

Comparison of reproductive parameters among european and indigenous breeds of swine

Indigenous swine in Sri Lanka Is an important genetic resource which has been subjected to vary limited scientific evaluation and comparison. In the present study different genetic groups of swine namely, wild, indigenous, exotic and crossbred were studied with the objective of evaluating and comparing reproductive parameters under similar management condition. All the animals were under intensive system of management in the swine production and research unit of University of Peradeniya.

Data recorded on parity, gestation period, size of the litter at birth and at weaning for a period of three years were considered for the analyses. Records of 80 sows in total were included in the analyses.

A significant ($P < 0.05$) effect of genetic group of sow was observed on size of litter at birth and at weaning. The effect of genetic group on gestation period and the effect of parity on reproductive parameters were not significant ($p < 0.05$).

Overall performance of local pigs (pure breed) and their crosses (local x wild) were low when compared to the exotic genetic group. Among the exotic breeds there was no considerable difference in overall performance under the given management condition.