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# Goats Fattening Under an Agrosilvopastoril Production System in Oaxaca

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**Abstract:** The agroforestry systems consider the integrated management of all production within the production unit processes and conservation practices related to the use of natural resources. From this point of view, it should be approached as a system composed by subsystems and the interactions that occur among them, in order to provide a sustainable, social, economic and ecological alternative to the traditional extensive ranching. The project objective was to evaluate the fattening of goats under an agrosilvopastoril production system established in the 2013 summer-autumn cycle, at the Technological Institute of Oaxaca Valley (ITVO). Completely randomized design with factorial arrangement evaluating three factors (age, sex and supplement) and two levels were used. 16 goats feeding with nutritional ITVO block, native grasses and guaje (*Leucaena esculenta*) were used. The variance analysis was made by the statistical package SAS (Statistical Analysis System) version 9.4. For the comparison of measures with Tukey test ( $\alpha = 0.05$ ) and a proximal analysis by Van Soest to obtain the quality of the forages. Weight gain related to sex was differential, males and females presented a value of  $63.5 \pm 18.2$  and  $54.25 \pm 17.3$  g day/animal not significant ( $p > 0.05$ ), respectively. Creole goats grazing and supplemented with a nutritional block had a weight gain of  $70.5 \pm 20.3$  g day/animal without supplement  $47.29 \pm 18.9$  g day/animal not significant ( $p > 0.05$ ). The greater weight gained in nutritional supplement found with block showed that the use of the same influences fattening goats.

**Keywords:** Goats, Weight Gain, Nutritional Block, Extensive Livestock Farming, Nutritional Supplement

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## 1. Introduction

The traditional agriculture in Mexico has the main function of assisting the subsistence of the rural families, mainly in those communities that integrate cultivations, cattle raising and forest use. During a lot of time, the goat has provided to the human of products that have allowed them improving well-being and economy; mainly for the social classes vulnerable of the rural environment [1]. In many underdeveloped countries, the goats continue being the main

animals that cover the human necessities [2]. To reach an appropriate and sustained productivity in the communities, it is necessary to know the use that carries out the goat of the vegetable species. The capacity of the goat in the use of the bush is well known [3-5] and their efficiency to survive in certain areas that their topography, vegetation and other adverse conditions, make them inadequate for the handling of bovines and ovines [6-7].

The grasses and some trees possess a great potential as food source for small and big ruminants due to their protein

level, appropriate proportion of fibrous components and content of minerals [8]. The agrosilvopastoral systems, as area of scientific knowledge, are a combination of traditional and modern technologies that have been systematized with the purpose of offering a viable and sustainable alternative for the traditional cattle raising; however, it continues demeaning the soil and the resources due to the incompatibility between the used technologies and the productive atmosphere and for the advance of the agricultural frontier in frequently not very appropriate areas [9].

In a general way, the production systems face different challenges, highlighting the changes in the technological, social, economic, environmental and political or institutional factors and their characterization would allow approaching the existent problem [10-12]. The 90% of the systems of goats production in Mexico and in the county they are pastoral of sedentary type that exhibit poor and faulty handling programs (facilities, nutrition, reproduction and genetic improvement, health and market) when being marketed the product [13-14]. There are diverse options to reduce the environmental deterioration taken place by the expansionary peak of the extensive cattle raising in the Mexican tropic [15]; stand out for their importance the implementation of agrosilvopastoral practices that can improve the animal behavior (gain of weight, production of milk) without generating dependence of external inputs. In Puebla, Mexico, obtained an individual individual gain of weight from the birth until the year of age of 55 g for creole kids, 60 g for the blend and 63 g for the Nubia race, in an agrosilvopastoral system [16]. In another study used 31 creole goats 3.5 years old with an average of  $28.87 \pm 2$  kg of live weight during 87 days [17].

