

## **THE REASONS CONSTRAINING THE DEVELOPMENT OF BEEF CATTLE BREEDING IN UKRAINE AND AREAS OF ITS GROWTH**

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*The author investigates the reasons constraining the development of beef cattle breeding in Ukraine. He also explains its cons and proves the best ways of the development.*

### ***Beef cattle breeding, efficient beef production, final calf accretion***

There are two sources of increase in beef production in Ukraine: dairy cattle breeding, and relatively new - specialized beef cattle breeding. In order to provide Ukraine's population with milk, 3.4 million of cows are enough. For their use it is possible to produce up to 0.8 million tons of beef. Its deficiency (0.9 million tons) should be covered with growing about 9.0 million units of beef cattle, including 3.2 million cows.

The aim of the study was to reveal the shortcomings of beef cattle breeding and causes that hinder its development and prove the ways of its withdrawal from the crisis.

The base for the synthesis of information was data of personal researches conducted during 1977 – 2014.

The main drawback of beef cattle is low productivity of cow. It can raise one calf per year. In terms of mismanagement its economy is twice, sometimes three times lower than of dairy cattle. For gains in beef cattle breeding they spend 2-3 times more feed units than in dairy cattle breeding. According to the accepted Ukrainian system of beef cattle breeding with a complete herd turnover, when the received young stock is grown on the some farm for sale, cow share is 45.6%, which is lower than in dairy cattle breeding. Therefore, in similar in size beef herds

there are less cows and they receive less calves per animal. The disadvantage of beef cattle growing are: low milk yield of cows, which negatively affects the growth of calves during the suckling period, too excitable nervous system of animals, difficult calving of females of some species.

The rational balance between the populations of breed and commercial herds is broken. In breed herds they hold more than half of purebred animals of 12 species. The rest of the commodity economies also breed purebred cattle. Therefore, the demand for young breed cattle is minimal. The beef market has no meat of commercial crossbred animals, which causes inefficiency of its production and impedes the development of breeding farms.

The development of specialized beef cattle breeding in Ukraine is prevented by: baseless prices for beef from beef cattle that do not provide its break-even production and reduce the investment attractiveness of the sector; economically unjustified for manufacturers transfer from the budget; lack of integration of production, processing and realization of meat products considering its quality indicators; low solvency of the population; lack of enterprises specialized in growing and intensive fattening of calves, with a high level of technological equipment; establishment of beef cattle breeding by stock importing and breeding its own beef breeds, but not by commercial herds of crossbred cattle; management of the industry on the intensive basis with high expenses to complex technological equipment and capital construction; use at the farms maintaining pedigree stock with calves of technologies and production tools inappropriate for specialized beef cattle breeding, which leads to its high energy output; lack of the experience of operating personnel in the sphere of beef cattle management; getting the majority of replacement dairy heifers of dairy and combined performance in households, making it difficult to use them to create commercial herds of beef cattle; lack of training highly qualified managers for beef cattle breeding in educational institutions of I-IV accreditation levels.

For the development of beef cattle in Ukraine for the period from 2013 to 2020 it is provided focusing on the following five areas: development of beef

production in commercial beef cattle breeding; stimulation of breeding replacement heifers in farms for enterprises engaged in commercial beef cattle breeding; implementation of effective systems of reproduction, breeding, feeding and keeping of animals and processing of beef, hides and cattle meat byproducts; popularization of beef cattle breeding, creating demand for beef from beef cattle.

Beef cattle breeding will survive economic competition with dairy and other animal species for productivity, limited to one calf per year and high feed costs for products under the following conditions: feed unit should be 2 times cheaper than in dairy farming and in the production of other livestock products that can be achieved by creation and use of pastures in all seasons; prime cost of meat cow in the stall period should be 3-4 times cheaper than of dairy cow (by replacing expensive placement with light wind-guard sheds); costs for animal care during all seasons of the year should be 2-3 times lower than in dairy farming by the organization of spring calving, pasture fence, use self-feeders for all types of feeds and use of yard housing on constant deep litter in stall period.

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