

CONSTRUINDO SABERES, FORMANDO PESSOAS E TRANSFORMANDO A PRODUÇÃO ANIMAL

CONTROL OF PONDERAL DEVELOPMENT OF GOATS OF SAANEN AND BOER BREEDS UNTIL WEANING

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Goat production stands out from other creations because of the better use of their products, either in less time of production, or in the generation of lower expenses to the producer. There are breeds that stand out according to their skills, being the breed Saanen turned to the milk production and the Boer for meat production. The objective of this study was to evaluate the influence of breed, sex and their interactions on body weight variables at 7, 14, 21, 28, 42, 56 and 60 days of age in goats of the Saanen and Boer breeds and, also, in relation to body weight gain at 60 days (age at which weaning occurred). A total of 27 males (14 Saanen and 13 Boer) and 33 females (19 Saanen and 14 Boer) were used, in a completely randomized design in a 2x2 factorial scheme (breed x sex). There was used artificial feeding with bottles, and in the first 36 hours of life, the animals received colostrum and after the third day of age received goat or cow's milk. The pre-weaning diet started to be offered when the animals completed 40 days of age. The results showed no interaction ($P>0.05$) between breed and sex for any of the weight variables analyzed. Likewise, there was no effect ($P>0.05$) of the breed on the variables of weight body and body weight gain. However, there was an effect ($P<0.05$) of sex on body weight at 56 days of age. Body weight of males (11.28 kg) was higher than females body weight (10.59 kg). Regarding the variables of body weight gain, there was no difference ($P>0.05$) between the breeds, sex, and no interaction was observed ($P>0.05$) between these factors. The conclusion of the study pointed out that the adopted management provided a uniform development for all the kids goats.

Keywords: neonate, sex, small ruminants, weaning, weight gain

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