

RESEARCH ON THE HETEROSIS EFFECT FOR MEAT PRODUCTION IN CROSSBREDS OBTAINED FROM THE CROSSING OF ȚIGAIE SHEEP WITH MEAT BREED RAMS

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Abstract

The purpose of this research was to evaluate the effect generated by the use of meat breed rams from the Vandeen, Blanche du Masif Central, and Berrichon du Cher breeds on the main indicators specific to sheep meat production. The biological material consisted of F1 crossbred lambs resulting from crossing of these breeds with local Țigaie ewes—rusty variety. The evaluation period was during the lambs' suckling phase. Based on the values obtained at weaning, the average daily weight gain and the total weight gain over the 75-day suckling period were determined. The differences registered between the performance of Țigaie breed lambs and crossbred lambs are obvious and have a high level of statistical significance ($p \leq 0.001$) for both total weight gain and average daily weight gain.

Key words: Țigaie sheep breed, sheep meat, heterosis, growth intensity, average daily gain