

BRUNĂ DE MARAMUREȘ CATTLE (ROMANIA)

Brună de Maramureș cow



Origin: It is a Romanian breed formed through absorption cross-breeding between the rustic local breeds Sură de Stepă and Mocănița with Schwyz type cattle, which were imported in Maramureș starting with 1881. Between 1890 and 1910 were imported also from Austria and Germany and, in 1904 from Switzerland, bringing annually 200-500 cows and heifers from Schwyz breed. In 1907 are brought Brună de Maramureș cattle type in the North-East of Romania. Due to the economic crisis from the period 1929-1930 and to the second world war, livestock of Brună de Maramureș breed cattle decreased significantly so, between 1948-1949 were imported 119 reproduction bulls and 700 heifers which were placed in different areas of Romania. It was homologated as breed in 1959.

Characteristics: Belongs to the meat-milk mixed morph-productive type, having a eumetric development, with an average waist, at cows 131 cm and a corporal weight of 570 kg. Typical conformation is smooth with a balanced exterior. Head is brachicer, lean and very expressive, with prominent orbital arcades. Neck is medium long, thick and well covered with muscles. Torso is well developed, with a straight superior line and light ascendant anterior-posterior. In comparison with Schwyz breed, at Brună de Maramureș breed, rump is narrower at ischia and less covered with muscles. Abdomen is well developed and udder is big, well attached, and globular, with a glandular structure. Members are well developed and resistant with uprights generally correct and hooves with hard texture and dark coloured. Body shape is robust-compact or robust-fine, lively temperament and gentle character. Is semi-precocious, the age of first calving is at 32 months, have a productive longevity and it is easy adapted to the environment conditions.

Brună de Maramureș bull



Skin colour is brown-grey with different shades, from silver brown to dark brown, almost black. Around muzzle have a light coloured ring. The top of the muzzle and mucosa are black-grey and horns are bicolour.

Productions: Milk production varied in large limits function of exploitation conditions, being in average of 4500 kg with 3.9 % fat. The record milk production of the breed is of 13490 kg milk. Efficiency of milk production is good; 1.22 UNL/kg milk, milk index being 1:6-1:7, milking speed 1.3 l/min. Brună breed have good skills for meat production, being suitable to fattening in all the systems: intensive, semi-intensive and extensive. In intensive fattening system, at the age of one year the male youth reach a corporal weight of 365 kg, realising an average daily gain of 900-950 g, in semi-intensive system of around 700 g and in extensive system on grassland and without supplements 500-600 g. Slaughtering efficiency is 52-54 % for adult animals and 54-58 % for youth intensive fattening. Meat in carcass is 75 % with 18 % bones. Calves at birth have a weight of 38 kg. Brună breed could be used at reproduction at a corporal weight of 370-380 kg. Amelioration of the breed aims: increasing the livestock, increasing the genetic potential for milk, uprising the waist and corporal weight, improvement of precocity, productive longevity, improvement of skills for mechanical milking. Breed will be ameliorated through rearing in pure breed but also by infusion cross-breeding with Schwyz type cattle.

Population's number: Nowadays, livestock is 377612 heads, representing 25 % from the total livestock in Romania.