

MINERAL PROFILE OF GOAT HAIRS AS INFLUENCED BY ORAL SUPPLEMENTATION OF VITAMIN 'A'

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ABSTRACT : To find out the influence of oral administration of vitamin A on mineral profile of goat hairs, six Barbari goats selected randomly from the herd, on the basis of various phenotypic traits (Age 845.3±5.4 d; LW 17.3±0.6 kg; BL 573.7±6.4 mm; BH 551.2±6.6 mm; HG 572.8±6.4 mm) and offered identical feed to meet out their daily nutritional requirements. The animals were given oral administration of vitamin A at the rate of 5000 IU per kg live weight, in the morning daily. Hairs were sampled from the neck, shoulder, mid flank, ventral abdomen, croup and lateral thigh region on the days 00, 30, 60 and 90 of the experimental trial. The collected samples were subjected to estimation of major (calcium, phosphorus and magnesium) and trace (sodium, cobalt, copper, iron and nickel) elements using standard techniques. The observed data were analyzed statistically using standard techniques to draw valid conclusion. Major findings included that iron, phosphorus and magnesium content was increased, whereas calcium, sodium, cobalt, copper and nickel in goat hairs remained unchanged when vitamin A was supplemented to the goats orally at the rate of 5000 IU per kg live weight.

Key Words: Goats, Hairs, Iron, Minerals, Vitamin A.