

**EFFECT OF EXTRACTED RAPE SEED MEAL OF START 00 AND
GÓRCZAŃSKI VARIETY ON EGG PRODUCTION AND HATCHABILITY**

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The experiment was carried out for a period of 22 weeks on 240 hens and 30 cocks of parent flock of Tetra-Sel-Link breed. The birds were divided into 6 feeding groups and housed in pens with straw. Hens from the control group were fed standard mixture DJ-1. Birds from experimental groups received mixtures in which soybean meal was replaced by 6, 12 and 21% rape seed meal of Górczański variety.

Mixtures used in the experiment were isocaloric and isoprotein. The following factors were determined: consumption and utilization of feed, rate of egg production, health of birds and characteristics of 6 broodings. The results obtained show that the rate of egg production and feed utilization were better in experimental groups, especially with hens fed Start 00 rape seed meal. Higher levels of Start 00 rape seed meal as well as rape seed meal of Górczański variety in mixtures lead to a reduction in the percentage of fertilized eggs. The percentage of hatched eggs out of those loaded into incubator was similar in all groups, while from fertilized eggs it was higher in experimental groups. Higher number of hatched, crippled chicks was found in the group which received 12% rape seed meal of Górczański variety in the mixture. The experiment showed that soybean meal may be substituted in mixtures for reproductive chickens by rape seed meals, particularly those obtained from improved varieties of rape.