

EFFECT OF SEX AND AGE ON THE HAEMATOLOGY OF WEST AFRICAN DWARF GOATS (FOUTA DJALLON) UNDER THREE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS IN IBADAN, NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT

Haematological indices of West African Dwarf (WAD) goats of different age groups, of both sexes under three management systems, intensively managed, tethered and free range traditional husbandry were investigated. Bucks kept on free range and within 4 to 12 months of age had higher values than their counterparts kept either tethered or intensively managed. The mean White Blood Cell count, Haemoglobin and Mean Corpuscular Haemoglobin Concentration (MCHC) values obtained in goats kept on free range were significantly higher ($P < 0.05$) than in goats in the other two groups. Also, the MCHC of does on free range significantly higher ($P < 0.05$) than their to tethered counterparts.

KEY WORDS: Haematology, WAD goats. Management