

# Lactating performance and calf weaning weight of straightbred Santa Gertrudis, and Brahman cows and their crossbred cows sired by Gelbvieh <sup>(1)</sup>

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## Abstract

The purpose of this study was to investigate lactating performance of cows with various combinations of *Bos taurus* and *Bos indicus*, and whether milk yields of dams had any influences on the preweaning growth of calves under local environment. Lactating performance of sixty cows in four different breeds (straightbred Santa Gertrudis, SG × SG; straightbred Brahman, BR × BR; Gelbvieh × Santa Gertrudis, GV × SG; Gelbvieh × Brahman, GV × BR) were evaluated by 4-hr interval milk yield. The GV×SG crossbred cows which contain 81.25% *Bos taurus* blood, had highest milk yield ( $0.89 \pm 0.34$  kg), while straightbred Brahman (*Bos indicus*) cows had lowest milk yield ( $0.70 \pm 0.20$  kg). There was significant difference between the above two breeds ( $P < 0.05$ ). Milk yields of dams had influence on both calf weaning weight and preweaning average daily gain (ADG). Calves with heavier weaning weights and higher preweaning ADG received more milk ( $P < 0.05$ ). No effect was found on dam milk yield between calf sex.

Key words: Santa Gertrudis, Brahman, Gelbvieh crossbred, Milk production, Calf growth.

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