The animals with graze and pruning only generated 25.40 g day/animal, while those fed in graze and with molasses-hay-urea obtained 91.61 g day/animal, thanks to the contribution of raw protein. The objective of this study was to evaluate the fattening of goats under an agrosilvopastoral production system fed with guaje (*Leucaena esculenta*), grasses, especially guinea (*Panicum maximum*), buffel grass (*Cenchrus ciliaris*) and pink grass (*Rhynchelytrum repens*) and a nutritious supplement by means of a nutritional block.

## 2. Materials and Methods

### 2.1. Agrosilvopastoral System

The present experiment was carried out in the lands of the ITVO, where is established an agrosilvopastoral system made up of several species. The institution is located in the Ex-Farm of Nazareno, municipality of Santa Cruz Xoxocotlán, Oaxaca. The agrosilvopastoral system used for the feeding of the goats was established in 2006. It is structured by guaje plants (*Leucaena esculenta* L.) settled down in a cultivation system in alleyways, where the trees were planted in lines to curved of level in fringes with a separation of 5-6 m, to staggered and 0.5 m among plants. The guaje is a native leguminous plant of the region, it is abundant and used as

protein source. Among the lines of the trees, diverse species exist, especially gramineous used in the shepherding of the goats. Stand out for their importance the Guinea grass (*Panicum maximum*), Buffel grass (*Cenchrus ciliaris*) and Pink grass (*Rhynchelytrum repens*); some herbaceous plants as the purslane (*Portulaca oleracea* L.) and quintonil (*Amaranthus hybridus* L.), like some bushes as huizache (*Acacia farnesiana* L.) and guamuchil (*Pithecellobium dulce*). For the nutritious complement the block nutritional of 10 kg was used conformed by 3.6 kg of molasses, 0.5 kg of urea, 0.3 kg of salt mineral, 0.5 kg of contained ruminal, 0.5 kg of lime, 1.6 kg of soya and 3.0 kg of corn, offered to the goats in the selected treatments every day in one period not bigger at two hours to avoid some intoxication by urea.

### 2.2. Experimental Design and Analysis of Data

The evaluated animals were 16 goats, eight males (four of three months with a weight of  $10.25 \pm 1.9$  kg; four of seven months with  $17.2 \pm 2$  kg) and eight females (four of three months of age and  $13.17 \pm 1.7$  kg of weight and the other half of seven months and  $15.22 \pm 2.4$  kg of weight). The productive variables registered in each animal were gain of weight, daily consumption, conversion and nutritious efficiency. In the forages the percent of raw protein was determined (PCP), percent of raw fiber (PCF), percent of ash (CP), percent of fatty (GP), percent of fiber neuter detergent (FND) and the percent of sour fiber detergent (AFD).

An experimental design was used totally randomized with factorial arrangement evaluating three factors (age, supplement and sex) and two repetitions. The variance analysis was made by means of the statistical package SAS (Statistical Analysis System) version 9.4. The comparison of medias by means of the test Tukey ( $\alpha = 0.05$ ). There was carried out a proximal analysis and Van Soest to obtain the quality of the established forages used in the feeding of the goats. There were taken the measures of each one of the parcels installed with the purpose of determining the capacity of animal load and the capacity of available forage during the time summer - autumn.

## 3. Results

### 3.1. Edaphics Characteristics

The land where the agrosilvopastoral system is located has a slope average of 30%, thin soils, not bigger to the 30 cm in its lower part, with contents of 84.56% of sand, 9.44 % of clay and 6% of slime, classified as a frank sandy soil, that makes it of low capacity of retention of humidity. The pH was of the 6.34, considered as good; the electric conductivity of  $0.47 \text{ dS m}^{-1}$ , the content of organic matter was of 1.41%, classified as low.

