

EGYPTIAN NUBIAN (ZARAIBI) CROSSBRED DOE GOAT TRAITS AS AFFECTED BY THREE GESTATION PATTERNS (PRE-, FULL- AND POST-TERM)

**I.F.M. Marai¹, A.A. El-Darawany¹, K.M. Elwan¹
and A.A. El-Tarabany²**

*1*Department of Animal Production, Faculty of Agriculture, Zagazig University, Zagazig, Egypt; *2* Department of Biological Application, NRC, Atomic Energy Authority, Inchas, Egypt..

SUMMARY

A total number of 48 crossbred does (50% Egyptian Nubian . 50% Baladi) were used to investigate effects of gestation period on doe traits (litter size and weight at birth, kids weight and mortality at birth). The does were bred during autumn (the breeding season was 1.5 months) and kidding occurred during winter and spring. Gestation length and doe traits (of their kids) at birth, were recorded. After parturition, does were classified according to their gestation length, to: does with a gestation length 140 to 145 days as pre-term (First group), does with a gestation length of 146 to 152 days as full-term (Second group) and those with a gestation length >153 days as post-term does (Third group). Detection of litter size by using body measurements of the same does, were also studied. The results showed that incidence of full-term were the highest (54.5%), followed by pre- (36.9%) and post-terms (8.9%), respectively. Litter size, litter weight, kid weight and mortality at birth were significantly ($P < 0.01$ or 0.05) affected by gestation length. Parity affected significantly ($P < 0.01$) litter size and litter weight at birth.

Keywords: Nubian crossbred doe traits, gestation length, parity, season.