

PROFITABILITY AND ECONOMIC VALUES OF PRODUCTIVE AND FUNCTIONAL TRAITS IN SHEEP OF BULGARIAN DAIRY SYNTHETIC POPULATION

Stanimira Slavova^{1*}, Nevyana Stancheva²

¹Agricultural Institute, Radnevo road nn, 6000 Stara Zagora, Bulgaria

²Agricultural Institute, Simeon Veliki Boulevard 3, 9700 Shumen, Bulgaria

*e-mail: mirka_sl@abv.bg

Abstract

The subject of the current research was to estimate profitability and economic values of production and functional traits in sheep of Bulgarian dairy synthetic population, raised at the experimental farm of the Agricultural Institute - Shumen. The aim of this research was to answer the question whether production was profitable and which were the traits of the highest economic priority for the breeding goal.

Data was presented and processed for a period of 5 years (2016 - 2020). Semi-intensive production system including winter indoor lambing and summer grazing on pasture has been practiced within the study period. Results were obtained using a program ECOWEIGHT for sheep (for calculating economic weights for sheep).

Profit and profitability per ewe showed negative values 50.85 euros, and - 21.67%, respectively, taking in account the subsidies in the calculation. Marginal economic values of the most important traits in dairy sheep was estimated to 0.4 euros per liter of milk and 48.26 euros per lamb. Negative values were established for the mature weight of ewes, wool yield and daily gain of breeding lambs in rearing. The highest relative economic value was calculated for the litter size per lambing ewe - 30.31%, followed by the milk yield - 13.54% and productive lifetime of ewes - 11.1%.

Milk production in the studied flock need further studies to be carried out to reveal the factors affecting its low relative economic value. However, production on the farm should be optimized in terms of nutrition and animal health status, breeding technology, management and marketing strategy.

Key words: Bulgarian dairy synthetic population, Profit, Profitability, Marginal economic values, Relative economic values.