Sperms biometry of local Iraqi Awassi Rams

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Abstract

This study was design to estimated of sperms biometry in local Iraqi Awassi rams. Five mature rams of 2.5-4 years old and 37-44 Kg live body weight were used in this study. Semen collection was performed by using artificial vagina. Semen samples were evaluated immediately after collection of total 30 ejaculate. Semen volume and color, mass and individual sperms motility, live and abnormal sperms as well as sperms concentration were estimated. sperms biometry calculated by using phase contrast microscope and occulo-micrometer lens. Semen biometry means which estimated in this study were; sperms head length 9.62± 1.2 micron, sperms head width 5.32± 2.5 micron, acrosome length 6.10 ± 2.4 micron, head base width 2.54 ± 1.8 micron, midpiece length 11.92 ± 3.6 micron, midpice width 2.21 ± 0.8 micron, tail length 50. 62 ± 2.1 micron.

Key words: Semen quality, Sperms Biometry, local Iraqi Awassi rams

Introduction

Sperm morphology assessment has been regarded as one of the most important factors for determining sperm quality (1). Morphologic assessment of spermatozoa is an integral component in the analysis of semen (2, 3). Sperms morphometry is a parameter in the evaluation of semen that has been associated with fertility (1, 4, 5, 6). Evaluating morphology as a part of a fertility study and performing breeding soundness examinations which used by technician, a veterinarian, a clinician at andrology laboratory or in artificial insemination centers (7). There were no previous information about sperms biometry of local Iraqi Awassi ram so this study was design to estimated sperms biometry of Iraqi local Awassi rams.

Material and Methods

Experimental animals: Five adult Iraqi Awassi rams of 2.5-4 years old and 37-44 Kg live body weight were used in this study. Animals were housed in the animal house, College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Mosul. This study was carried out during the period of 1-5 to 1-7- 2012.

Semen collection and evaluation: Semen collection was performed by using artificial vagina. All semen samples were analyzed immediately after collection, Semen volume and color, mass activity, sperm individual motility, percentage of live and abnormal sperms percentages and sperms concentration were estimated of total 30 ejaculate (4).

Slides fixation: One drop of fresh semen was diluted by five drops of physiological normal saline 0.9%, then one drop was taken and mixed with one drop of formal saline solution 70% which previously prepared for fixation of the specimens until reading under microscope done. Three samples prepared from each ejaculate and at least 200 sperms morphologically analyzed in each slides (5).

Estimation of microscopic metric factor: Phase contrast microscope (Nikon type 104C, production of Nikon corporation, 2-3, Maruouchi 3-chome, Chiyoda-Ku-Tokyo, 100-8331, Japan) used to read the slides, microscope metric factor was calculated by using a known graduated stander slides which putting under oil
immersion (high power), the estimation was done in same method described by Thienpont, et al (10). The graduated line in the slides read by using oculo-micrometer lens. The oculo-micrometer lens have a graduated line, focus continuo until getting coincidence between graduated lines of the oculo-micrometer lens with the graduated lines in the standard slides, and then the reading of the microscope factor by using the equation:

\[ P \times \frac{N}{100} = \text{metric factor of the microscope in micron} \]

\[ P = \text{power of emersion oil lens which equal 1.1} \]

\[ N = \text{number of graduated lines which fully coincidence between the oculomicrometer lens and the graduated standard slides.} \]

Calculated sperm biometry: all these parameters were done by using oculomicrometer lens (7).

**Sperm head:** Head length estimated by calculated the graduated lines between the distal point in the head acrosome to the distal point in head base, Head width was done by estimated the distance between the two equal points in the opposite side of head width, Acrosome length calculated by estimated the length by calculated distance between top of the head of sperm to the area of attachment between acroosome and nucleus of sperm head, Base of the sperm head diameter was calculated length of the attachment area between the head and midpiece(8, 10, 11)

**Midpiece:** the length calculated by taking the distance between farness points, the first in the area which attach the head while the other in the area attached tail (9,16)

**Tail:** length of the tail calculated by estimated the distance between attachment of the tail with midpiece to the end of the free end of the tail (9,16).

