

CURRENT SITUATION WITH DUCKS GENETIC RESOURCES CONSERVATION IN UKRAINE AND POLAND

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Recorded in the Global Databank for Farm Animal Genetic Resources (DAD-IS, 2019) in Europe 14.6 % of birds and 17.8 % of farm mammals, while in North America 11.5 % of birds and as much as 35.3 % of farm mammals are critically endangered for extinction. Such a large percentage of critically endangered breeds of birds and mammals on these continents is mainly associated with a large-scale specialized production system leading to the elimination or marginalization of many native, less efficient breeds of poultry and farm mammals (Szulc K., 2011).

Poland is one of the few countries to develop comprehensive, large-scale conservation programs for local poultry breeds and species with a small population. The six genetic resources flocks are kept at the Waterfowl Genetic Resources Station in Dworzyska, which belongs to the National Research Institute of Animal Production in Kraków. These include P8 ducks (Pekin ducks of Danish origin), P9 (Pekin ducks of French origin), P33 (Pekin ducks of Polish origin), LsA (Pekin ducks of English origin), Mini Duck (Polish ducks bred from wild mallards — *Anas platyrhynchos* L. and Pekin ducks), and KhO1 (Polish hybrid of Khaki Campbell males and Orpington Fauve females).

In the Duck Breeding Center in Lińsk near Śliwice there are four flocks of Pekin ducks of Polish origin: P-11, P-22, P-44, P-55 (Kokoszyński D. et al., 2019). The current rules for dealing with ducks' flocks of genetic resources have been included in the breeding program developed by the National Research Institute of Animal Production in Kraków (Książkiewicz J. et al., 2014).

According to the results of monitoring the status of different species and breeds of local small-scale agricultural breeds by their number and number of breeding farms in Ukraine, made in the dynamics of 2011–2017 according to the data of the State Breeding Register there is a tendency to annual decline among breeding businesses in the relevant livestock sector, as well as the number of total and royal stock in breeds (Полупан Ю. П. та ін., 2017).

In Ukraine, breeds of waterfowl, in particular ducks, are represented in the form of relatively small local populations. Local breeds are represented mainly by four breed groups: Ukrainian White, Ukrainian Clay, Ukrainian Gray and Ukrainian Black White-breasted (Романова О. В. та ін., 2018). However, due to the intensive development of industrial poultry farming over the last decades, there has been a trend towards the disappearance of some local duck breeds. According to the state register of breeding businesses in animal husbandry in 2017 there were about 3 thousand heads of the Ukrainian white breed group, and for 2018 data on local breeds of ducks were not recorded at all (Романова О. В. та ін., 2018).

The creation of a number of new breeds of farm animals in Ukraine is accompanied by a simultaneous decrease in the number of domestic local breeds, which are characterized by high resistance, unpretentiousness of feed and conditions of containment, strength of constitution, duration of productive use, optimal reproducibility, product quality, etc. (Гладій М. В. та ін., 2017).

Local duck breeds in Ukraine have been analyzed very little (Ляшенко Ю. В., 2015). Analyzing their genetic diversity by genetic markers according to international practice used in Poland can be useful for developing strategies for their conservation.

Keywords: *ANASPLATYRHYNCHOS*, UKRAINIANLOCAL BREEDS, PEKIN DUCK, GENETIC RESOURCES, CONSERVATION PROGRAM