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LIVE WEIGHT INDICATORS OF RABBITS AT WEANING AT THE AGE OF 30, 45 AND 60 DAYS

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Annotation. *The article deals with the data on live weight of rabbits weaned from their mothers at the age of 30, 45 and 60 days, in variable climatic conditions of Karakalpakistan. Rabbits weaned at the age of 30 days exceeded their peers in live weight in all periods of growth.*

Key words: *rabbits, rabbits, live weight, growth, age, milk yield, climatic conditions.*

Introduction. In the period when there is a regular population growth, the issue of constant provision of quality livestock products is one of the important tasks in solving food security.

In our republic rabbit breeding is a promising branch of animal husbandry, due to the rapid growth and high intensity of reproduction of rabbits in the shortest possible time they can get a large amount of dietary meat, especially for baby food, down for industry and valuable fur products. Scientific and practical importance is the study of the sphere of influence of the external environment and conditions of keeping on the physiological state of experimental rabbits during their breeding. Therefore, when keeping rabbits, they affect the productivity indicators, that is, the adaptation of the organism to climatic conditions of this or that region, to the existing technological factors is the key to further growth of their production.

The program of livestock development, approved by the decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated January 21, 2016 PF-03-36-12 "On measures for further reform and development of agriculture for 2016-2020", in the section "Development of rabbit breeding" noted the creation of dekhkan farms, as well as the development of recommendations for newly established rabbit farms, on importing from foreign countries meat and wool breeds of rabbits, corresponding to the climatic conditions of the country, and the organization of breeding work in them on a scientific basis.

Object and methodology of research. Research work was carried out in 2021-2023 on rabbits of Californian breed of meat direction of productivity in the farm of Limited Liability Company "Samandar Takhiatash" in Takhiatash district of the Republic of Karakalpakstan.

The aim of the research was to study the dynamics of change in live weight of rabbits weaned from their mothers at different ages under conditions of sharply changing climate in Karakalpakstan.

The dynamics of live weight of rabbits weaned from mothers at the age of 30, 45 and 60 days up to 75 days of age was studied.

Groups were formed according to the principle of analogs. Group 1 - rabbits weaned at the age of 30 days, Group 2 - rabbits weaned at the age of 45 days and Group 3 - rabbits weaned at the age of 60 days.

Dynamics of changes in live weight of rabbits were studied at birth, at the age of 21, 30, 45, 75 days by weighing on electronic scales in the morning before feeding.

The obtained information was re-processed by the method of E. K. Merkureva (1970). K. Merkureva (1970) using the computer program Microsoft Excel 2010.

Results of the study. In zootechnical practice in growing and fattening for meat of farm animals live weight is one of the most important indicators of production.

We studied the dynamics of change in live weight of rabbits weaned at the age of 30, 45 and 60 days, up to 75 days of age (Table 1)

Table 1

Dynamics of change in live weight of rabbits weaned at the age of 30, 45 and 60 days,

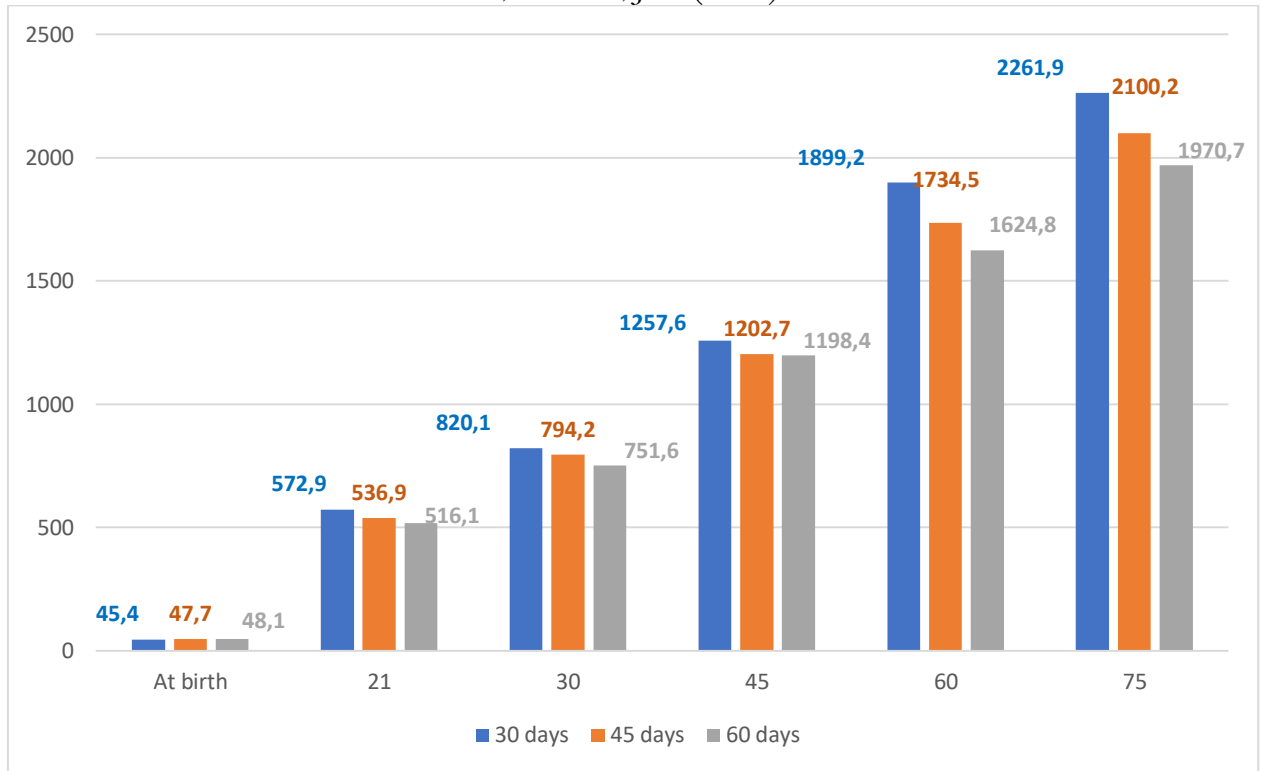
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Note: * $P < 0.05$, * * * $P < 0.01$, * * * $P < 0.001$

