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Short communcation

HAEMATOLOGY DURING DIFFERENT PHASES OF OESTROUS CYCLE IN ALPINE-MALABARI GOATS

Increase in leucocyte count during the day of oestrus was reported in cattle (Gangwar *et al.*, 1965; Sharma *et al.*, 1968 and Mathai and Raja, 1979) and in sheep. The data on haematology of cross bred goats during different phases of oestrous cycle was found to be meagre and hence a study was conducted in five Alpine-Malabari cross bred goats aged 12 to 15 months having regular oestrous cycles.

Blood samples were collected during five consecutive oestrous cycles on first, sixth, fourteenth and eighteenth day after oestrum. Haemoglobin content, erythrocyte sedimentation rate, packed cell volume and total and differential leucocyte counts were estimated.

The haemoglobin value varied from 9.94 to 10.68 g/dl and the value for ESR varied from 3.48 to 3.86 mm/h and the differences were not significant. The values for PCV, total leucocyte count and neutrophil count were significantly higher on the first day of oestrum whereas the lymphocyte count was significantly low. The percentage of eosinophils, basophils and monocytes did not show significant variations. These observations were in agreement with the data reported by Gangwar *et al.* (1965), Agarwal *et al.* (1965) and Mathai and Raja (1979). Leucocytosis with predominant neutrophilia is probably a defense mechanism initiated in the beginning of oestrum.

Summary

In Alpine-Malabari goats, the haematology during different phases of oestrous cycle showed that the PCV was higher on the day of oestrum, total leucocyte count was higher during oestrum and prooestrum and lymphocyte count was low but neutrophil count was high on the day of oestrum.

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