

biochemical parameters of the kids were not influenced by sex or type of pregnancy. Albumin in does was influenced by type of pregnancy, being higher for singles (3.53) than multiple (3.41) ($P < 0.01$). A correlation between mother and kids parameters was observed only for albumin ($P < 0.001$). The knowledge of these values may help to establish nutritional deficiencies during lactation, and management with special regards to the nutritional supplementation.

KEY WORDS: Goats, blood serum, biochemistry.

Caféino, soro sanguíneo, bioquímica

198 VARIATION IN pH OF RUMEN CONTENT OF GOATS IN THE SEMI-ARID REGION OF PARAIBA

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This work was conducted in Pendencia Experiment Station, in Soledade, Paraiba, Brazil, with several feed sources commonly used in the semi-arid region. The objectives were to identify variation in rumen pH and to study viability of non-protein nitrogen utilization as urea when feeding one of the following forages: 1. sorghum silage (Sorghum vulgare Pens); 2. cunha hay (Clitoria ternatea); 3. thornless cactus (Opuntia ficus indica); 4. marrec grass (Leersia hexandra); and 5. concentrate with 18% crude protein. Four young male goats were used in each treatment. The ruminal liquid was collected 3 times a day for seven day intervals. It was observed that after feed intake rumen pH decreased in accordance with diet composition except those fed cunha hay. Animals fed thornless cactus had ruminal pH values above 7 when fasted or during rumination. It can be concluded that animals fed thornless cactus cannot be supplemented with non-protein nitrogen as urea because of increased pH.

KEY WORDS: Non-protein nitrogen, urea, ruminal liquid, feed intake.

199 TIME OF FIRST SUCKLING BY KIDS IN NORTHEAST BRASIL

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The objective of this study was to determine the effect of breed, type of birth and sex, on the interval between birth and first suckling and its effect on kid survival. The study was conducted in Sobral, Ceara. A total of 169 kids of the Marota (21), Moxoto (47), Caninde (26), Repartida (19) and SRD (sem raca definida; undefined breed) (56) breeds were observed. The kids were observed twice, AM and PM. Kid mortality was recorded from birth

to 56 days of age. Mean interval between birth and first suckling, independent of breed, was 32.5 minutes. There were not differences ($P>.05$) between breeds, sex, type of birth or their interactions. Birth weight was different for type of birth ($P<.001$) and sex ($P<.05$), although similar for interval between birth and first suckling. Weight of kids at 28 days of age was influenced ($P<.001$) by type of birth. No difference ($P>.05$) in body weight was obtained for 56 day old kids with regard to breed, sex or type of birth. Interactions for these parameters were not significant. Kid survival was not affected ($P>.05$) by the interval between birth and first suckling. Independent of breed, sex or type of birth, the interval between birth and first suckling did not influence kid survival of breeds native to Northeast Brazil.

KEY WORDS: Animal behaviour, birth, kids, breed.

comparative animal measurements, birth, reproduced

200 HISTOLOGICAL STUDIES OF SKIN FOLLICLES IN PASHMINA GOATS

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The density of primary and secondary follicles was studied in six male Chegu goats. The mean density of primary follicles, secondary follicles and S/P ratio were 4.57 (per 1.4 mm^2), 21.18 (per 1.4 mm^2) and 4.63 respectively. The S/P ratio did not differ significantly ($P>0.05$) between months.

KEY WORDS: Primary and secondary follicles, S/P ratio.

201 ERUPTION OF INCISOR TEETH IN RELATION TO AGE IN BARBARI AND JAMUNAPARI GOATS

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Six hundred seventy four goats, 301 of Barbari and 373 of Jamunapari breed of all ages were examined by cross-sectional technique for the eruption of deciduous and permanent teeth. Most of the kids at birth had the first and second pair of deciduous incisors. The third pair emerged within the first week of age and by the second week almost all animals were observed with a full mouth of deciduous incisors in both the breeds. Mean age and range for the presence of the first pair was 15.0 (13.5 to 21.5) and 17.0 (14.0 to 26.0), second pair 20.0 (19.0 to 25.0) and 21.5 (19.5 to 30.0), third pair 24.5 (22.0 to 31.5) and 26.0 (22.5 to 30.0) and full mouth 28.5 (26.0 to 31.5) and 30.0 (28.0 to 34.0) months for Barbari and Jamunapari goats respectively. After attaining full mouth, wearing of permanent teeth started at