36 of March 18, 2009. The breeding structure of the breed consists of three intrabred types: the Ascanian breed type of Karakul Black Prolificacy sheep, the Ascanian breed type of Gray Karakul sheep, Bukovinian Karakul Type. Sheep of the Ascanian breed type of Black color are characterized by high prolificacy (167-204%), with the yield of I-type lamb's skin - 89-93%. Clip of coarse unwashed wool of ram-sires - 3,5-4,0 kg, ewes - 2,5-3,0 kg. High milking of ewes allows feed two lambs with average live weight before weaning of 25-28 kg, and at slaughtering of lambs for lamb's skin to receive per each ewes on 83-96 kg of commodity milk. The live weight of 4-month-old lambs is 27.1 kg, the carcass weight is 12.7 kg, the slaughter yield is 46.7%, the meat and grade yield is 79.9%; 9 months - respectively 38.2 kg, 19.0 kg, 50.0%, 80.5%.
2009				
93%. 4.0 kg,	I - 89-3.5- - 2.5-3.0 kg.	(167-204%),		
25-28 kg.				
	83-96 kg 4- 27.1 kg, 12.7 kg, 46.7%, 79.9%; 9 - 38.2 kg, 19.0 kg, 50.0%, 80.5%.			
		XIX		The Tsigai breed. Tsigai sheep, an ancient breed considered to be the origin from southeastern Europe, spread throughout Ukraine in the first half of the nineteenth century. The breed structure created in-breed types - Azov Meat-and-Wool and Crimean Wool-and-Meat. Under normal conditions of breeding, they have the following mean values: the live weight of rams-sires - 90-100 kg, clip of washed wool - 4,5 kg,
kg,	- 4,5 kg,			

Sharole

Olibs

50%

The listed sheep breeds at the present stage of extensive industry management are used primarily for the production of mutton and wool. Separate regions, and this is the Odesa region, which is a breeding zone for sheep of the Tsigai breed and crosses with sheep of the Ascanian Meat-and-Wool breed, and certain regions of the Carpathian region, in which sheep of the Ukrainian Mountain Carpathian breed specializing in the production of sheep milk are raised.

In recent years, a number of breeds of foreign selection have been imported into Ukraine, mainly in the meat direction of productivity - Texel, Wandey, Dorper, Mirinolandschaf, Olibs, Sharole, and dairy breed - Lakon. Using meat genotypes of sheep such as Olibs and Sharole, a new Dnieper Meat breed of sheep was created.

It should be noted that the influence of global warming on the body of a sheep is indirect, through the feed and feed base. Thus, given that global warming has a side effect, and sheep is one of the most heat-resistant species of farm animals, sheep breeding can become a source of diversification of meat products.

According to the content of animals, the existing technologies in Ukraine do not require special adaptation to conditions with elevated temperatures.

Among the mandatory measures should be the protection of animals of all age and sex groups from the scorching rays of the sun using shadow canopies and forest stands, as well as the constant provision of water.

It is possible to postpone the start of insemination depending on the temperature of the environment, or the content of ewes on hot days in special rooms, the walls of which are cooled by irrigation with water. Herds of sheep in the south of Ukraine, where 50% of the livestock is concentrated, represented by genotypes of various directions of productivity: Ascanian Fine-

)
 ,
 12
 ,
 29,1%,
 - 31,1%.
 (31,4%), (22,6%)
 (22,3%),
 0,24 4,7%.
 ,
 ,
 3,8%

- various directions of productivity. It should be noted that there is a permanent decrease in the number of subjects and the number of breeding sheep. During last four years, 12 households were closed, the total number of sheep decreased by 29.1%, and ewes by 31.1%.

According to the pedigree structure of the breeding livestock, there are more pedigree resources of Ascanian Meat-and-Wool with crossbred wool (31.4%), Ascanian Karakul (22.6%) and Ascanian Fine-Fleeced (22.3%), the share of others is from 0.24 to 4.7%. Moreover, in the Tsigai sheep breed, one of the most numerous, there is not a single subject of breeding. The total number of breeding sheep is 3.8% of the total sheep population, which is not enough for the development of the industry.

6.

Table 6. The number of breeding farms and livestock of sheep of different breeds

/State	2015			2017			2019		
	number of enterprises	livestock of sheep		number of enterprises	livestock of sheep		number of enterprises	livestock of sheep	
		total	1 ewe and ewe lambs older than 1 year		total	1 ewe and ewe lambs older than 1 year		total	1 ewe and ewe lambs older than 1 year
Pedigree enterprises	16	20128	12682	13	16191	10595	15	16129	9568
Breeding farms	32	16885	11243	21	9085	5971	21	10538	7177
/Total	48	37013	23925	34	25276	16566	36	26667	16745

- In modern conditions, the problem of the pedigree base formation, its structure in accordance with the actual pedigree composition and development prospects, requires a solution at the level of the central executive authorities of Ukraine.

- So, the further development of sheep breeding should be based on different directions: intensification of production, industrial production of lamb meat and young mutton, expansion and improvement of the quality of the breeding

76.2% (42 700 000
32 500 000 ha,
- 2 400 000 ha,
5 400 000 ha) (The agrarian sector of
Ukrainian economy. (state and prospects
of development), 2011; Plant growing of
Ukraine / Statistical collection, 2016),

60-62%
4,6-4,8
%
62-82%
1.9 4300000 t
13600000. t

(Plant growing of Ukraine /
Statistical collection, 2016).

2.5-6.5
(65-70%)
37%,
(Yakovchuk, 2012).

(Kolosov and Shyrokova, 2012;
Lesnovska, 2014; Scales et al., 2016).

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" - NSSGCSB

base the domestic breeds, and new
genotypes of Meat-and- Dairy productivity
direction sheep.

Taking into account the fact that
Ukraine has an extremely high level of
development and plowing of farmland -
76.2% (of the 42,700,000 available
hectares of arable land is 32,500,000 ha,
hayfields - 2,400,000 ha, pastures -
5,400,000 ha) (The agrarian sector of
Ukrainian economy. (state and prospects
of development), 2011; Plant growing of
Ukraine / Statistical collection, 2016), the
industry can no longer exist using only
traditional extensive pasture technologies.
At the same time, there are all
prerequisites for creating large industrial
complexes with the entire necessary
infrastructure for processing. After all,
Ukraine annually produces 60-66 million
tons of grain legumes, while 60-62% is
exported outside the country.

This is 4.6-4.8 million tons, or 51-56% of
barley grown and 17-19 million tons, or
62-82% of corn. In addition, from 1.9 to
4300000 are produced annually t of
soybeans and from 6.1 to 13600000 t of
sunflower is an indispensable source of
protein feed for the production of meat,
milk and wool (Plant growing of Ukraine /
Statistical collection, 2016).

The use of this concentrated feed
resource and intensive feeding technology
for lambs aged 2.5-6.5 months with a
concentrated feed content (up to 65-70%)
in the diet helps to reduce feed costs per
unit of increase by 37% even in sheep
with low maturity (Yakovchuk, 2012).

An equally promising direction in
the formation of industry efficiency is the
creation and use of specialized meat
sheep genotypes (Kolosov and Shyrokova,
2012; Lesnovska, 2014; Scales et al.,
2016).

Despite this, the "Askania Nova"
IABSR - NSSGCSB is working on the

Vandey Dorper.	Texel,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - creation of new genotypes meat - productivity direction sheep with the use of Texel, Vandey and Dorper sheep. - Sheep of these breeds are characterized by well-defined meat forms and meat quality, consolidated heredity and are used in various climatic conditions (Zonabend König et al., 2017).
(Zonabend König et al., 2017).		<p>Despite the fact that the industry's potential for the influence of various factors is not fully utilized: by reproduction - by 69%, by mutton production - by 62%, average daily growths may be large by at least 35%, and solving problems that hinder the development of sheep breeding could promote the following activities:</p>
- 35%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 69%, - 62%, 	<p>1. Improving the structure of the breeding base of sheep, based on the existing pedigree structure and development prospects of the industry.</p>
1.		<p>2. Formation of a state order for the production of high-quality breeding products by subjects of breeding in sheep breeding.</p>
2.		<p>3. Providing state financial support to the subjects of breeding to compensate for regulatory costs to the level of breakeven production.</p>
3.		<p>4. Stimulating the creation of large (500 and more ewes) sheep-breeding farmers' agricultural enterprises through the reimbursement of 50% of the costs of cultivation for expanded reproduction and the purchase of pedigree young animals.</p>
4.	(500)	<p>5. Purchase of the import of genetic material of specialized Meat-and- Dairy breeds and the creation of their reproducers.</p>
50%		<p>6. Providing the conditions for the full realization of the genetic potential of domestic Meat-and-Wool and lamb breeds and types in state research farms of the NAAS with the aim of increasing it by the method of purebred breeding.</p>
5.	NAAS	
6.		<p>7. Attracting investment for the reconstruction of existing facilities and the</p>
7.		

,
500

- intensification of production by introducing elements of the industrial production of lamb meat and young lamb, the creation
- of large farms with a livestock of 500 or more ewes, which provide more efficient use of labor resources and means of mechanization of technological processes.

CONCLUSIONS

1.

1. The world has formed the direction of the sheep breeding, which correspond to the climatic and economic conditions of the regions. There is a tendency to change the specialization in the production of wool for the production of mutton and sheep milk.

2.

2. The production of sheep products in Ukraine is characterized by an unstable supply. Export volumes are very insignificant and do not affect world market conditions. The shortage of sheep products is: mutton 30.7 thousand tons, wool - 43.1 thousand tons. The industry's loss ratio is 60-70%.

- 30.7
(

5).

- 43.1

60-70%.

16

The sheep breeding of Ukraine under the conditions of the protracted crisis has undergone a multiple decrease in the number of livestock and changes in the structure of ownership. In Ukraine, more than 16 breeds of different directions productivity breeds are bred, which are adapted to its natural and climatic conditions. The bulk of the livestock refers to the breeds of the combined direction of productivity of Meat-and-Wool and Wool-and-Meat.

3.

