

How to produce heavy goat carcass with lean meat in Guadeloupe ?

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The Creole goat of Guadeloupe is reared on pasture and produces lean carcass

- There is a very high demand of goat meat
- Is a small-sized meat breed (~22 kg)
- Is mostly reared on pasture
- Produces light (~10 kg) but lean carcass
- May offer an attractive alternative : they are leaner than cattle and sheep

The aim of the study

- Determine the effects of an energy-rich diet on carcass characteristics.
- 148 male Creole goats after weaning
- C0 group, n= 106 animals received tropical forage *ad libitum*
- C50, n = 42, they received forage with commercial pellets (50% of diet DM).



Fig.1: Goat Creole carcass: entire carcasse, half carcass and carcass cut

First results shown:

- The slaughter weight varied
- The proportion of muscles reached 70 vs 72 %, respectively
- The fat cover scores were 2 vs. 3 (scale from 1 to 5), respectively.
- The proportion of intermuscular fat was around only 8%.

Slaughter Weights (Kg)	C0				C50			
	FCS	Muscle (%)	CCW (Kg)	OF/CCW (%)	FCS	Muscle (%)	CCW (Kg)	OF/CCW (%)
19	2.1 ±0.7	68.9 ±2.4	7.1 ±0.9	1.3 ±0.8	3.3 ±1.0	70.0 ±1.5	9.1 ±0.6	2.9 ±0.2
24	2.4 ±0.8	71.8 ±3.0	9.2 ±0.9	1.5 ±0.8	2.8 ±0.9	72.3 ±2.7	11.4 ±1.0	2.5 ±1.1
31-32	2.0 ±0.0	69.0 ±6.4	12.1 ±1.7	1.7 ±1.0	3.1 ±1.1	72.8 ±4.0	15.5 ±1.4	4.3 ±1.8

Fig.2: Fat cover scores (FCS), proportion of muscles, cold carcass weights (CCW) and ratio of omental fat (OF) on CCW (mean ± S.D) at 19, 24 and 32 kg of SW in Creole bucks according to the diet.

From these first results, it seems possible to produce heavy carcass (~20,6 kg) while maintaining low proportions of fat in the meat or low fat cover score. Creole goats exhibits a good potential as meat producer in our region. Assuming that the diet influences the fatty acid profiles of caprines further studies are required to characterise them within this breed and to assess the diet influence in view to promote a Creole label.

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