### 3.2. Weight

It was identified that in the sex variable in relation to the initial weight, to the 60 days after the treatment and to the

final weight no statistical difference exists ( $p>0.05$ ). In the same way, in the variable supplement in relation to the initial weight, no statistical difference was found ( $p>0.05$ ). However, to the 60 days of fattening there was observed statistical difference ( $p<0.05$ ). In the final weight statistical difference is also observed ( $p<0.01$ ). In the age variable it was found that highly significant difference existed ( $p<0.01$ ) in relation to the initial weight, to the weight to the 60 days of fattening and to the final weight with a  $p<0.05$ . In the interaction Sex $\times$ Supplement, Supplement $\times$ Age and of Sex $\times$ Supplement $\times$ Age they were not significant differences

( $p>0.05$ ) during all fattens while in the interaction of Sex $\times$ Age there was observed statistical difference ( $p<0.05$ ) in all fattens (Table 1). In the sex variable there was no statistical difference ( $p>0.05$ ) in relation to the rest of the variables of evaluated production. It is observed that the females have an individual initial weight of  $14.50\pm 2.26$  kg and  $13.62\pm 4.16$  kg for the males. The individual final weight to the four months of fattening on weight of the females was of  $20.7\pm 3$  kg and of  $21.4\pm 3.8$  kg in the males. As for the weight to the 15 days of fattening, the standard deviation is more variable in the males than in the females (Table 2).

**Table 1.** Variance analysis of animal weight during fattening.

Variation source	Initial weight		Middle weight (60 days)		Final weight (120 days)	
	g.l	CM		CM		CM
Sex	1	0.90 <sup>ns</sup>		0.72 <sup>ns</sup>		1.62 <sup>ns</sup>
Supplement	1	7.56 <sup>ns</sup>		31.36*		69.30**
Age	1	81.00**		46.92**		38.13*
Sex $\times$ Supplement	1	12.60 <sup>ns</sup>		12.96 <sup>ns</sup>		6.89 <sup>ns</sup>
Sex $\times$ Age	1	24.01*		19.80*		30.52*
Supplement $\times$ Age	1	6.76 <sup>ns</sup>		8.41 <sup>ns</sup>		22.80 <sup>ns</sup>
Sex $\times$ Supplement $\times$ Age	1	1.44 <sup>ns</sup>		0.04 <sup>ns</sup>		3.90 <sup>ns</sup>
Error	8	2.98		3.74		4.83
Total	15					

<sup>ns</sup> = no significant, \* = significant at 0.05, \*\* = significant at 0.01.

As for the age, there was statistical difference ( $p<0.05$ ). The initial weight of the goats of three months was of  $11.71\pm 2.32$  kg and in those of seven months of  $16.21\pm 2.36$  kg, obtaining an individual final weight to the four months in the goats of three months of fattening of  $19.48\pm 1.6$  kg and of  $22.57\pm 4.6$  kg the goats of seven months. As for the standard deviation of the age variable, in relation to the initial weight,

until the 60 days of fattening there do not exist variability, while starting from the 75 days until the end of fattening, the standard deviation increases in the goats of seven months and the points move away from the average because some goats took in an efficient way the offered food and they achieved a better weight.