Pic 1: head morphometry which describe by Hidalgo, et al., 2005(9)

Statistical analysis: the results were expressed as means ± SE data. Data analyzed using SPSS (SPSS 11.5, 2 package, 2003, SPSS Inc.).
Results

Semen parameters of local Iraqi Awassi rams were summarized in table 1. Semen volume was 1.80±0.9ml, Sperms mass were 85.0± 3.6% while sperms individual motility were 89.20± 4.2%. Sperm concentration show was 3.90 ±1.1× 10⁹. Sperm live percentage was 93.10±3.1%. Sperm abnormalities was 12.00±0.9%.

Table 1: Semen characteristics of local Iraqi Awassi ram.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semen parameters</th>
<th>Means ± SE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Volume (ml)</td>
<td>1.80±0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mass motility (%)</td>
<td>85.0± 3.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual motility (%)</td>
<td>89.20± 4.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Live sperm(%)</td>
<td>93.10±3.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sperm concentration × 10⁹</td>
<td>3.90 ±1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abnormal sperm (%)</td>
<td>12.00±0.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All semen biometry data were summarized in table 2. Sperm head length was 9.62±1.2micron, sperm width means 5.32 ±2.5 micron, lengths of acrosome were 6.10 ± 2.4micron. width of sperm base was 2.54± 1.8 micron, Length of midpice was 11.92±3.6 micron, midpice width was 2.21±0.8 micron. Sperm tail length was 50.62±2.1 micron.

Table 2: Sperm biometry of local Iraqi Awassi ram.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sperms biometry (micron)</th>
<th>Means ± SE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Head length</td>
<td>9.62±1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head width</td>
<td>5.32 ±2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acrosome length</td>
<td>6.10 ± 2.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head base width</td>
<td>2.54± 1.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midpice length</td>
<td>11.92±3.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midpice width</td>
<td>2.21±0.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tail length</td>
<td>50.62±2.1</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Discussion

The semen parameters of Awassi rams which records in the present study were within the physiological values for fertile local Iraqi Awassi rams and similar to data estimated by another researches (10-13).Sperms biometry were recorded in this study showed in table 2, this is the first record of sperms biometry of Iraqi Awassi rams by using phase contrast microscope and occulo-micrometer lens. Sperms biometry of Iraqi Awassi rams recorded in this study were within the normal physiological values for fertile rams which agreement with recorded of (14, 15) in Awassi rams, the agreement may be due to sperms biometry is property relating to the species and gene express which defer from species to species(17, 20). Sperm biometry estimated recently by using a different techniques including computer-assisted (aid) sperm analyzer (CASA), sperm class analyzer (SCA) and light microscope (6,8,9,18,19,20), but all these technique were shared in same disadvantages,
expensive and using satins during preparation, these stains may be effect sperm biometry (especially head biometry) when this stains enter head sperm or another parts. Techniques were used in this study is easy, fast and don’t use any stains (may be effected sperm morphology) which can be used for complete sperm evaluation and breeding soundness test of male rams, its important fixation sperm biometry of Iraqi Awassi rams index which can be used for sperm integrity and fertility.

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قياسات أطوال النطف في الكباثس العوامية المحلية العراقية

أجريت الدراسة الحالية لمعرفة قياسات أطوال النطف في الكباثس العوامية المحلية العراقية. خمسة أكباث عوامية عراقية محلية تراوحت أعمارها 2-4 سنة وزوازنها 37-44 كغم استعملت في هذه الدراسة. جمع السائل المنوي من الحيوانات بأستخدام الميلل الاصطناعي. قمت بالعينات مباشرة بعد عملية الجمع إذ تم تقييم حجم ولون العينة إضافة إلى تقييم الحركة الجماعية والحركة الفردية للنطف، نسبة النطف الحية والمشوهات إضافة إلى حساب تركيز النطف لمجموع النتائج البالغ 30 فئنة. قياسات أطوال النطف تم إجرائها باستخدام مجهز الحقل المعتم والجهازة العينية المدرجة. أظهرت نتائج قياسات أطوال النطف أن معدل طول رأس النطف كان 9.62 ± 1.2 مايكلرون، عرض رأس النطف 5.32 ± 2.5 مايكلرون، طول الأكروسوم 6.10 ± 2.4 مايكلرون، عرض قائمة رأس النطف 2.54 ± 1.8 مايكلرون، طول القائمة الوسطية 11.92 ± 3.6 مايكلرون، عرض القائمة الوسطية 2.21 ± 0.8 مايكلرون، طول الذيل 50.62 ± 2.1 مايكلرون.

كلمات مفتاحية: صفات السائل المنوي، قياسات وأطوال النطف، الكباثس العوامية المحلية العراقية