3. In modern conditions of the world and domestic markets, the determining products are lamb, mutton, and sheep's milk products. They are the main sources of financial income. The production of lamb meat, mutton and dairy products from sheep's milk, while maintaining the acquired qualitative characteristics of wool, lamb and fur raw materials is the demands modern market the

- development of sheep breeding under the nowadays conditions. The priority direction of development the sheep breeding, both in Ukraine and in the world, is the production of lamb meat, mutton and products from sheep milk, while maintaining the acquired quality characteristics of wool, lamb pelt, sheepskin and fur raw materials.
4. The main sheep breeds of Ukraine can be used in the breeding process when creating sheep genotypes of new directions of productivity and production of lambs for various industrial crosses.
5. The breeding base of sheep breeding in Ukraine does not correspond to scientifically substantiated needs both in number and in pedigree structure.
6. To create specialized meat genotypes of sheep, sheep of the Tsigai, Ascanian Meat-and-Wool breeds and Prekos breed are suitable; sheep of the Tsigai, Ascanian Karakul and Ukrainian Mountain Carpathian breeds can create a dairy direction.
7. Ukraine has all the prerequisites for the intensification of production by introducing elements of the industrial production of lamb meat and young mutton, the creation of large industrial complexes with the entire necessary infrastructure.

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Exterior and Milk Productivity of Assaf Sheep of Various Ages

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Original scientific paper

SUMMARY

The article presents the live weight with body indices of lambs and ewes of various ages. Measurements were taken of the udder and for milk productivity with the chemical composition of milk from the first to the fifth lactation.

The average live weight of lambs at birth was 5.09 kg and in 20 days it reached 11.36 kg with an average daily gain of 313.1 g. At the age of 2.5 months it was 28.51 kg and 317.8 g respectively. At 7-8 months - 44.86 kg. The average daily gain from weaning up to 7-8 months of age was already 101.3 g, and it constituted 164.1 g for the entire accounting period. When were taking body measurements in the second group, the live weight was 29.53 kg higher, the chest physique index was 3.13% lower and the bony index was 1.09% lower. The remaining indices were higher in the range from 2.89 to 11.9%.

At ewes, depending on age, there are differences in body indices. On the live weight, the lowest is 65.38 kg at ewes in the third lactation relative to the limits between 65.84 and 72.46 kg in the studied groups, and with an average of 68.44 kg.

The udder volume of 4075 cm³ was

5.09 kg, 20
11.36 kg
313.1 g
2.5
28.51 kg 317.8 g. 7-8
- 44.86 kg.
7-8
101.3 g,
164.1 g.
- 29.53 kg,
3.13%,
1.09%.
-
2.89 11.9%.
-
65.38 kg
65.84 -
72.46 kg
68.44 kg.
-

cm^3 , (cm^3) - 4075
 cm^3 - e 612
 - 2731 cm^3 , ()
 732 cm^3 -)
 (P 0.001).
 415.55±11.28 l ,
 -
 456.38 ± 30.98 l ,
 , 40.83 l
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 ,
 3
 450 -
 334
 220 -
 7.2% 5.5% -
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 () ,

the highest at ewes in the fourth lactation (612 cm^3 higher compared with the average data) and the lowest was of 2731 cm^3 at ewes in the first lactation (732 cm^3 lower), P 0.001. In general, for lactation, an average of 415.55 ± 11.28 liters of milk was obtained per ewe, the highest rate for ewes in the third lactation was 456.38 ± 30.98 liters or 40.83 liters more. By the chemical composition of milk in comparison with the average indicators for all the studied criteria, the data obtained for the second lactation are lower in comparison with the rest of lactations.

Key words: live weight, body indices, lambs, ewes, Assaf breed, milk, chemical composition

INTRODUCTION

The sheep of the Assaf breed was created by crossing sheep of two breeds Awassi with East Friesian. At home in Israel, the Assaf breed is perceived as the best breed for milk and meat with a good slaughter yield and excellent taste. The breed is well adapted to a semi-intensive and intensive method of rearing with good meat and dairy productivity.

Under Israeli conditions, when sheep have approximately 3 lambs in two years, the milk production per year is 450 liters. The average milk yield of sheep in intensive rearing was 334 liters of milk for 220 days of lactation with 7.2% of fat and 5.5% of protein content. After this breed was imported to Spain, it quickly began to spread in Europe.

The first batch of Assaf sheep was imported to Moldova in 2014 from the city Veliko Tarnovo (Bulgaria), and then this breed appeared in four more farms being imported from Spain.

The aim of the research was to study the growth and development of purebred Assaf lambs from birth to 7-8

7-8-
 8 ; 19 20 ; ;
 2 4 ; ;
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 lon“
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 5
 :
 - 20
 5.35 kg
 - 20
 " ,
 -
 " (Mashner et al., 2017).

- months of age in the natural and climatic conditions of the Republic of Moldova and the milk productivity of sheep depending on lactation. Body measurements were taken and body indices were calculated in ewe lambs at 7 to 8 months, then in yearling sheep at 19 to 20 months of age, after that in ewes aged from 2 to 4 years, and finally in sheep of 5 to 6 years.

- On milk productivity, we studied the measures of the udder and the effect of the number of lactation of ewes on milk production in the suckling and milking periods, and in general for lactation. We have determined the chemical composition of milk as well.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The execution of the proposed tasks was carried out on the basis of the Assaf sheep farm of Peasant Household "Tsurcan lon" in the Orhei district.

The biological research material was represented from the sheep of the Assaf breed of first to fourth lactations. During the sucking and milking periods was studied the milk production volume over the entire lactation at each 5 heads of sheep from the first to the fourth lactation. Sheep's milk production was established in stages, such as:

- during the first 20 days of lactation and after the total weight gain of lambs during that period, and using the coefficient 5,35 kg of milk to recalculate the live weight gain in total milk production;
- after 20 days of lambs sucking and until the end of the lactation period, using milking control, according to the methods described in the "Instruction for assessing the Morpho-productive carachers of specialized breeds, populations, types and synthetic lines of sheep for milk production in the Republic of Moldova" (Mashner et al., 2017).

The chemical composition of milk was studied for the content of fat, protein, lactose, dry defatted milk residue and other. The chemical analysis of the milk

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The live weight of Assaf lambs was estimated at birth, then at 20 days, at weaning (2.5 months) and finally at 7-8 months (Table 1).

Table 1. Dynamics of body weight and average daily growth of ewe lamb of Assaf breed

Indices	Live weight, kg		Average daily weight gain, g	2.5 Weaning at 2.5 months		7-8 Live weight at the age of 7-8 months, kg	Average daily weight gain, g	
	at birth	20 at 20 days		live weight, kg	average daily weight gain, g		7-8 from weaning to 7-8 months of age, g	for the total period, g
M±m	5,09±0,11	11,36±0,22	313,1±7,99	28,51±0,54	317,8±6,30	44,86±0,85	101,3±4,30	164,1±3,21
	0,79	0,22	59,23	2,99	35,10	3,79	19,23	14,36
Cv,%	15,50	1,60	18,92	10,47	11,05	8,45	18,98	8,75
n	55			31		21	21	21

55 heads were estimated at birth and than at 20 days of age. The average live weight at birth was 5.09 kg, and in 20 days it amounted already to 11.36 kg, and the average daily weight gain was for this period 313.1 g. At the age of 2.5 months, when were culling the lambs from their mothers, the ewe lambs reached a live weight of 28.51 kg with an average daily weight gain of 317.8 g. In the autumn the ewe lambs have weighing 44.86 kg at 7-8 months of age. The average daily gain from weaning to 7-8 months of age was 101.3 g, and it amounted to 164.1 g for the total recording period. The obtained results exceed the results of studies conducted in other years for Tsigai and other purebred lambs.

To study the body size of the researched sheep at the age of 7-8 and 19-20 months were taken body measurements in each experimental group of 5 heads (Table 2). On the basis of this were calculated physique indices in order to study the degree of development and proportionality of the main body parts (Table 3).

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2.
", cm

Table 2. Body measurements of ewe sheep of Assaf breed, cm

Body measurements	7-8 At 7-8 months			19-20 At 19-20 months		
	M±m		Cv, %	M±m		Cv, %
Height at withers	67,67 ± 1,12	2,50	3,70	74,00 ± 0,58	1,41	1,91
/Rump height	67,67 ± 1,32	2,94	4,35	72,14 ± 0,83	2,04	2,82
Chest width	21,50 ± 1,01	2,26	10,50	25,71 ± 0,99	2,43	9,45
Depth of chest	28,00 ± 0,63	1,41	5,05	34,86 ± 0,64	1,57	4,51
Oblique body length	61,83 ± 2,14	4,79	7,75	70,00 ± 1,60	3,92	5,59
/Heart girth	88,83 ± 2,09	4,67	5,25	106,00 ± 3,34	8,19	7,72
Pastern girth	9,50 ± 0,24	0,55	5,77	10,14 ± 0,28	0,69	6,80

2
19-20
7-8-

According to Table 2, it can be noted that for all body measurements taken, the indicators of 19-20-month-old sheep are higher in comparison with 7-8-month-old ewe lambs.

3. " , %

Table 3. Body indices of the ewe sheep of Assaf breed, %

/Indices	7-8 At 7-8 months			19-20 At 19-20 months		
	M±m		Cv, %	M±m		Cv, %
/Relative body index	91,45 ± 3,25	7,27	7,95	94,34 ± 2,19	5,37	5,70
/Cross-measure	31,73 ± 1,14	2,55	8,02	34,73 ± 1,21	2,97	8,55
/Massivenesses	131,30 ± 2,43	5,44	4,14	143,20 ± 4,17	10,21	7,13
/Chest index	76,82 ± 3,36	7,52	9,79	73,69 ± 2,07	5,07	6,88
/Compactness	144,39 ± 5,98	13,37	0,74	151,73 ± 5,44	13,32	8,78
/Bone index	10,71 ± 0,33	0,74	6,86	9,62 ± 0,41	1,01	10,50
/Body weight	44,80 ± 2,12	4,74	10,58	74,33 ± 5,03	12,33	16,59

12
29.53 kg
3.13%
1.09%
2.89 - 11.9%
()

When were taking body measurements, the age difference between the first and second groups was about 12 months, hence the live weight in second group is 29.53 kg higher, and the chest index is 3.13% lower with and the bony index of 1.09% lower, respectively. Other indices are higher within the range of 2.89-11.9%.