**Table 2.** Tests of medias of variables in relation to sex, age and food supplement to the 120 days of fattening.

Variation source	Sex		Age		Supplements	
	Females	Males	Three months	Seven months	With	Without
Initial weight	14.50 $\pm$ 2.26 a	13.62 $\pm$ 4.16 a	11.71 $\pm$ 2.32 a	16.21 $\pm$ 2.36 b	14.65 $\pm$ 4.02 a	13.27 $\pm$ 2.31 a
15 days after treatment	14.50 $\pm$ 2.23 a	14.13 $\pm$ 4.03 a	12.21 $\pm$ 2.20 a	16.42 $\pm$ 2.51 b	15.11 $\pm$ 3.85 a	13.52 $\pm$ 2.24 a
30 days after treatment	14.91 $\pm$ 2.29 a	14.50 $\pm$ 3.92 a	12.71 $\pm$ 2.32 a	16.70 $\pm$ 2.50 b	15.60 $\pm$ 3.75 a	13.81 $\pm$ 2.20 a
45 days after treatment	16.10 $\pm$ 2.68 a	15.55 $\pm$ 3.83 a	13.88 $\pm$ 2.46 a	17.76 $\pm$ 2.72 b	16.93 $\pm$ 3.65 a	14.71 $\pm$ 2.42 a
60 days after treatment	17.12 $\pm$ 2.91 a	16.70 $\pm$ 3.58 a	15.20 $\pm$ 2.15 a	18.62 $\pm$ 3.17 b	18.31 $\pm$ 3.48 a	15.51 $\pm$ 2.20 b
75days after treatment	17.91 $\pm$ 3.31 a	17.55 $\pm$ 3.73 a	15.90 $\pm$ 1.92 a	19.56 $\pm$ 3.69 b	19.31 $\pm$ 3.70 a	16.15 $\pm$ 2.35 b
90 days after treatment	18.98 $\pm$ 3.75 a	18.75 $\pm$ 4.02 a	17.20 $\pm$ 2.19 a	20.53 $\pm$ 4.36 b	20.90 $\pm$ 3.56 a	16.83 $\pm$ 2.85 b
105 days after treatment	20.02 $\pm$ 3.68 a	19.48 $\pm$ 4.22 a	17.97 $\pm$ 1.69 a	21.53 $\pm$ 4.63 b	21.96 $\pm$ 3.73 a	17.55 $\pm$ 2.56 b
Final individual weight per period	20.71 $\pm$ 3.58 a	21.35 $\pm$ 4.14 a	19.48 $\pm$ 1.65 a	22.57 $\pm$ 4.69 b	23.11 $\pm$ 3.59 a	18.95 $\pm$ 2.72 b
Individual weight gain per period	6.51 $\pm$ 2.16 a	7.63 $\pm$ 2.07 a	7.77 $\pm$ 1.62 a	6.36 $\pm$ 2.16 b	8.46 $\pm$ 1.41 a	5.67 $\pm$ 1.81 b
Food consumption	51.38 $\pm$ 1.74 a	51.38 $\pm$ 1.74 a	51.00 $\pm$ 1.92 a	51.75 $\pm$ 1.44 b	51.60 $\pm$ 1.44 a	51.15 $\pm$ 2.08 b
Food conversion	9.27 $\pm$ 4.84 a	7.17 $\pm$ 2.00 a	6.76 $\pm$ 1.15 a	9.70 $\pm$ 4.87 b	6.24 $\pm$ 1.04 a	10.22 $\pm$ 4.45 b
Food efficiency	0.12 $\pm$ 0.04 a	0.14 $\pm$ 0.03 a	0.15 $\pm$ 0.02 a	0.12 $\pm$ 0.05 b	0.16 $\pm$ 0.02 a	0.11 $\pm$ 0.03 b

Identical letters in a line do not show significant differences among medias (Tukey, 0.05). Media  $\pm$  standar deviation.

As for the supplement, in relation to the initial weight to the 45 days of fattens there was not statistical difference ( $p>0.05$ ), but starting from the 60 days until the final weight to the 120 days of fattens there existed statistical difference ( $p<0.05$ ) among the goats with supplement and without supplement.

### 3.3. Gain of Weight

The implementation of fattening of goats in the

agrosilvopastoral system of the ITVO by means of a feeding based on the shepherding of the gramineous and leguminous association generated a gain of weight of  $57.7\pm 7.1$  g day/animal in the creole goats of three months. For the goats of seven months a gain of  $36.87\pm 13.8$  g was obtained day/animal during one period of fattening of 120 days. The gain of weight for the goats in relation with their ages, are of  $53.02\pm 20.3$  g day/animal for goats of seven months and  $64.79\pm 13.5$  g day/animal for goats of three months. These

data are considered as good, taking into consideration the conditions from the animals to the beginning of the experiment. While the gain of individual daily weight of the male riches a value of  $63.5 \pm 18.2$  g day/animal, in the females is of  $54.25 \pm 17.3$  g day/animal (Table 2). The conversion and nutritious efficiency of the goats of three months were those that presented the best values ( $6.76 \pm 1.15$ ), while in the nutritious efficiency the best value obtained was in the goats of seven months (Table 2). The gain of weight of the goats with supplement was of  $70.5 \pm 20.3$  g day/animal and without supplement of  $47.29 \pm 18.9$  g day/animal (Table 2). The use of the nutritional block helps to the goats to have a better gain of weight (GPD) 70.5 g day/animal that generates during the 120 days of fattening  $8.46 \pm 1.41$  kg/animal.

