Non-parametrical estimation of traits of standard chinchillas' conformation in relation to the age of the assessed animals during license evaluation

Natasza Święcicka, Stanisław Kubacki, Jacek Zawiślak, Dominika Gulda, Magdalena Drewka, Monika Monkiewicz

Summary

The aim of the research was to analyze the results of a phenotypic assessment of chinchillas from various breeding farms located in the Kuyavian-Pomeranian Province and to determine the impact of age on the animals' final scores for individual traits as well as the mutual relationship between the analyzed traits. The research was conducted in five different breeding farms in the Kuyavian-Pomeranian Province and involved an analysis of 1493 standard breed chinchillas. Research showed that the examined population exhibited excellent results pertaining to size and conformation (75% of the population) as well as the belly (91% of the population). The lowest results were obtained by chinchillas in the hue category – only 0.35% of the population received pattern results. A positive, significant correlation was found between the age of animals and their score for individual traits of conformation. The highest correlation coefficient was recorded for hue type (r_{xy}=0.165**). There was also a relationship between the individual traits. The research showed that a high score for size and conformation negatively affected the score for hue type (r_{xy}=–0.06**). In the remaining cases, the correlation was positive.