

THE EFFECT OF TYPE OF BIRTH OF BOTH EWE AND LAMBS AND OTHER FACTORS ON LAMB BIRTH AND WEANING WEIGHTS

Al- Jalili Z.F.¹, Al-Azzawi W.A.R.² and Mohammed Q.S.³

1- Agric. College , Univ. of Baghdad, 2- IPA Agric. Res. Center,
3- Agric. College, Univ. of Baghdad

SUMMARY

Birth and weaning (90 days) weights of respectively 648 and 548 Awassi lambs born during 1995-2001 at the sheep station , IPA Agricultural Research Center were analyzed . The effects of type of birth of dam, parity , sex of lambs born , lambing year and type of birth of lamb on birth (BWT) and weaning (WWT) weight of Awassi lambs.

The overall mean of BWT and WWT was respectively 4.29 and 22.68 kg. Type of birth of dam and of lamb affected BWT significantly ($P < 0.01$), whereas the effect on WWT lacked significance. Lambing year effects on BWT and WWT were significant ($P < 0.01$) . Parity affected WWT significantly ($P < 0.01$), sex of lamb affected BWT and WWT significantly ($P < 0.01$) . The regression of BWT on birth weight of dam was 0.0138 kg / kg ($P < 0.01$).

Keywords: *Awassi sheep, type of birth.*