### 3.4. Proximal Analysis

With the values obtained by means of the proximal analysis and Van Soest it was determined that the forage with more raw fiber is the guinea grass in hay with 32.15% and in reflourishing 26.49%; guaje in hay 14.29% and sprouts 8.66%; pink pasture in hay 28.78% and in sprouts 29.96%; Buffel pasture in hay 31.39% and in sprouts 29.62%; nutrimental block 2.30%. The forage with more content of fat is the Buffel grass in hay with 23.38% and in sprouts 1.77%; guaje in hay 12% and in rebrote 12.77%; rosy pasture in hay 4.46% and in sprouts 4.12%; guinea pasture in hay 11.72% and in sprouts 15.12%; nutrimental block 19.46%. Regarding the value of the raw protein, the nutrimental block obtained the highest value with 22.97%; the guaje in hay 16.60% and in sprouts 22.13%; rosy pasture in hay 6.77% and in sprouts 9.37; guinea pasture in hay 5.30% and in sprouts 9.82%; Buffel pasture in hay 4.85% and in sprouts 7.73%. As for ash, the nutrimental block got the highest value with 17.32%; the guaje in hay 5.41% and in sprouts 5.65%; pink pasture in hay 6.53% and in sprouts 8.01%; Guinea pasture in hay 9.58% and in sprouts 9.44%; Buffel pasture in hay 9.65% and in sprouts 12.23% (Figure 1).

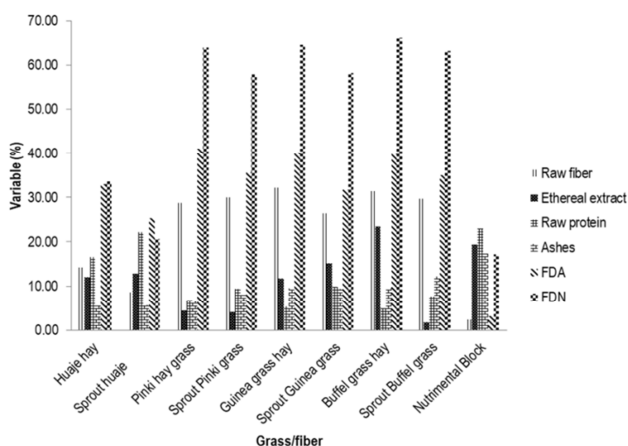


Figure 1. Proximal analysis and van Soest and wine of forages and nutrimental blocks.

In a same way, the Pink grass in hay obtained the highest value in sour fiber of detergent (FDA) of 41.11% and in

sprouts 35.65%; the guaje in hay 32.99% and in sprouts 25.26%; guinea pasture in hay 40.14% and in sprouts 31.70%; Buffel pasture in hay 39.92% and in sprouts 35.04%, the nutrimental block of 3.16%. Regarding the FDN, the Buffel grass in hay obtained a value of 66.22%, and in sprouts 63.25%; the guaje in hay 33.57% and in sprouts 20.70%; rosy pasture in hay 64.13% and in sprouts 58%; guinea pasture in hay 64.75% and in sprouts 58.31 and the nutrimental block of 17.15%.

The guaje introduction in the prairies of the ITVO is shown as an effective alternative for the feeding of the goats. In accordance with the proximal analysis carried out, the fiber percentage found was of 14.29% in hay and 8.66% in sprouts; 22.13% protein in sprouts and of 16.60% in hay. This quantity of protein contributes to the gain of weight in the goats of 47.25 g day/animal. The nutritional value obtained by means of the methods of proximal analysis, Van Soest and Wine of the gramineous used in the experiment for the grass guinea showed a content of raw fiber of 32.15% in hay; 26.49% in sprouts; raw protein 5.30% in hay, 9.82% in sprouts; ethereal extract of 11.72% in hay, 15.12% in sprouts; ash of 9.58% in hay, 9.44% in sprouts; FDA of 40.14% in hay, 31.70% in sprouts, FDN of 64.75% in hay and 58.31% in sprouts.

