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THE BASIC MORPHOMETRIC PARAMETERS OF THE PELVIS IN TORNJAK

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According to official cynological systematization, prescribed by the Federation Cinologique Internationale (FCI), Bosnia and Herzegovina – the Croatian shepherd dog, the tornjak, was placed in the second FCI group, the second subsection of the second section, which comprises mountain dogs. The official breed standard has the number 355 and has been valid since May 16th 2007. The cynologically recognized tornjak is a conditionally recognized breed. This conditionality lasts for 10 years from the date of recognition. After this period all the aspects of the breed are examined and a definitive judgment made about recognition. One of the important features in determining the state-level population of this dog breed are exterior parameters.

The official standard does not provide data about the size of the pelvis in dogs of this breed. The fact is that the pelvis is one of the most important factors that significantly affects the flow of labor. We made an analysis of the basic morphometric parameters of the pelvis in male and female dogs. The measurements were performed on 40 males and 43 females. All individuals were sexually mature. The length of the pelvis, the front width and rear width were measured. The data obtained were processed statistically and descriptive statistical parameters were calculated (mean value with SE and range of measured values). Differences between males and females for the measurements were analyzed with the Independent Samples T Test.

The average length of the male pelvis was 20.43 cm with a minimum of 16.00 cm and a maximum of 25.00 cm. The coefficient of variation was 9.53%. For females, this value was an average of 19.94 cm, with a minimum of 16.00 cm and a maximum of 24.00 cm with a coefficient of variation of 19.94%.

The front width of the male pelvis was on average 14.45 cm, with a minimum of 11.00 cm and a maximum of 19.00 cm. The coefficient of variation was 13.29%. The females had an average front width of 14.31 cm, with a minimum value of 9.50 cm and a maximum of 14.31 cm. The coefficient of variation in female animals was 14.75%.

The rear width (width of buttocks) of the male pelvis on average, was 11.06 cm, with a minimum of 8.00 cm and a maximum of 17.00 cm. The coefficient of variation was 19.02%. The females had an average width of buttocks of 12.33 cm, with a minimum value of 8.00 cm and a maximum of 15.00 cm.

Statistical analysis showed that the differences in the lengths of the pelvis of male and female animals were not statistically significant ($p>0.05$) nor were the differences in the width of the front. However, differences in the width of the buttocks appearing in males and females were statistically significant ($p<0.05$). This clearly indicates the need to pay attention to this parameter when choosing a breeding pair.