Body measurements were taken to study the overall development of adult ewes at the age of two, three, four years (of local selection), and of five and six

4). () years (of import selection) (Table 4). The data obtained from ewes at the age of four years on each measurement are lower in comparison with measurements for ewes of the remaining four ages and on average for groups.

1.64 cm , 1.68 cm - So, the height at the withers is 1.64 cm lower, the height at the rump is 1.68 cm lower, the chest width is 1.60 cm lower, the body length is 0.80 cm lower, the heart girth is 2.7 cm lower and the pastern girth is 0.52 cm lower as well.

4. " , cm

Table 4. The body measurements of ewes of the Assaf breed, cm

Body measurements	/Age, M±m						On average
	2 /2 years	3 /3 years	4 /4 years	5 /5 years	6 /6 years		
	/of local selection			/of import selection			
Height at withers	75,20 ± 0,74	75,40 ± 1,52	73,20 ± 1,19	75,60 ± 1,30	74,80 ± 2,61	74,84 ± 0,62	
/Rump height	74,20 ± 0,42	74,20 ± 1,47	72,00 ± 1,77	74,80 ± 1,52	73,20 ± 2,04	73,68 ± 0,61	
Chest width	25,40 ± 1,35	26,20 ± 0,74	23,40 ± 1,15	25,60 ± 0,84	24,40 ± 1,30	25,00 ± 0,46	
Depth of chest	35,20 ± 1,02	36,40 ± 0,57	35,40 ± 0,57	36,20 ± 0,74	36,00 ± 0,79	35,84 ± 0,30	
Oblique body length	69,00 ± 1,54	70,60 ± 1,35	68,60 ± 0,91	69,80 ± 1,08	69,00 ± 1,66	69,40 ± 0,52	
Heart girth	105,2 ± 1,64	105,0 ± 1,097	101,0 ± 2,74	104,4 ± 1,48	103,0 ± 4,50	103,7 ± 1,06	
Pastern girth	10,00 ± 0,50	9,80 ± 0,22	9,40 ± 0,57	10,40 ± 0,27	10,00 ± 0,50	9,92 ± 0,18	

(5). - On the basis of the obtained data on measurements, the body indices were calculated (Table 5).

5. " , %

Table 5. The body indices of ewes of the Assaf breed, %

/Indices	/Age, M±m						On average
	2 /2 years	3 /3 years	4 /4 years	5 /5 years	6 /6 years		
	/of local selection			/of import selection			
Relative body index	91,73 ± 1,35	93,69 ± 1,69	93,79 ± 1,91	92,94 ± 1,88	92,57 ± 3,74	92,94 ± 0,86	
/Cross-measure	33,82 ± 2,00	34,77 ± 0,94	32,12 ± 1,30	33,89 ± 1,20	32,67 ± 1,66	33,45 ± 0,58	
/Massivenesses	140,0 ± 3,14	139,4 ± 2,70	137,9 ± 1,73	138,2 ± 2,99	137,6 ± 2,62	138,6 ± 1,02	
/Chest index	72,53 ± 5,28	71,98 ± 1,73	66,01 ± 2,33	70,86 ± 3,12	54,83 ± 3,30	67,24 ± 1,87	
/Compactness	152,9 ± 5,76	148,8 ± 2,89	147,3 ± 4,32	149,7 ± 3,25	149,3 ± 5,54	149,6 ± 1,72	
/Bone index	9,52 ± 0,54	9,25 ± 0,26	9,29 ± 0,36	9,97 ± 0,25	9,72 ± 0,31	9,55 ± 0,15	
/Body weight	65,84 ± 2,06	72,46 ± 3,49	65,38 ± 3,15	70,22 ± 1,56	68,28 ± 3,25	68,44 ± 1,18	

6
 -
 : 1.33%
 1.23%
 -
 0.3%
 1.0%
 65.38 kg
 65.84 72.46 kg
 68.44 kg.
 1- , 2- , 3- , 4- 5-
 (6).

In the calculated 6 body indexes at four-year-old ewes there are three lower body indices compared to the average values: 1.33% for cross-measure, chest index 1.23%, and compactness of 2.3%.

The relative body index is 1,21% lower at ewes of two years compared to the average values. Bony index in three-year-old ewes is 0.3% lower and massiveness is in six-year-old ewes 1.0% lower. The lowest live weight is 65.38 kg in four-year-old ewes with the limits between 65.84 and 72.46 kg for the studied groups and an average of 68.44 kg.

In the second and third months of lactation was studied the development of the udder in sheep of two, three, four years, and of five, six years, respectively, which corresponds to 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th lactations (Table 6).

6. " , cm
Table 6. The measurements of the udder of ewes of the Assaf breed, cm

/Measurement	1	2	3	4	5	6	On average
	1st lactation, 2 years old	2nd lactation, 3 years old	3rd lactation, 4 years old	4th lactation, 5 years old	5th lactation, 6 years old		
	/of local selection			/of import selection			
/Of udder:							
/length	17,20±0,82	19,60±1,04	18,60±0,45	20,20±1,02	19,40±1,35	19,00±0,42	
/width	15,20±0,82	17,00±0,00	16,20±0,65	18,00±0,71	16,60±0,57	16,60±0,30	
/depth	18,20±0,74	21,00±0,35	19,60±0,57	21,20±1,78	18,80±1,56	19,76±0,49	
/girth	43,40±0,67	45,60±0,67	48,80±0,96	49,20±1,08	47,00±1,46	46,80±0,58	
/volume	2731±145***	3474±86	3717±170	4075±326	3320±372	3463±131	
/Of nipples:							
/ length	4,64±0,50	3,48±0,38	4,48±0,49	4,90±0,54	4,32±0,44	4,36±0,20	
/diameter	2,50±0,11	2,18±0,24	2,92±0,37	2,70±0,06	2,50±0,20	2,56±0,10	
/The ratio of length of the udder to:							
/width	1,15±0,10	1,15±0,06	1,16±0,07	1,12±0,05	1,17±0,05	1,15±0,02	
/depth	0,95±0,07	0,93±0,05	0,95±0,02	0,96±0,06	1,04±0,05	0,97±0,02	

*** (P 0.001)

- 4075 cm³,
 e 612 cm³

Using the obtained data on the size of the udder itself, the main indicator of its volume is calculated, which is presented in the table above. The highest udder volume is in ewes for the fourth lactation with 4075 cm³, which being compared to the average data is 612 cm³ higher and the lowest udder volume is in ewes for the first lactation of

- 2731 cm³, 732 cm³ (P 0.001).

(7),

”(Mashner et al., 2017).

2731 cm³ that is 732 cm³ lower being compared to the average data (P 0.001).

The length and diameter of the nipples meet the requirements for the specified parameters for use during the milking period of sheep by one of the promising mechanized methods.

The milk productivity for full lactation was studied from the moment of lambing to the last day of the milking period (Table 7) In accordance with the “Instruction of appreciation of morpho-productive characters of specialized breeds, populations, types and synthetic lines of sheep for milk production in the Republic of Moldova” (Mashner et al., 2017).

7.

Table 7. The milk production of sheep of Assaf breed during lactation

/Indices	1	2	3	4	5	On average
	1st lactation	2nd lactation	3rd lactation	4th lactation	5th lactation	
	/of local selection			/of import selection		
Udder volume, cm ³	2731±145	3474±86	3717±170	4075±326	3320±372	3463±131
Suckling period, days	91,60±1,68	87,00±9,37	84,60±4,64	85,80±3,93	88,00±4,08	87,40±2,06
/Milk productivity in the first 20 days of lactation, l	35,22±1,09	39,90±6,59	55,96±2,07***	35,10±2,90	32,76±2,87	39,79±2,21
/Milk productivity in the suckling period, l	191,72±8,76	206,80±11,30	240,94±20,72	192,80±14,22	169,24±6,60	200,30±6,97
Milking period, days	135,0±0,00					
/Milk productivity in the milking period, l	204,08±11,39	219,12±16,76	215,44±11,03	242,04±15,46	195,58±25,45	215,25±7,09
Lactation period, days	226,60±1,68	222,00±9,37	219,60±4,64	220,80±3,936	223,00±4,08	222,40±2,06
/Milk productivity for the lactation, l	395,80±10,92	425,92±23,44	456,38±30,98	434,84±22,72	364,82±28,92	415,55±11,28
Average daily milk yield, ml	1747,0±49,0	1922,4±92,0	2073,2±103,3	1969,4±95,3	1641,8±149,7	1870,8±50,2

***P 0,001

20
39.79 ± 2.21
55.96 ± 2.07
16.17 (P 0.001)
200.30 ± 6.97
40.64
240.94 ± 20.72
135
215.25 ± 7.09

Milk productivity in the first 20 days of lactation averaged 39.79±2.21 liters and the highest limit was of 55.96±2.07 liters, which is with 16.17 liters more (P 0.001) in sheep during the third lactation. In general, during the suckling period, an average of 200.30±6.97 liters were obtained, and in ewes for the third lactation it was 40.64 liters more, which amounted to 240.94±20.72 liters of milk. The duration of the milking period was 135 days in which an average of 215.25±7.09 liters were produced in the

	242.04 ± 15.46	26.76
	415.55 ± 11.28	
	456.38 ± 30.98	40.83
Lactosan	8	MCC

group and the highest milk yield amounted to 242.04±15.46 liters of milk in sheep during the fourth lactation, which is higher with 26.76 liters. In general, an average of 415.55±11.28 liters of milk were obtained during whole lactation and the highest indicator was in ewes for the third lactation with 456.38±30.98 liters of milk or with 40.83 liters more. In comparison with the average data, the milk yield is higher in ewes from the second and fourth lactation.

It should be noted that for milk yield for lactation, the lactation curve reaches the highest indicator in the third lactation and then decreases.

During the control milking, average samples of milk were collected in all groups and the MCC Lactosan apparatus studied the chemical composition of milk. Table 8 shows the data of the chemical composition of milk.

