

CHARACTERIZATION OF INDIGENOUS WILD COLORED HUNGARIAN DUCK AND THEIR POTENTIAL FOR EGG AND MEAT PRODUCTION

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Indigenous wild colored Hungarian duck originated from Carpathian Basin and have been bred in Hungary for centuries. Currently, two varieties (vadas and dusnoki) are maintained in the *in vivo* gene bank. This study aimed to evaluate and compare their important productivity, meat, and egg quality traits. Their survival rate was relatively high (97.5% to 100%). At the age of 12 weeks, their body weight ranged from 2.59 - 2.93kg (female) to 3.06 - 3.55kg (male). Daily feed intake and feed conversion ratio were 163.36 - 149.86g, 4.51 - 5.59 kg/kg for males and 183.76 - 180.45g, 4.49 - 4.89 kg/kg for females, respectively. Their carcass, breast, and thigh weight were 2.38 - 2.98kg, 267.5 - 314.2g and 385.5 - 506.5g respectively. Their 1st egg lay started at the age of 28 weeks and lasted approximately 8 months. Egg production reached 50% by 37-38 weeks of age and remained above 50% for 20-21 weeks. Fertility and hatchability were 92.0 - 92.3%, 79.0% - 80.3%, respectively. Dusnoki ducks have better growth performance than vadas variety. Significant difference between two varieties could not be seen in egg production. Utilization of wild colored Hungarian duck for meat and egg production is potentially promising.