

SHORT COMMUNICATION

SYNCHRONIZATION OF ESTRUS IN EWES

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SUMMARY

A group of 15 Awasi ewes were inserted with intravaginal sponges of Veramix plus which were removed thirteen days later. Immediately after removal of the sponges, they were injected with 500 IU of FSH intramuscularly. All ewes were came to estrus within 2-3 days after injection. They were serviced, then, after completing a successful pregnancy, all ewes had twin lambs. This trial indicates the success of estrus synchronization in ewes.

INTRODUCTION

Synchronization of estrus is a mean of grouping animals closely in estrus (McDonald, 1975). Previous studies, conducted by Toma (1977), demonstrated the possibility of synchronizing estrus in Awasi ewes. However, no attempt was made to assess fertility. Therefore, this study was designed to investigate the possibility of synchronizing estrus in Awasi ewes and to observe the conception rate.

MATERIALS & METHODS

Fifteen non-pregnant Awasi ewes, aged between 2-6 years, at different cyclic stages were used in this experiment. All ewes were inserted with intravaginal sponges of Veramix plus**, which were removed 13 days later. After removal of the sponges, each ewe was injected with 500 IU of Folligon*** intramuscularly. All ewes were observed in standing estrus within 2-3 days later, which were then serviced.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

All ewes came to estrus after this rigime, which reflects the successfullness of the synchronization attempt. Furthermore, after completing a successful pregnancy, all ewes had twin lambs. This finding was not seen reported elsewhere. Therefore, we suggest adopting the aforementioned procedures for sybchronizing estrus and twining in Awasi ewes.

REFERENCES

- McDonald, L.E. (1975): Veterinary Endocrinology and Reproduction. 2nd Edit., Lea & Febiger, Philadelphia.
- Toma, B.S. (1977): Effect of Methyl Acetoxy Prgesterone on total serum cholesterol of Awasi ewes. M.Sc. Thesis College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Baghdad.

** Veramix plus (Progesterone with PMSG) vaginal sponges. Intervet Int. B.V. Boxmeer, Holland.

*** Folligon : PMSG Intervet International B.V. Boxmeer Holland.