8. " ", (%)

Table 8. Chemical composition of Assaf sheep milk, (%)

/Specification	/Lactation, M±m					On average
	/first	/second	/third	/fourth	/fifth	
	/of local selection			/of import selection		
/Fat	6,96 ± 0,11	6,85 ± 0,31	7,78 ± 0,21	6,94 ± 0,11	7,04 0,03±	7,11±0,09
/Protein	4,05 ± 0,06	4,03 ± 0,05	4,14 ± 0,06	4,23 ± 0,17	4,21 ± 0,15	4,13±0,05
/Lactose	3,83± 0,06	3,82± 0,05	3,92 ± 0,06	4,17± 0,29	3,99 ± 0,15	3,95±0,06
Dry defatted milk residue	8,54 ± 0,12	8,50 ± 0,11	8,73 ± 0,13	8,91± 0,36	8,89 ± 0,33	8,71±0,10
/Salts	0,62± 0,01	0,62± 0,01	0,63 ± 0,01	0,65± 0,03	0,65 ± 0,03	0,63±0,01
/Density, °	27,94 ± 0,39	27,88 ± 0,64	28,06 ± 0,66	29,45 ± 1,47	29,26 ± 1,27	28,52±0,40

Before the start of mating period were weighed ewes, yearling sheep, and ewe lambs (Table 9).

9.

Table 9. Autumn weighing of ewes and yearling sheep

	/Ewes					/Yearling sheep	
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
M±m	69,12±2,76	70,19±1,67	67,88±1,90	71,28±1,77	66,03±1,45	74,83±4,35	44,77±0,77
	6,17	6,01	6,01	7,69	6,66	11,50	3,63
Cv,%	8,92	8,56	8,86	10,80	10,08	15,37	8,10
n	6	14	11	20	22	8	23
	2013-2017						
	Weight of ewes born in 2013-2017						
M±m	68,47±0,78						
	6,48						
Cv,%	9,47						
n	70						

68.47 ± 0.78 kg

The average live weight of ewes was 68.47±0.78 kg with the limits between

Њ

	1*	2	1
1	,	,	
2		, 5600	,
		, 1407	,

Quantitative and Qualitative Evaluation of the Fat Composition of Goat's Milk from Bulgarian White Dairy Breed and Its Crosses with Anglonubian and Togenburg Breeds

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SUMMARY

This study aims to determine the fatty acid content of goat's milk from three groups of animals - Bulgarian White Dairy (BWD) breed and its crosses with Anglo-Nubian (BWDxAN) and Togenburg (BWDxTG) breeds during the lactation, as well as to evaluate fatty acid composition of milk fat as a healthy source for human nutrition.

Goat's milk from the studied groups of animals is characterized by a high level of saturated fatty acids from 74.72 g/100g fat at BWD breed to 79 g/100g fat at BWDxTG breed, and the content of MUFA and PUFA predominate in the milk of purebred goats respectively 24.56 and 3.84 g/100g fat.

The concentration of conjugated linoleic acid (CLA) is highest for BWD

() - й (x) -
 (x) ,
 -
 74.72 g/100g
 79 g/100g
 ,
 - 24.56 3.84
 g/100g
 (CLA) -

- 0.55 g/100g
 - 0.38 g/100g
 6/ 3
 2.23 g/100g
 2.44 g/100g
 ml , 2.50 2.78.
 - 11.34 g/100
 0.49.
 - 0.10 g/100 ml
 () 1924/2006.
 :

breed - 0.55 g/100g fat and lowest for BWD xTG- 0.38 g/100g fat.

The ratio of omega 6/omega 3 fatty acids in the analyses milk ranged from 2.23 at BWD to 2.44 at BWDxTG breed.

The lipid preventive score, atherogenic and thrombogenic index have the lowest values in the milk from BWD breed - 11.34 g/100 ml milk, 2.50 and 2.78.

The ratio of hyper- and hypocholesterolemic fatty acids is lowest in the milk from BWDxTG - 0.49.

The analyzed milk is defined as a low-TFA food product - 0.10 g/100 ml milk according to Regulation (EC) No 1924/2006.

Key words: goat's milk, fatty acids, lipid indices

INTRODUCTION

Triglycerides make up the main part of milk lipids (about 90%), including a large number of esterified fatty acids. Goat's milk contains simple lipids (diglycerides, monoglycerides and cholesterol esters), complex lipids (phospholipids) and fat-soluble components (sterols, cholesterol esters, hydrocarbonates) (Park et al., 2007).

Milk fat has a significant impact on the biological and nutritional value of milk and the taste quality of the produced dairy products. One of the great differences between goat and cow's milk is with respect to physicochemical structure and composition of milk fat.

The smaller size of the fat globules contributes to their greater dispersion and homogeneity of milk fat in goat's milk, providing a larger area for the effect of lipases on it (Park, 2005).

The fatty acid composition of milk fat in

(Park, 2005).

-
 (C4:0-C14:0),
 (Barłowska et al., 2011; Tziboula-Clarke, 2003; Park et al., 2017).
 15÷18%
 5 9%.
 (Shingfield et al., 2008).
 (C10:0, C14:0, C16:0, C18:0 C18:1) 75%
 (6:0) - 2.9%, 2.4 % 1.6%,
 (C8:0) - 2.6%, 2.7% 1.3%,
 (C10:0) - 7.8%, 10.0% 3.0 %,
 (C12:0) - 4.4%, 5.0% 3.1 %
 (Park et al., 2007; Ivanova et al., 2012).
 (CLA),
 (Lawson et al., 2001). CLA 9, 11t
 75-90%
 CLA
 (Bauman et al., 2001).
 CLA,
 (Raff et al., 2009).
 -3

goat's milk is characterized by a significantly higher content of short and medium chain fatty acids (C4: 0-C14: 0) than cow's milk (Barłowska et al., 2011; Tziboula-Clarke, 2003; Park et al., 2017).

Short chain fatty acids in goat's milk range from 15 to 18% of total fatty acids compared to cow's milk, in which they range from 5 to 9%. It is known that medium chain fatty acids have antibacterial and antiviral effects, and their high relative share in the diet of humans can influence the intensity of cholesterol deposition (Shingfield et al., 2008).

Five fatty acids (C10: 0, C14: 0, C16: 0, C18: 0 and C18: 1) represent over 75% of the total fatty acids in goat and sheep's milk. The levels of valuable short and medium chain fatty acids in sheep, goat and cow's milk are respectively: caproic (C6: 0) - 2.9%, 2.4% and 1.6%, caprylic (C8: 0) - 2.6%, 2.7% and 1.3%, capric (C10: 0) - 7.8%, 10.0% and 3.0% and lauric (C12: 0) - 4.4%, 5.0% and 3.1% (Park et al., 2007; Ivanova et al., 2012).

The present aspects concerning the composition of lactic fat in ruminants relate mainly to the content of conjugated linoleic acid (CLA), which can reduce the risk of many diseases such as obesity, atherosclerosis, cancer and more. (Lawson et al., 2001).

The CLA isomer 9c, 11t is the predominant form whose content is about 75-90% of the total CLA content in ruminant fat (Bauman et al., 2001). The CLA-containing products have been found to contribute to the reduction of body fat by inhibiting lipogenesis and stimulating lipolysis (Raff et al., 2009).

In recent years, there has been increasing interest in the role of omega-6 and omega-3 fatty acids in healthy nutrition. The appropriate ratio of omega-6

-6 -3 -

4:1.

5:1

(Simopoulos, 2008).
Mihailova et al., (2004)

(12:0 16:0)
18:0

(38,5 - 39,8 %)

(4:0 - 10:0) 20,5

21,5 %.

(18:1)
- 2,5 %,

(CLA)

0,5 – 0,6 g/100g

й

(x)

and omega-3 fatty acids for the prevention of cardiovascular disease is equal to or less than 4: 1.

In milk fat, this ratio is about 5: 1 (much lower than in other foods), indicating that dairy products are a good food for humans (Simopoulos, 2008).

Mihailova et al., (2004) found in their studies on milk from the Bulgarian White Dairy breed and its crosses, that the levels of medium chain (C12: 0 to C16: 0) and long chain fatty acids over the C18: 0 fatty acids in the analyzed milk were similar (38.5 - 39.8%) and significantly higher than the short chain ones (C4: 0 - C10: 0) - 20.5 and 21.5% respectively. The amount of trans isomers of oleic acid (C18: 1) in milk is practically the same - 2.5%, and the concentration of conjugated linoleic acid (CLA) in goat milk from the Middle Balkan Mountain is 0.5 - 0.6 g/100g fat.

This study aims to determine the fatty acid content of goat's milk from three groups of animals - Bulgarian White Dairy (BWD) breed and its crosses with Anglo-Nubian (BWDxAN) and Togenburg (BWDxTG) breeds during the lactation, as well as to evaluate fatty acid composition of milk fat as a healthy source for human nutrition.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Nine milk samples (3 x 3 counts) were examined during the lactation period of three animals groups - Bulgarian White Dairy (BWD) breed and its crosses with Anglo Nubian (BWDxAN) and Togenburg (BWDxTG) for fatty acid composition and evaluation of milk fat in human nutrition. The experimental animals used were rearing in one flock under the same production conditions at the base of the RIMSA - Troyan and were aged from 3 to

(3 x 3)

й (x)

3 5 (-)
),
 - .
 ,
 (- -)
 .
 Roese-Gottlieb,
 -
 (CH₃ONa,
 Merck, Darmstadt)
 NaHSO₄.H₂O.
 (FAME)
 Shimadzu-2010 (Kioto, Japan)
 -
 (AOC-2010i).
 CP 7420 (100m x
 0.25mm i.d.,0.2µm film, Varian Inc., Palo
 Alto, CA).
 , make-up - .
 -
 - 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).

5 years (second - fourth lactation), with the kiddings being in February. The rearing systems are indoor and pasture grass. The milk samples for analysis were taken from morning milking at the beginning, middle and end of the lactation period (April-June-September) and are presented arithmetically.

The extraction of total lipids was carried out by the Roese-Gottlieb method, using diethyl ether and petroleum ether and subsequent methylation with sodium methylate (CH₃ONa, Merck, Darmstadt) and drying with NaHSO₄.H₂O. Fatty acid methyl esters (FAME) were analyzed using a Shimadzu-2010 gas chromatograph (Kioto, Japan) equipped with a flame ionization detector and an automatic injection system (AOC-2010i). The analysis was performed on a CP 7420 capillary column (100m x 0.25mm i.d., 0.2µm film, Varian Inc., Palo Alto, CA). Hydrogen is used as the carrier gas, and as a make-up gas - nitrogen. Four-step furnace mode is programmed - the column's initial temperature is 80 ° C/min, maintained for 15 minutes, then increased by 12°C/min to 170°C and maintained for 20 minutes, followed by a further increase of 4°C/min 186°C for 19 minutes and up to 220°C with 4°C/min until the process is complete.

