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Comparison of four terminal hybrids in pig meat production

M.-L. Sevón-Aimonen, L. Voutila, J. Niemi, K. Partanen, Agrifood Research Finland MTT, 31600 Jokioinen, Finland

Objectives

The purpose of this study was to compare performance, carcass and meat quality traits of four terminal hybrids

Material

sows were crossbred Finnish Landrace x Large White (FLxLW)

mated with Finnish Landrace (FL), Norwegian Landrace (NL), Norwegian Duroc X Norwegian Landrace (NxDL) or Swedish Hampshire (SH) boars

20 litters per breed combination were produced

four piglets from each litter were group-reared from 26 kg to 116 kg

Methods

SAS program using the MIXED procedure using model

$y = sex + hybrid + sex*hybrid + sire + sow + litter + e$,

sex, hybrid and sex * hybrid interaction were fixed effects

sire, sow and residual term e were random effects

Results

Sow breed FLxLW, Sire breed	FL	NL	DxNL	SH
Weight gain, g/d	977	1002	997	1005
Feed conversion rate, FU/kg				
Meat percentage, %	59.8	60.3	59.0	59.7
Dressing percentage, %	72.9	72.7	73.3	73.0
M. longissimus dorsi, L*	47.3	46.1	47.2	46.2
M. longissimus dorsi, pH	5.51	5.57	5.55	5.47
M. semimembranosus, L*	54.7	56.2	55.6	54.3
M. semimembranosus, pH	5.53	5.54	5.54	5.48
Economical surplus, €/pig	-22.8	-21.0	-22.3	-21.3

the effect of hybrid or interaction between sex and hybrid were not statistically significant on studied traits

on meat percentage P-value was close to significant (P = 0.055)

Conclusions

there were small differences between terminal hybrids in single traits

none of the hybrids was transcendent as a whole

observed differences between hybrids are due both additive differences and different stage of heterosis