

# Comparison of the milking ability of does and the growth performances of kids before weaning for Hengchun black goats and Boer goats<sup>(1)</sup>

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## Abstract

Eight heads of does, from Hengchun black goat and Boer goat respectively, were chosen for milking ability investigation during the 154 days lactation period. Meanwhile, another three does and their six kids in each breed were chosen to compare with seven heads of kids in same breeds on the growth performance of kids nursing by their does or bottles. The result showed that there were no differences on the average daily dry matter intake, the percentage of dry matter intake/body weight and the body weight change of does between two breeds during 154 days lactation period. On the milk production and their components, no differences have been found between these two breeds (0.547 vs. 0.536 kg/day). There was no difference between breeds on the growth performance of kids. Kids nursed by their does had heavier ( $P < 0.05$ ) weaning weight and average daily gain before weaning than those kids nursed by baby bottles. Resulted showed that Hengchun black does have the same milking ability with the Boer does. Both breeds have good maternal abilities.

Key words: Hengchun black goat, Boer goat, Milking ability, Growth performances.

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