The qualitative assessment of the fat fraction of the resulting samples includes the following: 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).

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

$$AI = 12:0 + 4 \times 14:0 + 16:0 / [MUFAs + PUFA n6 + PUFA n3]$$

$$TI = (14:0 + 16:0 + 18:0) / [0.5 \times MUFAs + 0.5 \times PUFA n6 + 3 \times PUFA n-3 + PUFA n3 / PUFA n6]$$

$$h/H = (C18:1n-9 + C18:1n-7 + C18:2n-6 + C18:3n-3 + C18:3n-6 + C20:3n-6 + C20:4n6 + C20:5n-3 + C22:4n-6 + C22:5n-3 + C22:6n-3) / (C14:0 + C16:0)$$

EXCEL 2013.

The data were processed using the variation statistics methods using the statistical package of the EXCEL 2013 computer program.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The goat milk under study contains saturated and unsaturated fatty acids, with saturation predominating. Of the saturated fatty acids (Table 1), the highest content of milk in all three groups of animals was C-16: 0, followed by C-18: 0, C-14: 0 and C-10: 0 as C- 18: 0 and C-10: 0 are predominant in BWDxAN-15.0 and 10.03 g/100g fat, and C-16: 0 and C-14: 0 in BWDxTG-33.12 and 10.20 g/100g fat.

1. , g/ 100 g (n=3)
 Table 1. Saturated fatty acids, g / 100 g fat (n=3)

Fatty acids	/ Breed groups		
	/ BWD	/ BWD TG	/ BWD AN
C-4:0	3.46±0.166	3.16±0.141	3.40±0.158
C-6:0	2.90±0.044	2.74±0.116	2.96±0.097
C-8:0	2.63±0.062	2.61±0.091	2.89±0.084
C-10:0	8.92±0.572	9.91±0.333	10.03±0.215
C-11:0	0.02±0.0	0.02±0.003	0.02±0.003
C-12:0	3.05±0.378	3.24±0.273	3.32±0.054
C-13:0	0.03±0.003	0.03±0.003	0.02±0.003
C-14:0	9.46±0.641	10.20±0.301	9.43±0.250
C-15:0	0.51±0.031	0.48±0.038	0.49±0.035
C-16:0	29.17±1.948	33.12±0.326	28.03±1.226
C-17:0	0.59±0.048	0.55±0.033	0.59±0.033
C-18.0	13.54±2.206	12.65±0.991	15.0±1.482
C-20:0	0.25±0.021	0.15±0.090	0.27±0.005
C-22:0	0.09±0.015	0.06±0.005	0.08±0.003
C-23:0	0.02±0.008	0.02±0.003	0.03±0.0
C-24:0	0.02±0.015	0.02±0.003	0.04±0.005

16:0 -18:0
 Helmut and Fiechter (2012) (23.76%, 11.99%) (23.20%, 12.04%)
 Popovi -Vranješ et al. (2016) (-4:0) (3.46 g/100g

The values of saturated C-16: 0 and C-18: 0 fatty acids in goat's milk of the three groups are higher than those found by Helmut and Fiechter, (2012) in Saanen (23.76%, 11.99%) and in Togenburg breed (23.20 %, 12.04%) and identical to those obtained by Popovi - Vranješ et al., (2016) in organic goat milk in Serbia.

Butyric acid (C-4: 0) is highest at BWD (3.46 g/100g fat) and lowest at

) - (3.16
 g/100g), -
 6:0 - x H (2.96
 g/100g) -
 (2.74 g/100g). -
 (-8:0)
 2.61
 2.89 g/100g
 x H. -
 Mihailova et al., (2004)
 -4:0
 (3.23, 3.96, 3.45%), -6:0 (3.52, 3.61,
 3.84%), -8:0 (4.30, 3.68, 3.85%), -
 Cossignani
 et al. (2014)
 (-12:0),
 -
 -
 3.05 3.32 g/100g
 -
 LDL-
 -
 (Ulbricht and Southgate, 1991; Wahlqvist,
 2005).
 17.93 g/100g 19.30
 g/100g x H.
 -
 -
 (Lawson et al., 2001; Sanz
 Sampelayo, 2007) 41.90
 47.64 g/100g
 -
 -
 cis trans
 C-18:1,
 (C-18:1c9)
 (C-18:1t11), cis
 trans
 - 1% (
 2).
 - 20.43,
 1.26 g/100g -
 - 16.78 1.03 g/100g
 Tudisco et al., (2014)
 C-18:1c9 15.4% 16.4%,

BWDxTG (3.16 g/100g fat), and C-6: 0
 content is highest at BWDxAN (2.96
 g/100g fat) and again lowest for BWDxTG
 (2.74 g/100g fat).

Caprylic acid (C-8: 0) varied between the
 analyses milk from 2.61 at BWDxTG to
 2.89 g/100g fat at BWDxAN. Mihailova et
 al., (2004) found higher than our results in
 the same goat groups, respectively, for C-
 4: 0 (3.23, 3.96, 3.45%), C-6: 0 (3.52,
 3.61, 3.84%), C-8: 0 (4.30, 3.68, 3.85%),
 and lower than ours reported by Cossignani
 et al., (2014) for goat milk in Italy.

Lauric acid (C-12: 0), which is an
 antimicrobial acid, is in relatively equal
 quantities between the analyzed milk from
 3.05 to 3.32 g/100g fat.

The high content of short chain fatty
 acids in food leads to an increase in blood
 LDL-cholesterol levels and an increased
 risk of human cardiovascular disease
 (Ulbricht and Southgate, 1991; Wahlqvist,
 2005). Their amount in the milk of the
 studied groups by us ranges from 17.93
 g/100g fat in BWD to 19.30 g/100g fat in
 BWDxAN.

Medium chain fatty acids, which are
 rapidly absorbed in the intestine and have
 antibacterial and antiviral effects (Lawson
 et al., 2001; Sanz Sampelayo et al.,
 2007), range from 41.90 in BWDxAN to
 47.64 g/100g fat in BWDxTG.

Of the monounsaturated fatty acids,
 the spectrum of the cis- and trans-isomers
 of C-18: 1 is most diverse, with oleic (C-
 18: 1c9) and vaccenic acids (C-18: 1t11)
 being the predominant ones, the other cis-
 and trans- forms of oleic acid are in
 concentrations lower than 1% (Table 2).

The content of both acids is highest in the
 BWD breed - 20.43 and 1.26 g / 100g fat,
 and lowest in the BWDxTG - 16.78 and
 1.03 g/100g fat. Tudisco et al., (2014)
 indicate values for C-18: 1c9 from 15.4%
 to 16.4%, which is lower than that

18:1t11 – 1.4% 1.7%

C- obtained by us, and for C-18: 1t11 - 1.4% to 1.7% in the milk of goats rearing indoor and fed with alfalfa hay in Italy.

2. , g/ 100 g (n=3)
Table 2. Monounsaturated fatty acids, g / 100 g fat, (n=3)

Fatty acids	/ Breed groups		
	/ BWD	/ BWD TG	/ BWD AN
C-10:1	0.14±0.033	0.09±0.017	0.12±0.028
C-14:1n5	0.04±0.005	0.04±0.003	0.05±0.005
C-16:19tr	0.35±0.024	0.32±0.012	0.34±0.012
C-16:1n7	0.46±0.056	0.35±0.048	0.39±0.033
C-17:1n7	0.17±0.0	0.11±0.014	0.15±0.008
C-18:1t4	0.01±0.0	0.01±0.0	0.01±0.0
C-18:1t5/6/7	0.16±0.019	0.17±0.010	0.18±0.020
C-18:1t9	0.17±0.005 a*	0.14±0.005	0.15±0.005
C-18:1t10	0.18±0.015	0.20±0.021	0.16±0.022
C-18:1t11	1.26±0.248	1.03±0.193	1.11±0.177
C-18:1c9/C-18:1t12/13/	20.43±0.774	16.78±1.221	19.30±0.963
C-18:1t15	0.15±0.028	0.29±0.129	0.17±0.024
C-18:1c11	0.40±0.033	0.39±0.037	0.40±0.042
C-18:1c12	0.09±0.007	0.10±0.011	0.10±0.012
C-18:1c13	0.30±0.044	0.31±0.038	0.34±0.052
C-18:1t16	0.03±0.008	0.02±0.005	0.02±0.003
C-18:1c14	0.06±0.0	0.06±0.005	0.07±0.005
C-18:1c15	0.07±0.010	0.08±0.012	0.08±0.125
C-22:1n9	0.04±0.0	0.05±0.0	0.03±0.005

a- BWD/ BWDxTG; *P 0,05

C-18:2c9,12, C-18:3n6 C-18:3n3 - 1.93 g/100g
 , C-18:2c9,12, 0.06, 0.72 g/100g (3).
 Markiewicz-K szycka et al., (2013), C-18:2c9,12- 2.25% C-18:3n3- 0.77%
 (-18:2) (-18:3)
 (Gerchev et al., 2018).
 CLA,

The biologically important polyunsaturated fatty acids C-18: 2c9,12, C-18: 3n6 and C-18: 3n3 have the highest content of BWDxTG-1.93 g/100g fat for C-18: 2c9,12 and on the other two acids in the milk of BWDxAN-0.06 and 0.72 g/100g fat (Table 3). Higher values than ours indicate Markiewicz-K szycka et al., (2013), respectively C-18: 2c9,12- 2.25% and C-18: 3n3- 0.77% in goat's milk in Poland, but it should be noted that the values of linoleic (C-18: 2) and linolenic (C-18: 3) acids in milk fat depend on animal nutrition as they are not synthesized in the body (Gerchev et al., 2018).

Relatively low amounts by CLA isomers have been detected in goat's milk, some of which are traceable. The

cis-9, trans-11 (CLA9c,11t), 80% (Secchiari et al., 2001) - 0.51 g/100g
 C-18:2 biologically active isomer C-18: 2 cis-9, trans-11 (CLA9c, 11t), which accounts is 80% of the total amount of CLA (Secchiari et al., 2001) is high in the BWD breed - 0.51 g/100g fat and lowest at BWDxTG - 0.36 g/100g fat, similar to the results obtained by Cossignani et al. (2014) - 0.4% in goat's milk in Italy.

