Table of Contents		
Contents	Page No.	
List of tables	II	
List of figures	II	
Abstract	III	
Chapter I: Introduction	1	
Chapter II: Materials and methods	2	
2.1. Study area and agro-climate	2	
2.2. Study design	2	
2.3. Household selection	2	
2.4. Farmer's interview	3	
2.5. Data collection	3	
2.6. Statistical analysis	3-4	
Chapter III: Results	5	
3.1. Herd structure, housing and feeding	5	
3.2. Performance parameter	5	
3.3. Reproductive parameter	5	
3.4. Disease prevalence	5	
3.5. Kid mortality	5	
3.6. Determinant of mature weight	5-6	
Chapter IV: Discussion	12	
4.1. Herd structure	12	
4.2. Housing system	12	
4.3. Feeding system	12-13	
4.4. Productive performance	13-14	
4.5. Reproductive performance	14	
4.5.1. Age at the first service	14	
4.5.2. Service per conception	14-15	
4.5.3. Kidding interval	15	
4.5.4. Postpartum estrus interval	15	
4.5.5. Litter size	16	
4.5.6. Birth weight of kids	16	
4.5.7 Weaning weight of kids	16-17	
4.6. Disease prevalence	17	
4.7. Kid mortality	18	
Chapter V: Conclusion		
Chapter VI: Reference	20-22	
Appendix-I		
Acknowledgement		
Biography	27	

List of Tables			
Table No	Title	Page No	
Table 1	Overall least squared means of the performance parameter of Black Bengal goat reared under semi-intensive system (N=404)	6	
Table 2	Genetic, nutritional and environmental determinants of the mature body weight of Black Bengal goat reared under semi-intensive system (N=404)	7	

List of Figures			
Figure No	Title	Page No	
Figure 1	Association between birth weight of male kid and mature body weight of Black Bengal goat (N=404)	8	
Figure 2	Association between weaning weight of male kid and mature body weight of Black Bengal goat (N=404)	8	
Figure 3	Association between roughage supply and mature body weight of Black Bengal goat (N=404)	9	
Figure 4	Association between concentrate supply and mature body weight of Black Bengal goat (N=404)	9	
Figure 5	Existing feeding practices of the Black Bengal goat (N=404)	10	
Figure 6	Disease prevalence of the Black Bengal goat (N=404)	10	
Figure 7	Orthogonal contrasts of the determinants of mature body weight of Black Bengal goat (N=404)	11	

Abstract

The study aimed to investigate Determinants of the mature body weight of Black Bengal goat (BBG) under semi-intensive systems of rearing. A cross-sectional survey was conducted in the BBG households using a structured questionnaire for a period of three months from 1st February to 30 April, 2021. Results indicated that the average herd size of BBG reared under semiintensive system was 8.08. Goat houses were mostly open type, tin-shed, bamboo and wood supported earthen floor with facilities for night shelter and feed supply and in very few cases brick-cemented with concrete floor. Feeding system was open grazing with variable amount of homemade concentrate mixture. The mature body weight, body condition score and daily milk yield of the Black Bengal doe under semi-intensive farming system were 22.9 kg, 3.4 and 0.5 kg respectively. The age at the first service of the BBG was 22.14 d, age at first kidding 396.32 d, kidding interval 199.66 d and postpartum estrus interval 39.06 d. The service per conception and litter size were 1.33 and 2.84, respectively. The average birth weight and weaning weight of the kids were 1.09 kg and 4.4 kg for the male 1.04 kg and 4.36 kg for the female, respectively. The most prevalent disease was parasitic infestation followed by nutritional deficiency, PPR, keratoconjunctivitis, acidosis and fibrous osteodystrophy. The average mortality of the BBG kids was 0.78% in the study area. The main determinants (P<0.05) of the mature body weight of BBG were birth weight of male goat, type of concentrate feed provided, height of goat house, width of goat house, deworming practices, owner's exposure to training, additional feeding of pregnant dam, horn pattern, rearing system, weaning weight of male kid, kidding interval, age at first kidding and amount of roughage supply.

Keywords: Black Bengal goat, mature body weight, semi-intensive system