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Pregnancy associated glycoproteins of pregnant Yankasa ewes

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Ten Yankasa ewes which were oestrus synchronized and mated naturally were used to determine the concentration of pregnancy associated glycoproteins (PAG) in Nigerian Yankasa ewes by weekly serum assay. Mean PAG gradually began to rise from 0.27 ng/ml during the standing heat period to 1.31 ng/ml at week 2. There was an exponential increase from week 3 (13.85 ng/ml) reaching a mean concentration of 100.60 ng/ml at week 5 but dropping to 92.30 ng/ml at week 7 before reaching its highest concentration of 133.90 ng/ml at week 10. From this stage, it began to decrease gradually reaching a mean concentration of 57.08 ng per ml at week 15 of pregnancy. The mean PAG was 86.16 ng per ml, 87.34ng/ml and 86.80 ng per ml at weeks 16, 17 and 18, respectively. It increased slightly to 103.24 ng per ml at week 19 and 114.82 ng/ml at week 21, which was 48 hours before commencement of parturition in the ewes.

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