Abstract

Previous studies have shown that we can measure personality not only of humans but of animals as well including domestic cats (*Felis catus*). Results of studies have also shown that personality of the domestic cat might be influenced by various factors e.g. age, gender or breed of the cat. Although only a few studies were focused on association between owner personality and behavioral profile of their cat. The aim of our study was to explore association between the personality of the owners and the behavioral profile of their cats assessed by their owners. We used correlations for analysing data. The sample included 404 respondents (women), who filled in a Czech translation of BFI-2 and a Czech translation of the Feline Five Questionnaire for their cats (the cat sample consists of 194 males and 210 females). Our results showed a set of correlations between personality factors of the owner and behavioral factors of her cat. The strongest positive correlation was measured between consciousness of the owner and extraversion of her cat. One possible explanation of these associations is based on the Similarity-Attraction Hypothesis, which means that the owner chooses an animal that is similar to her in various characteristics. According to another theory the owner projects her own characteristics into her animal and another possible explanation is that the owner´s or the cat´s personality characteristics influence personality characteristics of the other one.

Key words: animal personality, personality of domestic cat, personality traits, behavioral profile, companion animals, Big Five, Feline Five