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GENETIC STUDIES ON AWASSI SHEEP IN PAKISTAN. 3. PHENOTYPIC, GENETIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL CORRELATIONS AMONG 60 DAYS WEIGHT AND SOME OTHER PRODUCTIVE TRAITS

Muhammad Akhtar Qureshi
University College of Agriculture, Rawalakot, Azad Kashmir

Manzur-ud-Din Ahmad, Zaheer Ahmad & Muhammad Aftab Khan
Department of Animal Breeding & Genetics,
University of Agriculture, Faisalabad.

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ABSTRACT

Data on 399 halfsibs from 17 sires of Awassi sheep maintained at Livestock Production Research Institute Bahadurnagar (Okara) were used to estimate the genetic parameters by paternal halfsib method of analysis. The phenotypic, genetic and environmental correlations among 60 days body weight were: 0.490, 0.379, 0.552 for 120 days weaning weight; 0.291, -0.139, 0.652 for body weight at first breeding season; 0.977, 1.00, 0.969 for preweaning growth rate; 0.083, -0.293, 0.053 for greasy fleece weight at first shearing, respectively.

INTRODUCTION

For the establishment of an effective breeding program, information about the genetic parameters and economic importance of the productive and reproductive traits to be improved is needed. Genetic parameter includes heritability, repeatability, phenotypic and genetic correlations. Estimates of phenotypic and genetic correlations for economic characters are necessary for predicting likely gains from selection, both in the present flock and in the

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