Improving the Productive Performance of Local Baladi Goats throughout Crossbreeding with South African Boer

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Abstract
The aim of this study is to test the effects of crossbreeding Egyptian indigenous local Baladi (LB) does with South African meat-specialized Boer (BO) bucks on the productive performance of the F1 crossbred kids. This study was carried out at the Goat Research Unit in the Department of Animal Production at El-Noubaria Experimental farm, National Research Center, Al-Emam Malek, Noubaria, Behira Governorate, and laboratories of Animal Production Department, National Research Center, Dokki, Giza. Records from 30 breeding does (10 Boer and 20 local Baladi) and one buck from each breed were used in this study. Pure Boer and Baladi bucks were used to breed the two breed groups; Baladi and Boer goats were on the average of 3-5 years old, while live body weight was on the average of (24.10 to 24.87 kg) for both the two Baladi groups (A and B) and 31.50 for pure Boers. Average daily growth (g/day) of kids after birth was higher (P < 0.05) for F1 crossbred (67.47) as compared to F1 Baladi kids (56.45). At weaning, crossbred kids achieved weights of 10.77kg, while ones from the Baladi kids had an average weight of 8.54kg. Feed conversion ratio, average daily gain and daily DMI/h were higher in F1 crossbred kids in compare with pure Baladi kids. Mortality rate after birth to weaning was also higher of F1 crossbred kids (30.76%) compared to F1 Baladi kids (28.57%). It was obviously noted that crossbreeding between Boer and Baladi goats resulted in higher weight gain in F1 Boer—Baladi crossbred kids compared to Baladi kids, so they can be considered the conditions in Egypt are favorable for raising crossbred kids due to increased potential for enhance meat production. The present study shows that using Boer bucks significantly improves productive performance of crossbred kids, and might prove valuable for the overall returns of the farms that will adopt this crossbreeding scheme.