

GROWTH PERFORMANCE OF HONAMLI GOAT UP TO WEANING AGE*

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This study was carried out to determine the growth traits of Honamlı kids in breeder flocks in Antalya Province by examining the effects of birth year and dam's age. Study has been compiled from the project entitled “The improvement of Honamlı goat in Breeder Conditions” supported by General Directorate of Agricultural Research and Policies (TAGEM). The study was carried out in the 8 different villages of Antalya province in Turkey under the breeders' condition and extensive system. The kids sucked their mothers up to the weaning (day 90). As a rule of the mentioned project, all kids were ear tagged just after the birth from 2012 to 2016. Birth weights were recorded according to ear tag. Kids were weighed and live weights (LWs) of the kids were determined at the day of 90. The flock was grazed on open range fields and in forests from early in the morning until noon. In general, this district is poor in terms of amount and pasture quality.

Birth weights of 24618 kids and 90-day weight of 22915 kids have been evaluated in the project during five years. Birth weights of the kids in the years of 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016 were determined as 3.55, 3.56, 3.53, 3.64 and 3.59 kg respectively. According to years (2012, 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016) 90-day live weights of the Honamlı kids were found as 17.50, 17.60, 18.01, 17.73 and 18.48 kg respectively. Effect of year was statistically significant on 90-day live weights of the Honamlı kids ($P < 0.05$). According to dam age (2012, 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016) 90-day live weights of the Honamlı kids were found as 18.01, 18.10, 18.05, 17.83 and 17.33 kg respectively.

According to evaluation for the years from 2012 to 2016, LWs of kids at day 90 in 2012 were lower than the LWs of kids at day 90 in 2016. Kids born from the

first parity of does were lighter than the birth weights of kids born from older does. Each trait has been defined for Honanli goats will be used for the further breeding methods in the region. Therefore, these definitions are important for the both breeders and the official bodies.

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