3. Polyunsaturated fatty acids, g / 100 g fat, (n=3)

Fatty acids	/ Breed groups		
	/ BWD	/ BWD TG	/ BWD AN
C-18:2t9,12	0.20±0.008	0.18±0.008	0.18±0.014
C-18:2c9,12/19:0	1.85±0.028	1.93±0.090	1.73±0.062
gC-18:3n6	0.05±0.007	0.04±0.008	0.06±0.007
aC-18:3n3	0.71±0.038	0.69±0.031	0.72±0.038
CLA9c,11t	0.51±0.030	0.36±0.054	0.38±0.019
CLA9c,11c	0.03±0.005	0.01±0.008	0.02±0.011
C-20:2n6	0.08±0.014	0.06±0.005	0.07±0.003
C-20:3n6	0.02±0.003	0.01±0.011	0.02±0.011
C-20:4n6	0.03±0.010	0.02±0.003	0.02±0.007
C-20:3n3	0.14±0.007	0.14±0.003	0.11±0.003
C-22:5n3	0.12±0.005	0.10±0.007	0.10±0.017
C-22:6n3	0.06±0.020	0.01±0.003	0.02±0.003

(Serment et al., 2011),

(Mele et al., 2008; Ollier et al., 2009).

(4) 0.25 g/100g
 x H 0.27 g/100g
 -17aiso, -15aiso,
 - x H -
 0.22 g/100g

The content of branched fatty acids in goat's milk depends on the characteristics of the diet such as the ratio of coarse feed/concentrate (Serment et al., 2011), the addition of vegetable oil and its interaction with the level of feed (Mele et al., 2008; Ollier et al., 2009). The main representative of the goat milk studied from the three groups of animals was C-17iso, (Table 4) with values from 0.25 g/100g fat in BWDxAH to 0.27 g/100g fat in the other two groups and C-17aiso, followed by C- 15aiso, which is the highest in BWDxAH - 0.22 g/100g fat.

4. , g/ 100 g (n=3)
Table 4. Branched fatty acids, g / 100 g fat (n=3)

Fatty acids	/ Breed groups		
	/ BWD	/ BWD TG	/ BWD AN
C-13iso	0.02±0.005	0.01±0.007	0.01±0.007
C-13aiso	0.05±0.024	0.04±0.014	0.04±0.012
C-14iso	0.01±0.004	0.01±0.004	0.01±0.004
C-15iso	0.15±0.019	0.13±0.012	0.15±0.003
C-15aiso	0.20±0.005	0.20±0.012	0.22±0.017
C:16iso	0.16±0.005	0.19±0.022	0.17±0.018
C-17iso	0.27±0.010	0.27±0.003	0.25±0.007
C-17aiso	0.28±0.007	0.29±0.012	0.29±0.020
C-18iso	0.03±0.005	0.03±0.003	0.03±0.0

5.
 (Chilliard et al., 2005). -
 - 0.55 g/100g
 - 0.38 g/100g
 Tudisko et al., (2014) CLA - 0.55%

The distribution of the fatty acids by groups in goat's milk is shown in Table 5. The amount of conjugated linoleic acid in ruminants changes during the season due to changes in nutrition.

The highest values were found for BWD breed - 0.55 g/100g fat and the lowest at BWDxTG - 0.38 g/100g fat, which is near to the results of Tudisko et al., (2014) for CLA - 0.55% in goat milk in Italy.

5. , g/100 g (n=3)
Table 5. Fatty acid groups, g/100 g fat, (n=3)

Fatty acids	/ Breed groups		
	/ BWD	/ BWD TG	/ BWD AN
CLA	0.55±0.027	0.38±0.052	0.40±0.025
C-18:1TF	2.22±0.310	1.96±0.258	2.03±0.263
C-18:1 CF	20.95±0.837	17.33±1.174	19.89±0.932
SFA	74.72±1.274	79±1.245	76.65±0.914
MUFA	24.56±1.094	20.43±1.117	23.20±0.790
PUFA	3.84±0.078	3.59±0.145	3.46±0.101
omega-3	1.05±0.040	0.96±0.017	0.97±0.048
omega-6	2.32±0.031	2.34±0.097	2.19±0.072
omega -6/ omega -3	2.23±0.075	2.44±0.061	2.29±0.090
BFA	1.17±0.047	1.15±0.005	1.17±0.050

g/100g
 - 2.22 20.95
 -

The amount of trans- and cis-isomers during the analyzed period is high for BWD breed - 2.22 and 20.95 g/100g fat, and the lowest for BWDxTG - 1.96,

- 1.96, 17.33 g/100g
- 79 g/100g
- 74.72 g/100g
Mihailova, (2007) - 75.23%
73.49%

17.33 g/100g fat.
The total amount of SFA is the highest in milk of BWDxTG- 79 g/100g fat and the lowest in milk of BWD breed - 74.72 g/100g fat, this statement is in line with the one found by Mihailova, (2007) - 75.23% for milk from BWDxTG and 73.49% from that of BWD breed.

The quantities of MUFA and PUFA predominate in the milk of purebred goats.

The ratio of omega 3/omega 6, which is an indicator for comparing the relative nutritional value of fat, the higher ratio being of great importance for the prevention of coronary hearths and the risks of cancer.

High omega-6 fatty acids intake is defined as undesirable (Kinsella et al., 1990) and nutritionists believe that the desired omega 6/omega 3 ratio should be 5 (Özogul and Özogul, 2007). The ratio of omega 6/omega 3 fatty acids in the analyzed milk ranged from 2.23 g/100g fat in BWD to 2.44 g/100g fat in BWDxTG.

The qualitative evaluation of milk fat was made on the basis of the following indicators: lipid preventive scor, atherogenic and thrombogenic index and the ratio of hyper- and hypocholesterolemic fatty acids (Table 6).

6.

Table 6. Goat milk indices

/ Indexes	/ BWD	/ BWD TG	/ BWD AN
LPS (g/100 ml milk)	11.34±0,735 a**,b***	12,50±0,670	12,25±0,374
AI	2,50±0,289 a***,b**	3,24±0,187	2,60±0,097
TI	2,78±0,113	3,37±0,153	2,94±0,078
h/H	0,61±0,059	0,49±0,007	0,59±0,021
TFA (g/100 ml milk)	0,10±0,023 a*,b*	0,10±0,025	0,10±0,020
SFA+TFA (g/100 ml milk)	3,90±0,271 a**,b***	4,29±0,247	4,22±0,145

a- BWD/ BWDxTG; b- BWD/BWDxAN; *P 0,05, **P 0,01, ***P 0,001

11.34 g/100 ml
g/100 ml

12.50

Mihailova, (2007) - 8.36 g/100g
9.43 g/100g
x H.

0.5 1.0 (Senso et al., 2007),
(h/H),
1.00 (Ivanova and
Hadzhinikolova, 2015).

-3 -6
(Ghaeni et al., 2013).

2.78, -
Markiewicz-K szycka et al. (2013) -
2.88 - 3.17

- 1.0.
()

- 0.10 g/100
ml

() 1924/2006.

74.72 g/100g

The lipid preventative score for the analyses goat's milk was calculated on the basis of the fatty acid groups and fat content and varied in the milk between the groups of animals from 11.34 g/100 ml milk at BWD to 12.50 g/100 ml milk at BWDxTG, with statistically significant data. Mihailova (2007) points out to be lower than our results - 8.36 g/100g of BWDxTG milk product and 9.43 g/100g of BWDxAN milk product.

The atherogenic index giving the correlation between the sum of basic saturated and unsaturated fatty acids and for animal products is from 0.5 to 1.0 (Senso et al., 2007), while the cholesterolemic index (h / H) must be above 1.00 (Ivanova and Hadzhinikolova, 2015).

The thrombogenic index (TI) is the ratio of saturated fatty acids to monounsaturated, polyunsaturated, omega-3 and omega-6 fatty acids (Ghaeni et al., 2013).

In the analysed milk, the atherogenic and thrombogenic index had the lowest values in the BWD breed - 2.50 and 2.78, which is lower than that obtained by Markiewicz-K szycka et al., (2013) - AI - 2.88 and TI - 3.17 in goat milk in Poland.

The milk of the three groups of animals is characterized by a low cholesterolemic index - below 1.0.

Trans fatty acids (TFA) naturally derived are important in human nutrition and have been the subject of a number of scientific studies. The milk of the different goat groups has a TFA content of 0.10 g/100 ml milk, which gives us reason to refer them to the low TFA products according to Regulation (EC) No 1924/2006.

CONCLUSIONS

Goat's milk from the three groups of animals is characterized by a high level of saturated fatty acids from 74.72 g/100g fat at Bulgarian White Dairy breed to 79

	79 g/100g	-	g/100g fat at Bulgarian White Dairy crosses with Togenburg breed, and the content of MUFA and PUFA predominate milk of purebred goats - 24.56 and 3.84 g/100g fat.
	- 24.56	3.84 g/100g	
ml	, 2.50	2.78.	The lipid preventive score, the atherogenic and the thrombogenic index have the lowest values in the milk of the BWD breed - 11.34 g/100 ml milk, 2.50 and 2.78.
	-	- 11.34 g/100	
	-	-	The ratio of hyper- and hypocholesterolemic fatty acids is lowest in the milk of BWDxTG-0.49.
	-	- 0.49.	
	-	-	The analyzed milk is defined as a low-TFA food product - 0.10 g/100 ml milk according to Regulation (EC) No 1924/2006.
	-	0.10 g/100 ml	
		()	
1924/2006.			

