

## ***Growth Male integers and female to yearling capybara semi-intensive farming***

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The growth of the capybara (*Hydrochaeris Hydrochoerus*) by gender has been studied in intensive farming conditions. The results show a trend of greater growth for the females to reach slaughter weight, which occurs usually one year or more, although not there is uniformity to that statement.

In the intensive system, LAVORENTI et al. (1989) and Albuquerque (1993) found higher growth for females, while Parra (1976) found no difference between sexes. On extensive system management / creation, Silva- Neto et al. (1996) reported that males reach 35 kg weight at 18 months and females reach 40 kg at 15 months.

Information creations in the system semi- intensive indicate that adult females are greater than males. The objective of this work was to evaluate the growth of males and females to yearling, under onditions semi-intensive creation, aiming to provide subsidies for management of capybaras.

The research was conducted at Station Experimental Lowlands, Embrapa Clima Tempered, located in Capon Lion (31 ° 52'00 "S and 52 ° 21'24" W). Was a module used an experimental setting, consisting of an enclosure for breeding about 3 ha paddock and animal growing at approximately 1.7 ha each containing a hose board (8x16 m) to capture. 58 were used in animals between males and females were monitored between 2002 and 2003.

The protein requirement of the capybara was answered as green fodder grown mainly oats and elephant grass provided at home, added to pasture pickets. Maize grain was the basis of concentrated energy being supplied. Growth of males and females to yearling capybara in semi-intensive farming daily 250 g / head. Mix salt with complete mineral for cattle / horse was provided in the form of bars. Only in one occasion was used dewormer.

The cubs caught on bait taken within Hose were reported by the system Australian sexed by direct inspection of sexual organs and weighed in balance with 100 g divisions. Asides / desmamas of puppies picket playback for the sector sued growth with live weight least 5 kg. The estimated age was taken as the methodology described in Ojasti (1973 and 1978), using growth rates between captures and recaptures. The growth of males and females has been reported to the yearling (close to reach slaughter weight of 40kg), in 432 days elapsed from Birth of animals of greater age included in the experiment by running a total of 17 managements herd. Was performed regression analysis in Excel and taken comparing the coefficients of the two groups of equations capivaras (31 males and 27 females) by t test as Steel and Torrie (1960), the level of 5% significance.

The growth in weight of female capybaras was higher ( $P < 0.05$ ) than males (Figure 1). The estimated weights at 60, 180, 365 and 425 day for males and females were respectively, 8.10 / 7.79 kg, 16.83 / 17.32 kg, 30.3 / 32.01 kg and 34.67 / 36.77 kg. The average rate of Growth was 72.78 g / day for males and 79.42 g / day for females. These rates of gain weight were higher than the calculated Ojasti (1978) under natural conditions of the Llanos Venezuelan (53 g / day). In the same region, Herrera (1992) did not observe differences in growth of males and females from 14.1 to 42.7 kg of BW, recording an average gain top weight of 91.8 g / day. Silva Neto et al. (1996) reported that males reach weight of 35 kg at 18 months and females reached 40 kg at 15 months in the system Extensive management / creation. Probably this is due to the intense persecution from males, causing increased wear these animals and suggests that experiments with individual animals in pens.

*See original for figure 1 chart*

*[Figure 1. Growth of male and female capybara in semi-intensive farming. ]*

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LAVORENTI et al. (1989), creating in capivaras intensive system, had average weights 2.071/2.106, 7.277/8.132 and g/34.161 28,600 g, for males and females at birth, at 60 and 365 days, respectively. In this same system, Silva Neto et al. (1990a) have reported weights for males and g 28739.02 29587.50 g for females after one year confinement, values similar to those of this study.

Parra (1976), in intensive farming, not found differences in average daily gain live weight - ADG ( $P > 0.05$ ), males (90.3 g) and females (85.2 g / day), study capivaras in the range of 11 to 25 kg BW. Silva Neto et al. (1990b), in an experiment with different roughage / concentrate and bath systems, did not observe Significant differences in weight gain between males and females at 300 days confinement, and animals 13 and 32.43 kg average PV at the beginning and end of the study, respectively. However, Albuquerque (1993) investigating the growth of capivaras of different classes of sex, range from 23 to 35 kg / PV created intensively during 70 experimental days, determined the GMD of entire males (140 g), females (162 g) and castrated males (134 g), checking significant difference ( $P < 0.05$ ) only to contrast male x female whole, which agrees with the results of this study.

Under the conditions of this study, the females had a rate of capybaras exceeds growth in males semi-intensive system. The sex of animals can be an important factor in obtaining slaughter weight due to the higher speed growth of females during this period. We suggest studies of the growth of animals up to eight or nine, to confirm the larger size of adult females.

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