B-110 Body weight changes in Sannen cross-bred does during gestation

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The objective of this study was to investigate the body weight changes in cross-bred Sannen goats during pregnancy under local conditions.

The data was collected from 35 cross-bred does in their fourth lacation at the mean age at 40.3±3.2 months. The animals were fed mainly with jak leaves *ad-libitum* and concentrates. Animals were dried off 2 months prior to kidding. Observations were made on body weight gain at 10 day intervals using a measuring scale. The data was analysed statistically. A simple regression was carried out to study the body weight changes during gestation period. The mean, standard error, and the coefficient of variation of the weight of the does and weight gain during the gestation period were estimated.

The average gestation period was 148.6 ± 3 days. The mean body weight of does at mating was 36.7 ± 0.83 kg, and 54.8 ± 1.52 kg on the last day of the gestation period. This reveals that the does gain average of 18.1 ± 2.3 kg weight during the gestation period. The daily weight gain was 120.6 g which was not linear throughout the period. The rate of weight gain increased with advancing pregnancy.

The weight of the does at different stages of gestation could be predicted by using the following regression equation:

$$Y = 33.62 + 0.126\,x$$

where Y = Weight of pregnant doe (in kg)
x = Duration of pregnancy (in days)

The R^2 was 0.91.

Analysis of the data on body weight of does, indicates a substantial increase in body weight during the gestation period. 65% of the body weight increase can be expected during the last 2 months of gestation with a gain of 193.3 g/day/doe.