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New Functional Rabbit Based Foods

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Original scientific paper

SUMMARY

The present development was related to the study of thermally treated rabbit meat fed with thyme and the production of functional food for human healthy nutrition. The saturated fatty acids of the tested rabbit meat foods decreased compared to the thermally treated meat as follows: at control by 21%, at 3% thyme by 23% and at 5% of thyme by 12%, and monounsaturated fatty acids respectively by 5%, 7% and 6%. Polyunsaturated fatty acids in the obtained foods were increased by 1.58 times in the control group, 1.86 times in 3% thyme and 1.32 times in 5% thyme. Omega-3 fatty acids was increased in the control food by 2.2 times the baseline heat treated meat, by 2.4 times in the food versus the meat at 3% thyme and 1.14 times in the 5% thyme group in the food relative to the meat. The ratio of omega-6/omega-3 decreased in food from the control group (1.43 times) and in 3% (1.55 times) thyme relative to meat and increased in food compared to the base meat at 5% thyme (1.13 times). The food received with dietary rabbit meat

has an improved content of biologically active fatty acids compared to source heat-treated rabbit meat.

Key words: thyme, fatty acids, technological processing

INTRODUCTION

Increasing consumer demand for healthier food products has pushed the meat industry towards the development of new strategies for optimizing nutritional composition aimed at improving the image of meat and meat products (Toldrá and Reig, 2011).

In recent decades, the concept of food quality has undergone important changes as consumers change their lifestyles and habits, keep informed about what they eat and where their food comes from.

Rabbit meat has a high content of protein, low in calories, fat and cholesterol, has no strong flavor compared to other types of meat, was considered a delicate and healthy food that was easily digestible and suitable for children and the adults (Dalle Zotte, 2004; Pogány Simonová et al., 2010; Nistor et al., 2013; Petrescu and Petrescu-Mag, 2018).

Meat and meat products were considered functional foods as they contain many useful compounds such as proteins, amino acids or fatty acids (omega-3 fatty acids, GLA, CLA) (Dalle Zotte and Szendrő, 2011). Continuous or frequent consumption of rabbit meat helps to normalize the metabolism of proteins and fats in the body.

Consumer's preferences for natural foods guide research into the use of natural antioxidants.

Rosemary, green tea, ginger, majoran and thyme have been shown to strong inhibitory effects on the lipid oxidation of meat products (Colligan and Montet,

and Reig, 2011).

(Dalle Zotte, 2004, Pogány Simonová et al., 2010, Nistor et al., 2013, Petrescu and Petrescu-Mag, 2018).

(GLA, CLA) (Dalle Zotte and Szendrő, 2011).

Montet, 1998). (Collignan and

1998). The implementation options have not been fully explored of biologically active substances from plant origin in food technology as antioxidant stabilizers, especially in the preparation of raw meat products.

(Stabler et al.,2004).

Thyme has been recognized as a rich source of natural antioxidants and was an effective natural supplement in the production of foods enriched with naturally occurring biologically active substances that have been successfully implemented in meat (Stabler et al., 2004). According to the literature, the addition of 5% thyme (Thymus) is effective for increasing linolenic acid (GLA) (FAO, (1997), FAO/WHO, (1991). On the other hand, thyme (Thymus) improves the oxidative stability of crude and lyophilized meat but not boiled meat (Peiretti and Meineri, 2011; Schutte, 2008; Sikorski and Kolodziejska, 1986).

(Thymus)

(GLA) (FAO,

(1997), FAO/WHO, (1991).

(Thymus)

(Peiretti and Meineri, 2011; Schutte,

2008; Sikorski and Kolodziejska, 1986).

The present development was related to the study of thermally treated rabbit meat fed with thyme and the production of functional food for human healthy nutrition.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

e

The experiment was conducted at the experimental rabbit farm in the Institute of Animal Sciences - Kostinbrod. They took part in 30 rabbits for 55 days. The duration of the experiment was 7 weeks, reaching an average live weight of over 2100 g. Rabbits were divided into three groups of 10 animals: one control (K) and two experimental ones. The animals were fed wholegrain granulated mixtures prepared at the Agricultural Institute of Stara Zagora by recipe for compound feed for rabbits fattening 53-3-6/02.08.2017 (CP=14,256%, TS=13,429%, CF=1,826 % , energy value=1979,62 Kcal/kg).

30

55

7

2100 g.

10

()

()

()

()

53-3-6/02.08.2017 . (=14,256%,

=13,429%, =1,826%,

=1979,62 Kcal/kg).

3%

(3),

- 5%

To the feed of one experimental group was added 3% thyme (group M3) and to that of the other - 5% thyme (group M5) at

(5),
(31,95%) .
100 g
,
Bligh and Dyer
(1959),
1:2.
(FAME)
Shimadzu-2010 (Kyoto,
Japan).
CP7420 (100m x 0,25mm
i.d., 0,2µm film, Varian Inc., Palo Alto,
CA),
„Statistica-2000“.

the expense of alfalfa hay (31.95% in control feed). In the first two weeks of the experiment, rabbits were fed restrictively with a ration of 100 g of rabbit feed per day. After this period, the animals in the three groups were fed freely and received water via nipple drinkers.

- The meat obtained from the three groups of rabbits was heat treated and a rabbit based feed was then created by formulation enriched with biologically active components.

The resulting rabbit meat and new functional foods were tested for fatty acid composition. Extraction of total lipids was performed by the method of Bligh and Dyer (1959) using chloroform and methanol in a 1: 2 ratio. Fatty acid methyl esters (FAME) were analyzed using a Shimadzu-2010 gas chromatograph (Kyoto, Japan). The assay was performed on a CP7420 capillary column (100m x 0.25mm i.d., 0.2µm film, Varian Inc., Palo Alto, CA), with hydrogen gas and make-up nitrogen gas. The temperature of the furnace was programmed in five steps. Data were processed using variational statistics methods by the Statistica-2000 program.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

()
() 45,62 g/100g
45,50 g/100g
40,58 g/100g
5%
() -
36,24 g/100g
35,81 g/100g
3% 34,19
g/100g 5%
()

- The fatty acid composition of the rabbit meat tested after heat treatment (boiling) has a 45.62 g/100g fat of saturated fatty acid (SFA) content in the control and 45.50 g/100g fat M3 and is reduced to 40.58 g/100g fat by meat obtained from feeding with 5% thyme.

- Monounsaturated fatty acids (MUFA) was 36.24 g/100g fat in the control group and was reduced to 35.81 g/100g fat when 3% thyme was used in feed and 34.19 g/100g fat at 5% thyme in the feed.

- Polyunsaturated fatty acids (PUFA) in the control group were lowest - 17.51 g/100g

1).	10,40	3% 10,62	5,75 (-	control group and the 3% thyme fed group, respectively, from 10.40 and 10.62 to 5.75 (Table 1). Branched fatty acids were not affected by thermally treated meats.
			() 37,63g/100g	-	The fatty acid composition of the analysed rabbit meat foods contained 37.63g/100g saturated fatty acids in the control and decreased in rabbit meat with 3% thyme to 36.37 and 35.82 g/100g fat in food with meat obtained by rearing with 5% thyme.
	36,37	35,82 g/100g	3%	-	A low significant decrease in saturated fatty acids in novel foods was found compared to the initial heat-treated meat (P 0,05). Monounsaturated fatty acids (MUFA) was 34.12 g/100g fat in the food from control meat group and reduced to 33.40 g/100g fat by M3 meat intake and up to 32.63 g/100g meat intake from the group fed with 5% thyme.
				5%	
P 0,05).				-	
				-	
				-	
			34,12 g/100g	-	
			33,40 g/100g	-	
3	32,63	g/100g		-	
5%				-	
				-	
			27,78 g/100g	-	
			29,23 g/100g	-	
3%			31,06 g/100g	-	
				-	
				-	
(P 0,05).				-	
			0,09 g/100g	-	
			1,06 g/100g	-	
3%				-	
g/100g				0,79	
				-	
			28,13 g/100g	-	
				-	
				3%	
			26,22 g/100g	-	
25,70 g/100g				-	
-3				-	
				-	
				-	
3,36	3%			-	
3,74 g/100g				-	

4,14	5%	.	-6	-	4.14 at 5% thyme. Omega-6 fatty acids have the lowest total content of control food -24.47 g/100g fat and highest in the food by 5% thyme meat- 26.94g/100g fat.
24,47 g/100g					
6		- 26,94g/100g		5%	Omega-6 fatty acids were lower significantly higher than heat treated rabbit meat (P 0.05). The ratio of biologically active omega-6 and omega-3 fatty acids decreases with the introduction of meat from the 5% thyme group versus the control group and the 3% thyme group, respectively from 7.29 and 6.82 to 6.50 (Table 1).
		(P 0,05).			
		-3			
		5%			
			7,29	6,82	6,50
(1).				
		(P 0,05).			
12:0)		3%		(C-	Lauric fatty acid (C-12:0) increased at 3% thyme relative to the control from 0.14 to 0.26 g/100g fat and was maintained at 5% thyme to 0.25 g/100g fat. Myristic acid (C 14:0) did not undergo significant changes in the three groups of meat, whereas palmitic acid (C-16:0) showed a decrease of up to 28.86 g/100g fat in rabbit meat fed with the addition of 5% thyme compared to the control group - 33.49 g/100g fat and 3% thyme - 33.85 g/100g fat.
		0,14	0,26	g/100g	
			5%		
0,25 g/100g					
(14:0)				
				(C-	
16:0)					
28,86 g/100g					
			5%		
			- 33,49		
g/100g		3%	- 33,85		
g/100g					
(C-18:0)					
			- 7,61	g/100g	
			6,83	g/100g	
			3%		
			5%		
6,83 g/100g		(2).		

2.

g/100g

Table 2. Saturated fatty acid in boiled meat and food from rabbit, g/100g fat

SFA	/ Meat			/ Food			
	K	M3	M5	K	M3	M5	
C-12:0	0.14	0.26	0.25	0.16	0.47	0.14	
C-13:0	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	
C-14:0	3.57	3.70	3.76	2.99	3.05	3.20	**
C-16:0	33.49	33.85	28.86	28.00	27.46	26.63	
C-17:0	0.47	0.49	0.36	0.36	0.31	0.37	
C-18:0	7.61	6.83	6.63	5.80	5.26	5.16	**
C-20:0	0.11	0.11	0.10	0.15	0.15	0.13	*
C-21:0	0.12	0.13	0.16	0.11	0.10	0.11	
C-22:0	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	
C-23:0	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	
C-24:0	0.05	0.05	0.30	0.01	0.03	0.03	

* P 0.05; ** P 0.01; *** P 0.001

(C-12:0)

3%

0,16 0,47 g/100g

5%

0,14 g/100g

(14:0)

(P 0,01).

