

H44 POSTER

CALVES WEANING WEIGHT AND PRODUCTION EFFICIENCY OF BEEF COWS OF DIFFERENT GENOTYPES¹

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The weaning weight is an important parameter to determine the efficiency of a cow-calf operation. Moreover, the efficiency of individual cows at weaning (ratio between the weight of the calf and the cow) should be evaluated, because it reflects the suitability of a certain beef cattle breed and body size to a particular environment or production system. The objective of this study was to evaluate the calves weaning weight adjusted to 205 days of age and production efficiency of beef cows of different genotypes. We studied the performance of calves born from ten Angus cows (ANAN), 17 Angus x Caracu (ANCR), 18 Angus x Hereford (ANHH) and 21 Angus x Nelore. Calves born from ANNE and ANCR cows were significantly ($p < 0.01$) heavier at weaning (194.0 kg and 184.0 kg, respectively) than other evaluated genotypes, but did not differ from each other. The ANHH cows had higher weight at weaning (464.5 kg), not differing only from ANNE (450.5 kg). The ANCR cows (433.0 kg) did not differ ANNE cows and ANAN cows group had lower weight (380.5 kg). The ANHH cows had lower productive efficiency than the other genotypes, weaning 35% of their weight in kg of calf, compared to 43.5% for ANNE cows, 42.5% for ANCR and 42.2 for ANAN, which did not differ among themselves. The weaning weight is positively correlated with productive efficiency of individual cows (0.65) and cow weight is positively correlated with weaning weight at 205 days (0.34). Weaning weight of calves and production efficiency of beef cows is influenced by genotype.