



Strategic maize supplementation in grazing goats does not increase the birth weight of the kids

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Objective

- Investigate if inclusion of maize from 75 to 90 days of gestation in the diet of semi-arid naturally grazing goats, period when the higher placental growth occur as reported in ewes, could increase the kid's birth weight
- To compare this nutritional treatment when inclusion of maize is given during the last month of gestation

Interest

- In grazing goats, there little information about the effects of undernutrition during pregnancy on the weight of the goat kids at birth
- Our study confirms that in certain kidding season, the inclusion of maize in the diet during mid or late gestation does not affect the weight of the kids, probably due to a major availability of vegetation in semi-arid grazing areas