The values obtained in the Buffel grass were for raw fiber of 31.39% in hay, 29.62% in sprouts, ethereal extract 23.38% in hay, 1.77% in sprouts, raw protein of 4.85% in hay, 7.73% in sprouts, ash of 9.65% in hay, 12.23% in sprouts, FDA of 39.92% in hay and FDN of 35.04% in sprouts. In general, the content of the chemical composition obtained in this study was low compared with the samples of Buffel grass with values of 11.4% for raw protein, 2.2% of ethereal extract, 12.5% of ash, 60.8% in FDN and 33.2% in FDA [18]. Another report in samples of Buffel grass values of 9.5% of raw protein, 13.17% in ash and 79.45 in FDN [19]. Lastly, the values obtained in the Pink grass in the agrosilvopastoral system designed were: raw protein of 9.37% in sprouts, 6.77% in hay; raw fiber of 29.96% in sprouts, 28.78% in hay; ethereal extract of 4.12% in sprouts and 4.46% in hay; ash of 8.01% in sprouts and 6.53% in hay; FDN of 58% in sprouts and 64.1 in hay and FDA of 35.65% in sprouts and 41.11% in hay.

## 4. Discussion

### 4.1. Edaphic Characteristics

The pH of the soil is directly related with the% of acidity saturation, a soil with pH lower than 5 is considered very sour, and the good pH for most of the cultivations should be between 6 and 7. The organic matter is the residual of plants and animals included to the soil, and it is expressed in percentage. The content of organic matter is an index that allows to estimate in approximate form the reservations of N, P and S in the soil, and its behavior in the dynamics of nutritious [20]. The organic matter improves many chemical, physical and microbiologic properties that favor the growth

of the plants. The soils with less than 2% of organic matter have low content, and from 2 to 5% is a half content, being desirable that the value is higher than 5%.

#### 4.2. Weight

Some average values of weight obtained to the birth and the 100 days of age of kid Boers half blood are 4.1 and 31.1 kg for males, and 4.0 and 28.7 kg for females for an A flock [21]. While for a B flock, the males weighed 4.3 and 26.4 kg and the females 3.6 and 21 kg, for both periods, respectively. That this behavior owes to the hormonal differences between both sexes and that it is attributed to the biggest efficiency in the digestibility of nutrients on the part of the males [22]. In this respect, the males synthesize less fatty fabric starting from the digested nutrients that the females, giving a bigger effectiveness as a result in the food transformation in corporal weight [23]. In an investigation work they used 31 creole goats, of 3.5 years old, with an average of  $28.87 \pm 2$  kg of live weight, during 87 days, the animals with pasture and pruning only generated 25.40 g day/animal, while those fed with molasses-hay-urea 91.61 g day/animal [17].

