

# **THE INFLUENCE OF THE CONDITIONS OF THE PIG'S TRANSPORT ON THE BIOCHEMICAL CHANGES OCCURRING IN MEAT**

Urszula Ostaszewska<sup>1</sup>, Daniel Radzikowski<sup>2</sup>, Aleksandra Kalińska<sup>2</sup>, Brygida Kruzińska<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of Cattle Breeding and Milk Evaluation, Siedlce University of Natural Sciences and Humanities, Poland

<sup>2</sup> Department of Animal Breeding and Production, Warsaw University of Life Sciences, Poland

[uostaszewska@onet.pl](mailto:uostaszewska@onet.pl)

Meat quality is a set of all characteristics and properties of meat raw material, affecting its high sensory, technological, utility and culinary values.

High quality meat should be characterized by the absence of microorganisms, chemicals, physical contaminants dangerous for health, be free of quality defects and have a high nutritional value. The correct way of transporting live pigs has a significant impact on the quality of the meat. During loading, transport and unloading of animals there is the greatest probability of lowering the quality of the raw material through the occurrence of scratches, bruises, bloody bruises and leg fractures. We are able to obtain high quality pork meat only by caring for the welfare of animals. The driver is responsible for maintaining animal welfare during transport. That is why it is so important to train them and pass their exams and have certificates confirming their qualifications in the field of road transport of slaughter animals. Short-term action of stressors, up to 24 hours before slaughter, can cause animals to increase the rate of post-mortem glycolytic changes, i.e. defects aqueous meats (PSE). The stressors include: noise, improper driving of animals, too high temperature prevailing during transport and mixing litters, ie contact with foreign individuals. The most negative impact on the quality of meat is caused by improper loading and transport of animals, because at this point the animals are subjected to the greatest stress associated with the change of the environment. It is recommended to limit the use of electric drovers to plastic scouts and rattles.

The article presents transport as the main factor affecting the quality of pork. It includes aspects such as types and appropriate transport of live pigs, loading and unloading of animals and the causes of watery water defect.