

PERFORMANCE OF CROSS BRED PIGS UNDER GOA CONDITION

II. STUDIES ON CARCASS CHARACTERISTICS

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Pork is one of the most important sources of meat for the Goan population. Rearing non descriptive pigs under scavenging condition is a traditional practice in the rural part of this State. Since the growth and production performance of these local pigs was unsatisfactory, cross breeding programme with Large White Yorkshire was initiated. In an earlier report (Bhattacharyya *et al.*, 1983), the reproductive parameters and growth performance of the F1 cross bred pigs were published. In the present paper the carcass characteristics of the crossbred pigs are reported. Three F1 cross bred males maintained in field conditions under scavenging and supplementary feeding, attained an average body weight of 59 kg at the 48th week indicating much better growth performance of crosses, than local pigs. The daily average weight gain of 175 g for the cross bred pigs in this study under semi-scavenging condition was found much better than that of 114 g for the indigenous pigs in stall fed condition as reported by Saseendran and Rajagopalan (1982). From the reports on carcass weight and characteristics of the pure bred Yorkshire (Ramswami *et al.*, 1985) it can be seen that the dressing percentage at 60 kg body wt.

Table 1. Carcass characteristics of F1 cross bred pigs

Trait	Measurement SE	Trait	Measurement SE
Carcass length (cm)			
Pin bone to shoulder	63±0.87	Girth (cm)	90±1.73
Snout to back spine	120±0.16	Height at loin	72±0.57
Fore head to shoulder	27±0.48	Height at back	78±1.73
Shoulder	36±0.51	Snout diameter	21±1.16
Loin to Loin	60±0.86	Weight (kg)	
Loin to rump	21±1.39	Head weight	4±0.46
Face length	18±1.15	Shoulder weight	6±0.63
Ham	21±0.87	Bacon	5.3±0.46
		Ham	5±0.28
		Side	5.8±0.55

was 77% for pure bred Yorkshire, while in the present study it was 64.5% in cross bred pigs, which were reared under semi scavenging condition. Thus, it can be seen that in comparison, the cross breeds in this present report performed well. Carcass characteristics of F1 cross bred, slaughtered at 52nd week is presented in table 1.

From the carcass characteristics it appeared that the growth of cross bred male pigs were quite promising, however, studies with more number of crossbreds are necessary to establish the norms.

REFERENCES

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