

ABSTRACT

Postgraduate Thesis

YEARLY CHANGING BODY CONDITION SCORE OF KARYA TYPE SHEEP

Yeşim ÖZDEMİR

Adnan Menderes University

Science Institute

Department of Zootechnics

Advisor: Prof. Dr. Tufan ALTIN

The aim of this research was to define the yearly change of body condition score for Karya Type sheep in Aydın and to determine the relationship between body condition score and lamb production. Sheep were weighted and body condition score was estimated at mating, third month of pregnancy, lambing and the second month of the lactation. A total of, 81 sheep were used as animal material from the Karya elite flock. Mean body condition score of Karya type sheep and mean live weight at breeding season were 1.85 ± 0.06 and 42.95 ± 0.66 kg respectively.

Mean body condition score and mean body weight at pregnancy of 3rd month were 1.94 ± 0.66 and 44.32 ± 0.70 kg respectively. It was found that the effect of age on body condition score at the third month of pregnancy was insignificant whereas the effect of age on body weight was significant.

Mean body condition score and mean body weight at the end of pregnancy were determined as 1.75 ± 0.06 and 47.74 ± 1.00 kg respectively. And also mean body condition score and mean body weight at the birth were determined as 1.62 ± 0.05 and 41.30 ± 0.90 kg respectively.

Body weights of the lambs were determined as 2.90 ± 0.05 kg at the birth and lamb survival was found as 0.73 ± 0.05 at the second month of birth. The effect of sex and the birth type was significant on lamb body weight but the effect of sex and birth type was not found significant on lamb survival.

KEYWORDS: Karya, body condition score, body weight