

dient gel was used. Polymorphism was observed for α_{s1} -, β -, κ -caseins and β -lactoglobulin. The pretreatment of milk samples was found to be an important step for the improved separation observed. As serum albumin fraction in mastitic cows was considerably stronger than in milk from normal cows, this method also may be suitable for an indirect diagnosis of mastitis.

POST ALBUMIN VARIANTS IN PIG PLASMA DETECTED
BY POLYACRYLAMIDE GEL ELECTROPHORESIS

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Horizontal polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis with a discontinuous buffer system (Tris-citrate-borate, pH 9.0) and 10 p. 100 separation gel was used to analyse plasma samples of *Zlotnicka* breed of pigs from Poland. The material consisted of samples from 3 sires, 29 dams and their 374 offsprings. Six different postalbumin (Po) phenotypes were observed. The analysis of family data showed that the Po types were controlled by three codominant autosomal alleles *PoA*, *PoB* and *PoC*. Each of the homozygote type showed a major band and 3 weak bands moving cathodic to the major band. In the heterozygote types, all fractions of the two homozygotes types were represented with half the staining intensity. It was, however, found difficult to distinguish between the *PoA* and *PoAB* types. Prealbumin (*Pa*), transferrin (*Tf*) and hemopexin (*Hpx*) could also be typed on the same gel. *TfB* and *TfC* could be differentiated only when the pH of the gel and electrode buffer was reduced to 7.5. The use of pH 9.0 buffers was however found to be a more convenient and rapid method for the simultaneous typing of samples for *Pa*, *Po*, *Hpx* and *Tf* on the same gel. Further studies are needed to identify the polymorphic Po protein described in the present report.

6. — *Divers*

CALCULATION OF SELECTION INDEXES THAT INCLUDES HIGHLY CORRELATED TRAITS

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In order to estimate breeding values for dairy bulls, the individual test day results in a lactation were combined, using selection index theory. The method can in theory allow lactations of varying length (varying numbers of tests) to be combined and also the economic weighting of individual test days to differ.

Some of the results of general interest from the aspect of selection index theory are presented here. These concern the influence of genetic correlations among individual test days and their heritability on accuracy of index, variation in selection index weights, and expected response. Accuracy of index was not affected when the genetic correlations among the test days were altered or when the phenotypic variances differed.

Individual *b*-values showed a wide variation and were especially affected by changes in the pattern of heritabilities for the individual test days.

The percentage distribution of expected genetic response on individual test days was not affected by the wide variation in *b*-values in some alternatives. Altering the phenotypic variation of single traits had the greatest effect on the percentage distribution. Finally, it was concluded that as selection index theory assumes error-free parameters, the choice of parameters in any given situation is of prime importance. The commonly used r_{TI} -value is not efficient for measuring the influence of variations in parameters.