Analysis of the data in Table No. 1 and Figure No. 1 showed that in rabbits of group III separated from the nest at 60 days, live birth weight was 48.1 g, which was 2.7 g or 5.9% ($P < 0.05$) and 0.4 g or 0.8% higher, respectively, than the peer rabbits of groups I and II.

Rabbits from the first group, weaned from their mother at 30 days of age, and rabbits from the second group, weaned at 45 days of age, outperformed their peers from the third group, weaned at 60 days of age, in subsequent growth periods. Specifically, the live weight at 21 days of age of group I rabbits was 572.9 g, which was 36.0 g or 6.7% ($P < 0.001$) higher than that of group II rabbits and 56.8 g or 11.0% ($P < 0.001$) higher than that of group III rabbits (516.1 g).

Age (in days)	Timing of weaning of rabbits from mother (in days)		
	30	45	60
	Groups		
	I (n=41)	II (n=32)	III (n=23)
At birth	45,4 _± 1,25	47,7 _± 1,14*	48,1 _± 1,21
21	572,9 _± 2,24** *	536,9 _± 2,11* *	516,1 _± 1,89
30	820,1 _± 2,12** *	794,2 _± 1,89* **	751,6 _± 1,56
45	1257,6 _± 2,52* **	1202,7 _± 2,62 ***	1198,4 _± 2,63
60	1899,2 _± 3,12* **	1734,5 _± 3,45 ***	1624,8 _± 2,98
75	2261,9 _± 2,23* **	2100,2 _± 3,56 ***	1970,7 _± 2,62



a Fig. 1 Diagram of live weight of rabbits at 30, 45 and 60 days of age

The weight of group II rabbits weaned at 45 days of age (536.9 g) was 20.8 g or 4.0% ($P < 0.05$) higher than that of group III rabbits weaned at 60 days of age (516.1 g).

The live weight of rabbits of the first group, weaned from their mothers at the age of 30 days, amounted to 820.1 g. The live weight of rabbits of the second group weaned at 45 days of age was 794.2 g, which was 25.9 g or 3.3% ($P < 0.001$) higher than that of rabbits of the third group weaned at 60 days of age (751.6 g). The difference was 68.5 g or 9.1% ($P < 0.001$). In addition, the live weight of rabbits of the second group, weaned at 45 days, exceeded the live weight of r The similar tendency was maintained in the following days of the growth period. In particular, on day 45, the average live weight of rabbits in group I was 1257.6 g, which was higher than that of peers in groups II and III, respectively, by 54.9 g or 4.6% ($P < 0.001$) and 59.2 g or 4.9% ($P < 0.001$). In addition, the live weight of rabbits in group II was 9.3 g or 0.8% higher than the live weight of rabbits in group III.

The results of the studies showed that the live weight of rabbits weaned at 30, 45 and 60 days of age, at 60 days of age, as well as in the following months of growth and development periods, were higher in rabbits of group I compared to their peers in groups II and III. In particular, on day 60, the live weight of rabbits of group I was 1899.2 g, which exceeded the live weight of rabbits in groups II and III, respectively, by 164.7 g or 9.5% ($P < 0.001$) and by 274.4 g or 16.9% ($P < 0.001$). The live weight of rabbits in group II, in turn, was superior to that of rabbits in group III by 109.7 g or 6.8% ($P < 0.001$).

In addition, the live weight of rabbits weaned at 30, 45 and 60 days of age at the end of the experiment, i.e. at 75 days of age, was higher in Group I than in Groups II and III. In particular, the live weight of rabbits of group I was 2261.9 g, which was higher than the live weight of rabbits of groups II and III by 161.7 g or 7.7% ($P < 0.001$) and 291.2 g or 14.8%

($P < 0.001$), respectively. The live weight of group II rabbits was greater than the live weight of group III rabbits by 129.5 g or 6.6% ($P < 0.01$).

rabbits of the third group, weaned at 60 days, by 42.5 g or 5.7% ($P < 0.001$).

Conclusion: The live weight of rabbits weaned at 30, 45 and 60 days of age at the end of the experiment, i.e. at 75 days of age, was higher in group I than in groups II and III.

Specifically, it was found that the live weight of rabbits of group I was 2261.9 g, which was higher than the live weight of rabbits of groups II and III by 161.7 g or 7.7% ($P < 0.001$) and 291.2 g or 14.8% ($P < 0.001$), respectively.

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