(C-16:0)

26,63 g/100g

5%

- 28,00 g/100g

3% - 27,46 g/100g

(C-18:0)

- 5,16 g/100g

2).

(P 0,01).

C-16:1n7

6,14

g/100g

3%

- 6,32

g/100g

5,90 g/100g

Lauric fatty acid (C-12:0) was increased in food with meat of 3% thyme relative to the control from 0.16 to 0.47 g/100g fat and was maintained at 5% thyme relative to the control to 0.14 g/100g fat. Myristic acid (C 14:0) did not undergo significant changes in the three groups of rabbit meat foods, but was significantly lower in food concentrations compared to the parent heat treated fat (P 0.01).

Palmitic acid (C-16:0) was reduces to 26.63 g/100g fat in the food with rabbit meat feed with 5% thyme supplement compared to control group - 28.00 g/100g fat and 3% thyme - 27.46 g/100g fat.

The stearic acid (C-18:0) in the tested foods was of relatively constant concentration, with the lowest being found in the rabbit meat treated with 5% thyme- 5.16 g/100g fat (Table 2).

The rabbit meat products obtained had a significantly lower stearic acid content compared to the heat-treated rabbit meat (P 0.01).

The content of C-16:1n7 in the test meat by the control was 6.14 g/100g fat, at 3% thyme - 6.32 g/100g fat and 5.90 g/100g fat at 5% thyme.

5%
(C-18:1c9)

2%

5%
(

3).

3.

, g/100g

Oleic acid (C-18:1c9) decreased by 2% in heat-treated meats, compared to control-treated 5% thyme meat (Table 3).

Table 3. Monounsaturated fatty acid in boiled meat and food from rabbit, g/100g fat

MUFA	/ Meat			/ Food			
	K	M3	M5	K	M3	M5	
C-14:1n5	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	
C-16:19tr	0.23	0.31	0.31	0.19	0.23	0.20	
C-16:1n7	6.14	6.32	5.90	5.15	5.20	5.28	**
C-17:1n7	0.28	0.32	0.30	0.19	0.19	0.20	**
C-16:3n4	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01	
C-18:1t5/6/7	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01	
C-18:1t9	0.03	0.02	0.05	0.01	0.03	0.03	
C-18:1t10	0.04	0.15	0.11	0.01	0.03	0.02	
C-18:1t11	0.05	0.10	0.14	0.02	0.05	0.07	
C-18:1c9/C-18:1t12/13/	27.53	26.62	25.48	28.05	26.07	25.60	
C-18:1t15	0.18	0.40	0.27	0.01	0.20	0.17	
C-18:1c11	1.15	0.87	1.05	0.03	0.94	0.65	
C-18:1c12	0.06	0.07	0.08	0.07	0.05	0.04	
C-18:1c13	0.10	0.09	0.08	0.00	0.08	0.05	
C-18:1t16	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.00	0.01	0.01	
C-18:1c14	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.00	
C-18:1c15	0.00	0.04	0.01	0.00	0.02	0.00	
C-20:1n9	0.25	0.21	0.20	0.25	0.21	0.19	
C-22:1n11	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01	
C-22:1n9	0.02	0.01	0.05	0.01	0.01	0.02	
C-24:1n9	0.07	0.04	0.00	0.06	0.05	0.05	

* P 0.05; ** P 0.01; *** P 0.001

C-16:1n7

5,15 g/100g

3% - 5,20 g/100g
5,28 g/100g

5%

C-16:1n7 C-17:1n7

P 0,01.

(C-18:1c9)

2,45 %

5%
(

3).

(C-18:2c9)

The content of C-16:1n7 in the rabbit meat tested foods in the control was 5.15 g/100g fat, at 3% thyme- 5.20 g/100g fat and 5.28 g/100g fat at 5% thyme. Changes in the content of C-16:1n7 and C-17:1n7 were significantly lower in rabbit meat foods with P 0.01.

Oleic acid (C-18:1c9) decreased by 2.45% in the test foods with rabbit meat by 5% thyme supplement meat compared to controls (Table 3).

Linoleic acid (C-18:2c9) increased

15,73 g/100g
g/100g
20,52 g/100g
5%
-
- 0,61 g/100g
0,77 g/100g
3%
5%
(1,14 g/100g)
(C-20:3n3),
5%
2,7
(C-22:5n3)
5%
(
4).

16,12
3%
4).
-
-
-
-
4).

from 15.73 g/100g fat in control meat to 16.12 g/100g fat with 3% thyme and 20.52 g/100g fat with 5% thyme (Table 4).
Gamma linolenic fatty acid did not undergo significant changes in the individual groups. Alpha linolenic was lower content in the control group meat- 0.61 g/100g fat and increases to 0.77 g/100g fat when supplemented with 3% thyme, while at 5% it doubles compared to the control (1.14 g/100g fat).
Eicosatrienoic acid (C-20:3n3) increased in meat treated with 5% thyme compared to the control by 2.7-fold. Docosapentaenoic (C-22:5n3) increased threefold with the introduction of 5% thyme relative to the control group (Table 4).

4.
, g/100g
Table 4. Polyunsaturated fatty acid in boiled meat and food from rabbit, g/100g fat

PUFA	/ Meat			/ Food			
	K	M3	M5	K	M3	M5	
C-18:2t9,12	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.01	0.00	0.01	**
C-18:2c9,12	15.73	16.12	20.52	24.16	25.19	26.65	*
gC-18:3n6	0.07	0.10	0.09	0.17	0.21	0.18	**
aC-18:3n3	0.61	0.77	1.14	2.93	3.27	3.57	***
CLA9t,11t	0.04	0.03	0.05	0.03	0.02	0.02	
C-20:2n6	0.08	0.07	0.14	0.04	0.04	0.03	
C-20:3n6	0.03	0.02	0.06	0.01	0.01	0.02	
C-20:4n6	0.00	0.01	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	
C-20:3n3	0.84	0.71	2.24	0.38	0.42	0.50	
C-20:5n3	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	
C-22:5n3	0.07	0.06	0.21	0.04	0.04	0.05	
C-22:6n3	0.01	0.01	0.04	0.01	0.01	0.01	

* P 0.05; ** P 0.01; *** P 0.001

(C-18:2c9)
24,16 g/100g
-
25,19 g/100g
3%
26,65 g/100g
5%
(
4).

-
-
,
,

Linoleic acid (C-18:2c9) increased insignificantly from 24.16 g/100g fat in the food with control meat diet to 25.19 g/100g fat with 3% thyme and 26.65 g/100g fat of 5% thyme supplementation (Table 4).

(P 0,05) -

(P 0,01).

g/100g - 0,17 g/100g , 0,21 3%

5% - 0,18 g/100g

(P 0,001). (C-20:3n3),

5% 1,3 (C-22:5n3) 3 5%

(4). De Andrade et al., (2018)

10,03%, 2,55 2,88%, 16,48 26,56%, 8,79%, C-16:1n7 2,30 4,72%, 17,54 30,22%, 2,4%, 32,4 49,2%, 25,1 35,45 (2017) 25,6 32,1%. Mattioli et al.,

Yonkova et al., (2017),

Foods derived from rabbit meat have a significantly higher content (P 0.05) of linoleic acid than heat-treated rabbit meat.

The gamma linolenic fatty acid did not undergo significant changes in the individual food groups, but was significantly higher than the starting meat (P 0.01). Alpha linolenic content was lower in the control food group - 0.17 g/100g fat, 0.21 g/100g fat when using 3% thyme, whereas no change in the diet with meat treated with 5% thyme is observed - 0.18 g/100g fat.

The obtained foods have a significantly higher content of alpha linolenic acid than the initial thermally treated meat (P 0.001). Eicosatrienoic acid (C-20:3n3) increased in food with meat treated with 5% thyme compared to the control food 1.3 times. Docosapentaenoic (C-22:5n3) did not undergo changes in the treated meat with 3 and 5% thyme (Table 4).

De Andrade et al., (2018), applying a variety of rabbit rearing diets, found a lauric acid content from 3.84 to 10.03%, myristic acid from 2.55 to 2.88%, palmitic acid from 16.48 to 26.56%, stearic from 6.12 to 8.79%, C-16:1n7 from 2.30 to 4.72%, oleic from 22.93 to 28.29%, linoleic from 17.54 to 30.22%, linolenic from 1.1 to 2.4%, saturated fatty acids from 32.4 to 49.2%, MUFA from 25.1 to 35.45 and PUFA from 25.6 to 32.1%.

Mattioli et al., (2017) in a study of oregano supplement, vitamin E and probiotic in rabbit nutrition and rabbit loan and leg analysis, found higher values than ours for stearic fatty acid and polyunsaturated fatty acids and lower for myristic, palmitic, oleic, SFA and MUFA.

Yonkova et al., (2017) were found a higher content of saturated and monounsaturated fatty acids and a lower content of polyunsaturated fatty acids

Rasinska et al., (2018).

compared to those obtained in our study and an identical ratio of omega-6 to omega-3 fatty acids. Identical results for the fatty acid composition of rabbit meat were obtained by Rasinska et al., (2018).

CONCLUSIONS

The saturated fatty acids of the tested rabbit meat foods decreased compared to the thermally treated meat as follows in the control by 21%, at 3% thyme by 23% and at 5% thyme by 12% and monounsaturated fatty acids by 5%, 7% and 6%. The polyunsaturated fatty acids in the obtained foods showed an increase of 1.58 times in the control group, 1.86 times in 3% thyme and 1.32 times in 5% thyme.

Trans fatty acids were reduced, with the lowest value obtained in the control food group. Cis fatty acids retain their concentration in both the heat treated and the technologically processed samples.

Omega-3 fatty acids increase in the control food by 2.2 times compared to the initial heat treated meat, by 2.4 times in the food versus the meat at 3% thyme and 1.14 times in the group with 5% thyme in the food relative to meat.

Omega-6 fatty acids increased 1.5 fold in the food versus meat control group, 1.6 fold at 3% thyme in food versus meat, and 1.29 times at 5% thyme. The ratio of omega6/omega-3 decreased in food from the control group (1.43 times) and in 3% (1.55 times) thyme relative to meat and increased in food compared to the original meat at 5% thyme (1.13 times).

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