#### 4.3. Gain of Weight

The gain of weight is an important variable that determines if a feeding program is or not working. In addition, it is used to estimate the time that will require an animal to reach the market weight. It is also good to see if the animal is winning the correct weight for the production stage that is feeding. Each productive stage of the animals has a gain of weight that depends on the genetic capacity of that animal and of the consumption and quality of a food [24]. In an experiment with 36 lambs (18 males and 18 females) during 90 days, with the purpose of evaluating different proteical sources during the period of growth, with a live weight of  $13 \pm 0.5$  kg approximately, the results showed [25], that the interaction Diet $\times$ Sex influenced in the food consumption ( $P < 0,01$ ) and the gain of weight ( $P < 0,05$ ), being the biggest consumption and gain of weight for the subjected lambs to the concentrated commercial (300 g). Similar results in an agrosilvopastoral system designed in Puebla, where the daily gain of weight from the birth until the year of age was of 55 g for creole boers; 60 g for cross and 63 g for the Nubia goats [16]. The kid Boer has a regular and progressive growth and that the average daily gain of weight is located between 100-180 g day/animal, diminishing gradually until the seven months [26]. Starting from there is done to a reason from 60 to 80 g day/animal. The results shown here are in the inferior range for animals of the same age. This value is much smaller compared to the a gain of weight of 17.04 kg during 90 days in goats fed with supplement with nutritional blocks and a mixture of Star grass (*Cynodon niemfluencis*) and Buffel grass (*Chenchrus ciliaris*) [27]. The use of blocks (BN) in ovines of three months and a weight average of 17 kg using three different treatments, a GDP of 90 g is obtained day/animal; under pasture+BN+guaje 102 g was generated day/animal [28]. When being supplemented with nutritional

blocks with flour of blood as protein source, the daily gaining of weight was 134 g day/animal, a value that is higher than those reported in this study [29]. In many countries have been used the BN in the feeding of ruminant, and has been shown that it is a technology in the easy nutrition and practice to help to solve the problems of feeding of ruminants, when the animals receive a base diet compound mainly of mature forages or fibrous residuals of cultivations [30]. The agrosilvopastoral system under a handling of appropriate animal load benefits the goats in its development. While the forage has a better yield and a quick sprout, it avoids the erosion of the soil. The appropriate use of an animal load in the scorch allows the recovery of the vegetation (covering, production, quality and diversity of species), it favors the crop of rain water and it contributes to reduce erosion [31]; also, the production of the livestock improves when having a bigger quantity of forage of good quality, what favors the development of a sustainable cattle raising. When an adapted animal load is used, the gain of individual weight of the livestock is bigger than when high loads are used, aspect that happened in the experiment with goats. In high loads the individual gain of the livestock is sacrificed by a bigger production by hectare; however, this production is not possible to sustain for a long period due to the damages to the vegetation and the soil.

#### 4.4. Proximal Analysis

In goats in growth obtained a gaining of weight of 22.5 g day/animal with *Leucaena esculenta*, which presents 25.4% of raw protein in sprout and 20.1% in maturation [32]. Some studies have demonstrated that the supplementation with leguminous improves the use of the basic diet and the productive answer in ruminant. The nutritional parameters of *Leucaena esculenta* are 24.74% in raw protein and 13.25% in raw fiber [33]. In a silvopastoral system the state of Nayarit by means of a bromatologic analysis report for *Leucaena esculenta* raw protein of 21.72%; ashes of 10.73%; ethereal extract of 6.78%; FDN of 45.13% and FDA of 16.98% [34]. In a system of intensive shepherding of guinea grass obtained values similar to those mentioned with 9.5% of raw protein, 9.4% of ash, 67.3% of FDN, and 40.2% of FDA [35]. The chemical composition of tropical grasses used in a system of production of livestock of double purpose in the northwest of Mexico, for guinea grass it was of 8.09% of raw protein, 11.5% of ash and 72.7% of FDN [36]. In another study, they found lower values from the guinea grass than those previously mentioned: raw protein 6.73%, ash 8.37%, FDN of 74.08% and FDA of 51.19% [37]. The value of raw protein obtained in the experiment is higher compared to the following data: 8.47% in sprout and 5% in growth of the pink grass [38].

## 5. Conclusions

The gramineous and leguminous components of the agrosilvopastoral system and the supplementation with nutritional blocks with 21% of protein improve the

consumption of dry matter and allow bigger earnings of weight in goats in shepherding. In relation to the sex, with the males a value of  $63.5 \pm 18.2$  g is obtained day/animal and with the females of  $54.25 \pm 17.3$  g day/animal. Regarding the productive behavior, the creole goats in shepherding and supplemented with a nutritional block achieve a gain of weight of  $70.5 \pm 20.3$  g day/animal and without supplement of  $47.29 \pm 18.9$  g day/animal.

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