

Growth Performance in Dromedary Camels Under Two Feeding Regimen

Nazik M. Mohamedain¹, Fadlalla, I.M.T. ², Barri, M.E. ³, Abdel-Aziz, B.E. ⁴

¹Federal Ministry of Animal Resources and Fisheries, Sudan. E-mail: nboba99@yahoo.com

²Department of Biomedical Sciences, College of Veterinary Medicine, Sudan University of Science and Technology.

³Department of Biochemistry, International University of Africa.

⁴Camel Research Centre, Tumboul, Sudan.

ABSTRACT

This work was designed to evaluate the effect of different feeding status on camels growth rate and daily gain. Forty five camels (18-24 months) of age, average weight at 225 ± 35 kg were utilized in this study. The camels were divided into two groups, zero browsing group (15 Darfuri & 10 Butana) fed complete ration composed of (sorghum, 50%; groundnut cake 15%, molasses 10%, wheat bran 5%, dura husk 5%, urea 2%, bagas 12% and Common salt 1%) to give ME at 11MJ/kg DM and 16% CP. The 2nd group was a free browsing camels (11 Darfuri & 9 Butana) without any supplement. The animals were weight weekly for 120 days after two weeks that served as adaptation period. The result showed that no significant differences ($p < 0.05$) between groups at initial body weight. The results revealed a significant increase ($p < 0.05$) in mean body weight and average growth rate in zero browsing group (321.5 ± 38.5) as compared to free browsing group (272 ± 32.3). The average total gain was almost double in zero browsing groups (96 ± 17.3 kg) than free browsing camels (42 ± 19.5 kg). The average daily gain was high in zero browsing groups (800 g) as compared to free browsing camels (350 g). However, no significant differences were observed in weight gain, dry matter intake and feed conversion ratio between Darfuri & Butana in zero browsing camels. We conclude that the dietary complete ratio effect significantly on camels growth rate and daily gains.

Keywords: Growth performance, daily gain, dromedary.