

EFFECT OF CROSSING FRENCH MUSCOVY AND SUDANI (EGYPTIAN MUSCOVY) DUCK ON SEXUAL DIMORPHISM FOR PHENOTYPIC PARAMETERS AND CARCASS TRAITS AT MARKETING AGE

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The difference in body weight between males and females, hereafter called sexual dimorphism. The higher sexual dimorphism mean the male and female separation in feeding system and use the artificial insemination rather than the natural insemination. The objective of this study was to study the effect of the cross in ducks on sexual dimorphism for some traits. This experiment was carried out at private farm in Egypt (Fayoum governorate). At 32 wks of age, the Muscovy males (M) allow to natural mating with Sudani (S) female. Total number duckling was 125, 150 and 115 for Muscovy Sudani and the cross between Muscovy with Sudani ducks (MS Cross) respectively. When the ducklings attained marketing age(10, 12 and 14 wks for the MS cross, Muscovy and Sudani ducks, respectively), body weight, body measurements(shank length, keel length, Body length and body circumference) and carcass were taken at marketing age (16 birds from each strain, in addition their cross were randomly taken and slaughtered for carcass evaluation) of each strain. The results revealed that there was no significant difference for live body weight and body length between MS cross and their parents. With respect for shank length, keel length and body circumference the MS cross was significantly lowest sexual dimorphism difference compared to Muscovy or Sudani one. Sudani duck was significantly higher non-edible and edible meat parts compared to MS cross, while, the Muscovy duck was intermediate. The MS cross had significantly lowest sexual dimorphism for abdominal fat compared to Sudani and Muscovy one. Finally, The between Muscovy and Sudani ducks decreased the sexual dimorphism for body weight, body measurements and carcass traits.

Keywords: Body weight, Body measurements, Carcass parameters, Sudani, Muscovy duck, Sexual dimorphism, Crosses