

# Comparisons of the hematological values on male and female Rex rabbits at different weeks of age during growing period <sup>(1)</sup>

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## Abstract

The purpose of this experiment was conducted to compare the differences and changes of hematological values of Rex rabbits during growing period. A total of 16 Rex rabbit males and 10 females with similar body weight at 4, 6, 8, 10, 12 and 14 weeks of age were selected. Blood samples from jugular venous were collected and analyzed. The results indicated males had significantly higher white blood cell and lymphocyte number at 10 weeks of age; lymphocyte percentage, red blood cell and hematocrit at 8 weeks of age than females ( $P < 0.05$ ). However, males had significantly lower neutrophils number and neutrophils ratio at 6 weeks of age; mean corpuscular hemoglobin amount and mean corpuscular hemoglobin concentration at 10 weeks of age than females ( $P < 0.05$ ). There were no significant differences between males and females on number and ratio of monocyte, eosinophils and basophils; hemoglobin, RBC distribution width, platelet and mean platelet volume. The changes of blood characteristics of male and female Rex rabbits during growing period showed that males and females had the highest white blood cell number at 8 weeks of age; the lowest neutrophils number and ratio at 4 weeks of age, the highest monocyte number at 8 weeks of age, the highest mean corpuscular volume at 4 weeks of age and the highest corpuscular hemoglobin at 14 weeks of age. The results can be the references for biomedical industry and academic research.

Key words: Hematology, Rex rabbit, Sex.

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