FOOD AND BIOLOGICAL VALUE OF MEAT Animal meat is an essential food product. Pork fat in the ratio of saturated, monounsaturated and polyunsaturated fatty acids (3: 4: 1) is pretty close to optimal (3: 6: 1). Nitrogenous substances include: carnosine, creatine, adenosine triphosphoric acid and its decomposition products, free amino acids, glutathione, purine and pyrimidine bases. Saturated fatty acids and monounsaturated oleic acid predominate in beef and mutton; the content of PUFA (linoleic and especially linolenic) is insignificant. The meat contains nitrogenous and nitrogen–free extractive substances that affect the taste of products made from it and are energetic pathogens of secretion of the human gastric glands. The group of nitrogen–free extractive substances includes: glycogen, dextrins, maltose, glucose, lactic and pyruvic acid. There is a lot of PUFA in pork – up to 10.5% in adipose tissue, including up to 9.5% linoleic, up to 0.6% linolenic and up to 0.35% arachidonic acid. Extractive .substances are divided into nitrogenous and nitrogen–free