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Comparative Evaluation of Some Basic German and Bulgarian Terms as Knowledge Organizers



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Report on a lexical and morphological analysis, conducted by comparison of the Bulgarian and German languages of the basic terms used in scientific publications on animal husbandry. In German official standards words and word combinations of German origin are used even in cases where there exist international equivalents, which are preferred in Bulgarian official standards. (Authors)

The present linguistic study is an attempt to compare some German and Bulgarian terms used in animal sciences and especially in cattle breeding sciences. We studied the terminological standards applied in practice in German and Bulgarian official standards. By a lexico-grammatical analysis five groups of terminological Bulgarian-German equivalents were formed.

Group I included basic terms which name animal species and processes. These terms in each of the two languages are simple (one-word) nouns of general use. Their definitions are similar according to each of the standards compared. For example: Schaf, *ovtsa* (sheep); Kalb, *tele* (calf); Farse, *telitsa* (heifer).

Group II included terms which by definition and morphological way of expression also coincide but which are of an international origin, Latin or Greek mainly. For example: Allel, *alél* (allel); Ostrus, *estrus* (oestrus); Genotyp, *genotip* (genotype).

Group III included terms which in German are indicated by a compound noun, generally used, while their Bulgarian equivalents come from the international terminological lexics (of Latin or Greek origin), for example: Anpassungsfähigkeit, *adaptatsiya* (adaptation); Aufzuchtleistung, *produktivnost* (productivity).

Group IV - terms which in German are indicated by compound nouns, while their Bulgarian equivalents are word combinations: Boxenhaltung, *kletechno otglezhdane* (box rearing); Rastzeit, *serviz period* (service period).

In German this type of derivative nouns with two, three or more stems are used widely. In Bulgarian their equivalents are syntagmas of different structure: two-component word-forms of the type "simple adjective + simple noun" (box rearing); = two-component word-forms of the

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type "noun + preposition + noun" (rest area); = three-component word-forms of the type "adjective + noun + noun".

Into group V we included terms which in German are expressed by word combinations of adjective and noun while their Bulgarian equivalents are two- or three-component word-forms. For example: Anpaarung individuelle, *individualen podbor* (individual selection); effektive Kuhanzahl, *effektiven broj kravi* (optimal number of cows).

A special case were German terms, word-combinations, with a compound detached attribute, for example: Betrieb, anerkannt pullorusrreier *stopanstvor registirano bez zabolyavaneto pulora* (pullorosis-free farm); Drei minuten Gemelk *kolichestvo mlyako, nadoeno prez pervite 3 minuti* (first-three-minutes milk yield). Terms like these are not included in the Bulgarian standard of cattle breeding. Only terms like milking, milkability, days of lactation, elite cows, colostral period are to be found

A few longer phrase terms can also be encountered.

The following conclusions were drawn:

1. Terms formed by words or word combinations of the widely used lexics prevail in German animal-husbandry standards even in the cases where the international term is used in parallel. The tendency in Bulgarian is just the opposite - the international terms are preferred and used together with the official Bulgarian equivalents.

2. In German the real animal-husbandry terms are mainly compound nouns, the Bulgarian equivalents of which are word combinations with a prepositional link.

3. Many more terms are included in the German standards as well as many more detailed terminological phrases with little or no equivalents in the Bulgarian standards. They are more concise, more general and prefer the international terminology.