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RED STEPPE BREED – PROSPECTS FOR THE SOUTH OF RUSSIA

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The article deals with the issues of conservation and further improvement in the conditions of the South of Russia of cattle of the domestic Red steppe breed of specialized dairy productivity.

The climatic conditions of the North Caucasus and Southern Federal Districts largely determine the choice and feasibility of breeding one or another breed of dairy cattle. Over the years, in a number of regions, Black-and-white, Simmental, Ayrshire and other breeds of cattle were imported, and in recent years they have relied on the Holstein breed. During all these years of experimentation, virtually all regions did not carry out any expedient work on improving the domestic red steppe breed bred in this zone for more than a century, which is still the most common. Despite their superiority in terms of milk yield, none of the above breeds can compete with the Red Steppe in terms of vitality, reproductive qualities, and adaptability to predominantly pasture content.

In this regard, the task of research includes purposeful enrichment of the gene pool of red steppe cattle through the use of the related red Danish red-motley Holstein breed in order to increase productivity, the specificity of the milk type, while retaining the adaptive features inherent in the breed.

The economically useful traits inherent in the breed, type and line of animals can manifest themselves only in certain environmental conditions. In this regard, further development in specific technological, climatic and fodder conditions is obtained by animals of those breeds and types that have relatively higher rates of adaptability and productivity with less labor and resources expenditure.

These conditions at the present stage determine the direction of selection and, naturally, the choice of breeds to meet the needs of the population with animal products.

Keywords: dairy cattle breeding, red steppe breed, genotype, selection, adaptability.

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