

**EVALUATION OF TEST-DAY MILK YIELD IN SOME COMMERCIAL
AWASSI SHEEP FLOCKS**

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ABSTRACT

A total of 900 TDMY of 271 Awassi ewes belonging to five commercial flocks in three governorates (Baghdad, Diala and Mosul) were used to evaluate ewes for this trait. Milk was recorded at a monthly interval starting 14-21 days post-lambing till the ewes were dried off. On the day of test , the lambs were separated from their mothers at 8.00p.m. On the following morning, ewes were hand milked at 8.00 a.m., and the quantity of milk was recorded.

The overall mean of TDMY was 0.625 kg, and the repeatability estimate was 0.65. The effects of flock, age of ewe, type of birth, stage of lactation, month of test and lambing season were significant.

Key word: *Awassi Sheep, Test-day Milk Yield,*