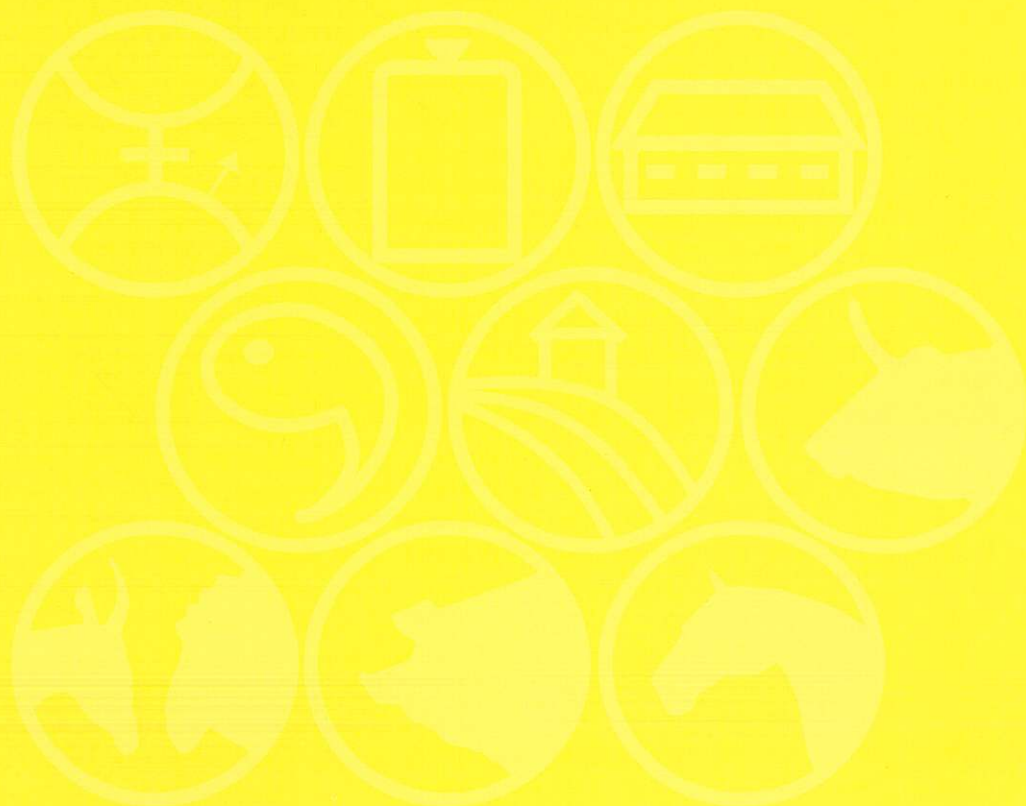


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**Fattening performance and carcass characteristics of Awassi sheep and Damascus goat yearlings**

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To compare sheep and goat fattened at the same age in terms of performance and carcass merits was the aim of this study conducted at the Research Farm of Mustafa Kemal University of Hatay-Turkey. Awassi sheep and Damascus goat yearlings were used as the animal material. They were put into individual boxes and fattened for 91 days. After fattening 4 animals from both species were slaughtered, jointed and dissected according to "EAAP Standard Method of Sheep Carcass Assessment" and "The Standard Method for Goat Carcass Jointing and Tissue Separation", respectively. Initial and final live weights were found to be  $34.7 \pm 1.7$  and  $59.7 \pm 1.8$  kg for Awassi and  $20.7 \pm 0.5$  and  $38.7 \pm 0.6$  kg for Damascus, respectively. Daily gain and daily mean food consumption were determined as  $275.5 \pm 14.6$  and  $2067 \pm 51.3$  g and  $197.8 \pm 8.1$  and  $1489.3 \pm 26.0$  g with the same genotype order. Slaughter weight, hot carcass weight and dressing percentage were  $57.1 \pm 0.89$  kg,  $30.9 \pm 0.06$  kg and  $54.1 \pm 0.50$  % for Awassi and were  $35.7 \pm 0.90$  kg,  $18.8 \pm 0.70$  kg and  $52.7 \pm 1.69$  % for Damascus, respectively. In terms of carcass composition, bone, muscle, subcutaneous fat and intermuscular fat content in percentage were  $16.0 \pm 0.62$ ,  $49.3 \pm 0.58$ ,  $21.8 \pm 1.60$  and  $11.2 \pm 0.72$  for Awassi;  $18.2 \pm 0.62$ ,  $55.6 \pm 2.70$ ,  $9.9 \pm 1.93$  and  $15.2 \pm 1.05$ , for Damascus, respectively. Intermuscular fat content of goats was more than sheep carcasses ( $P < 0.05$ ) which is desired in terms of eating quality.

## Poster S4.21

**Sex and carcass weight effects on Serrana kids carcass and meat characteristics**

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The aim of this work was to evaluate the sex and carcass weight effects on carcass joints proportion, tissues measurements and meat pH and colour of kids. Twenty seven male and 23 female Serrana kids, a Portuguese breed, were used. Kids were slaughtered after 24 h fasting. Carcasses were cooled at 4 °C for 24 h, halved and the left side divided into eight standardised commercial joints. Colour, pH and tissues measurements were taken on the surface of muscle *longissimus* at the 12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> ribs level.

Female kids presented higher breast proportion ( $P < 0.05$ ), kidney, knob and channel fat ( $P < 0.05$ ) and j measurement ( $P < 0.01$ ) than males. Breast proportion increased ( $P < 0.01$ ) with carcass weight increasing. A decrease in meat luminosity was observed with carcass weight increasing. At the carcass weight ranges studied the joints proportions and meat properties do not differ significantly between sexes. Carcass and meat characteristics do not change much from 3 to 5 kg, however at 7 kg carcasses presented a higher degree of fatness.