

Dam age and weight, lamb sex, breed and kidding type effects on the mortality of local, Turkish Awassi and cross bred

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Corresponding author:**Jayel Elia V****ABSTRACT:**

The research was done at the sheep and goat research station which belong to the Public Authority for Agricultural Researches – Ministry of Agriculture in Abu Ghraib area at Baghdad-Iraq, we have used the records of 220 new born lambs (82 local Awassi, 84 Turkish Awassi and 54 Turkish crossbred) of the production season 2014-2015. The data were analyzed using Chi square test in the statistical program SAS. The results showed that the overall average rate of loss from birth to weaning was 16.36%, and the impact of damage was significant ($P<0.01$) in the proportion of birth loss until weaning. The mortality percentage was higher at 2 and 4 years of dam ages (25.40% and 17.31%), respectively. Furthermore, the type of birth significantly affected ($P<0.05$) the mortality percentage, having reached 14.45 and 23.40% for the birth of the individual and twins respectively. The percentage mortality varied significantly ($P<0.01$) as a result of difference in kidding statutes, it was 12.02% when there was a natural birth, and 37.84% when there was a dystocia. It was clear that the weight of dam at kidding and lamb weight at birth were statistically significant ($P<0.01$) on lambs mortality percentage, while there were no significant differences between breeds and between the sexes (male and female) on lambs mortality percentage. It was noticed that the most important lambs mortality percentage reasons increased in weak, meager, dystocia and poisons statutes. The conclusion from this study was that the mortality percentage of lambs from birth until weaning was too high and significantly effected on many fixed factors, studying mortality reasons would reach us to the connect rightly and healthy in order to reduce the mortality and subsequently increasing the economic material return from sheep rearing.

Keywords:

Mortality, Turkish Awassi, Cross bred.