

BĂLȚATĂ ROMÂNEASCĂ CATTLE (ROMANIA)

Bălțată românească cow



Origin: Was formed through absorption cross-breeding between Simmental breed bulls with cows from the local breed Sură de Stepă, Transylvanian variety, and less with the Moldavian one. Formation of the breed starts in the second part of 19th century with introduction of Simmental breed in Romania. The first imports were made from Austria (1860-1870) in Bucovina, Rădăuți area. Further (1880) were made imports from Switzerland in Banat. Founder of the breed was Benz 10 bull, making imports from Benz 10 bull line and also from other valuable lines: Ideal, Rolland, Kurd etc. Was used absorption cross-breeding, selection, matching pairs and breeding in pure breed. After 1962 were imported animals from Simmental line, like Fleckvieh from Austria and Germany. Breed was recognized in 1959, under the name of Bălțată românească (BR) and belongs to Simmental type breeds.

Characteristics: Is a mixed breed for meat-milk, being similar as external aspect and features with Simmental breed, from which differs by some essential characters. Head is quite long (30-31 %) and large, line between horns is convex, extended with yellow coloured horns, medium long and with a crown shape. Neck is also medium long with a straight superior line and well covered by muscles. Torso is long, well-proportioned, with straight and horizontal superior line, sometimes oblique posterior-anterior. Back and loins are quite short, rump is long and large, square shape and moderate covered by muscles. Udder is big, bulky, globular shape, covered with thin and fine skin, with short and rare hair. Members are long and strong, hooves have a light colour, less resistant and with a weak texture.

Bălțată românească bull



Skin is quite thick, dense and elastic with some folds. Always head, members and tail tuft are white while vulva and muzzle are pink. Skin colour is similar to the one of Simmental breed, respectively spotted white with yellow of different shades from light yellow to red cherry-coloured. In comparison with Simmental breed, Bălțată românească breed have a reduced corporal weight, with lower length, breadth and especially depth dimensions. It is a semi-precocious breed, morphological maturity being reached at the age of 4-4,5 years, age of first calving being at 33 months, calves weight at birth 38-45 kg, function of sex. At the age of 3 months calves reach 105-110 kg, at 6 months 170-180 kg, at 12 months 310-340 kg, and at 18 months 400-450 kg heifers and 540-560 kg steers. Productive longevity is in average of 5-6 years.

Productions: Have good production of 3700 kg milk, 130 kg fat and 3.85 % fat. Specific consumption is high 7.5 UNC/kg meat and 1.17-1.4 UNL/kg milk. Realized gains of 900-1000 g at intensive fattening. Efficiency is around 52-54 % and at youth intensive fattening 55-59 %. The weight of carcasses 240-325 kg with 70 % meat in carcass and 19-20 % bones, meat having superior sensorial characteristics.

Population's number: Livestock of the breed increased year after year so nowadays are 584651 heads, representing around 38 % from the total livestock of Romania. Breed is spreaded in Banat, Transylvania, N-E of Romania, Suceava, and Botoșani. Aims its breeding into a meat-milk mixed type with a weight of 680 - 700 kg, waist of 138 cm, 60 % features for meat, 35 % features for milk and 5 % fitness. Also aims to improve the features for mechanical milking.