Lactation length and milk yield of Alpine Goat in Slovenia

*D. Kompan¹

Goat organized in Slovenia based on small inputs and is largely oriented in a system of organic production. Flocks are small and more than 80% of the produced milk is processed by farmers at home in a variety of products that they direct sell in the local market. For the purposes of selection in the milk recording scheme includes some of flocks. The aim of this research was to analyse the different effects (year and month of kidding, breeder, parity, litter size, age at kidding, lactation length ant interaction between year and flock on milk, protein and fat yield, protein, fat and lactose content and lactation length) of Alpine goat breed in Slovenia. The analysis included 133 691 data from 47 farms in the period from 1994 to 2012. The average lactation lasts 254 days and average milk yield was 527 kg. The longest lactation was in 5th parity (>60 days), also the highest milk yield (575 kg). Goats with litter size of 3 kids had on average 12 days longer lactation and milked 174 kg more milk than goats with one kid. Lactation lengths shorten from 1994 to 2011, while milk yield was fluctuating. The longest lactation was in 1999 (271 days) and the shortest in 2008 (235 days). Goats kidding in January milked 232 kg and has more milk and had for 80.46 days longer lactation than goats kidded in summer season.

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¹University of LJUBLJANA, Animal Science, Ljubljana, Slovenia