

BEEF RECORDING 2017

BEEF RECORDING RULES – IN A FEW STEPS

This type of recording applies to all cows in a herd that must be bred exclusively for meat production, meaning without milking. In order to be admitted for beef recording scheme, cows have to have at least 50% of Simmental breed or at least 50% of Red Polish (including unlimited participation of European Red breeds, excluding Norwegian Red and Swedish Red breeds). Beef Recording is carried out with the so called „C” method, where the particular measurements and records – as specified in the methodology – are performed jointly by the breeder and the authorized representative of our organization. Using this type of service, the breeder receives a comprehensive data on breeding results, assessment of muscularity and average daily weight gain obtained within the period from birth to 210 day of age. All data of beef recording are ultimately recorded in SYMLEK database, and then made available to breeders in a form of specific breeding documentation. The results of beef recording will be also published in national and regional PFCBDF's publications and posted on the website.

SIMMENTAL BREED

In the end of 2015 PFCBDF launched a new service – beef recording – for Simmental cattle. This decision was triggered by breeders associated within Polish Federation of Cattle Breeders and Dairy Farmers, who wanted to adapt their farms breeding and production profiles to the local conditions and market opportunities. At first, the service was addressed only to Simmental cattle breeders, as it was requested by the Polish Association of Simmental Cattle Breeders. However, the reality has shown that this service has not met the massive breeders' interest. According to data registered at the end of the year, the beef recording service has been served in 5 herds with a total number of 48 Simmental cows and 24 Simmental heifers indicating development potential of these herds for meat production.

RED POLISH BREED

Starting from the beginning of 2017 Polish Federation of Cattle Breeders and Dairy Farmers has extended the beef recording service for Red Polish breed. This decision was an out-come of many requests that breeders and fancier of domestic Red Polish cattle had submitted to PFCBDF.

Unlike to Simmental cattle, this offer is addressed rather to the breeders who have decided to keep our indigenous Red Polish cattle for the sake of preserving its unique set of genes and save it from disappearance. As of data registered at the end of 2017, there were 30 herds owned by 40 breeders that decided to change milk recording for beef recording of Red Polish breed. A total number of 479 cows and 353 heifers have been kept in those herds. The interest of both Red Polish cattle breeders and enthusiasts in the new form of recording sets the direction in which the PFCBDF's offer is likely to develop.

Wrapping up there have been **35 herds owned by 45 breeders keeping 527 cows and 377 heifers in beef recording at the end of 2017.**

Bearing in mind the development of this recording scheme, we assume a wider publication of the collected data in the annual report for 2018.