

CONTENTS

1. Introduction.....	1
2. Review of Literature.....	6
2.1. The effect of breed-group, age and sex of lambs on the live body weight.....	6
2.1.1. Effect of breed-group of lamb.....	6
2.1.2. Effect of age of lambs.....	8
2.1.3. Sex effect on.....	9
2.1.3.1. Birth weight.....	9
2.1.3.2. Weaning weight.....	10
2.1.3.3. Post-weaning body weight.....	11
2.2. The effect of breed-group, age of lambs and feed consumption on daily gain.....	13
2.3. Feed consumption and feed conversion.....	15
2.3.1. Effect of breed-group.....	16
2.3.2. Effect of age of lambs.....	18
2.4. Effect of breed-group and age of lamb on body dimensions.....	19
2.4.1. Body length.....	20
2.4.2. Height at wither.....	21
2.4.3. Heart girth.....	22
2.4.4. Chest depth.....	23
2.4.5. Chest width.....	24
2.4.6. Width at Hind quarter.....	25
2.5. Carcass traits.....	25
2.5.1. Fasting weight (slaughter weight).....	25
2.5.2. Carcass weight.....	26
2.5.3. Dressing percentage.....	29
2.5.4. Carcass physical composition.....	35
2.5.5. Weight and percentage of body offals and internal organs	41
2.5.6. Chemical composition of mutton.....	46
2.6. Carcass dimensions	49
2.7. Growth and tissue development in carcasses of lambs.....	51
2.8. muscular growth and Development.....	56
2.9. Bone growth and development.....	60
2.10. Organs growth and development.....	62

2.11. Measurements of Bones.....	64
2.12. Histological structure of muscles.....	65
3. Material and methods.....	68
3.1. Management of experimental animals.....	68
3.2. Carcass studies.....	69
3.3. Traits studied.....	70
3.4. Statistical analysis.....	77
4. Results and discussion.....	79
4.1. The effect of age and sex of lambs on.....	79
4.1.1. Body weights, from birth to ten months, of crossbred lambs subjected to 3 periods of fattening.....	79
4.1.2. Daily body gain from birth to ten months.....	84
4.1.3. Feed consumption and feed conversion.....	87
4.1.4. Body dimension just before slaughtering.....	94
4.2. Carcass traits.....	98
4.2.1. Fasting weight (slaughter weight).....	98
4.2.2. Carcass dimensions and scores.....	100
4.2.3. Weight rate of hot carcass (gm/kg).....	104
4.2.4. Dressing percentage.....	105
4.2.5. Growth and tissue development in carcass of lambs.....	107
4.2.5.1. Muscular growth and development.....	107
4.2.5.1.1. Quadriceps femoris muscle.....	108
4.2.5.1.2. Longissimus dorsi muscle.....	113
4.2.5.1.3. Semitendinosus muscle.....	116
4.2.5.1.4. Psoas major and psoas minor muscles (Right and left).....	119
4.2.5.1.5. Triceps brachii muscle.....	123
4.2.5.1.6. Biceps brachii { long (A) and short (B) }.....	126
4.2.5.1.7. the effect of location of muscles and muscles within location, in male and female carcasses, on some muscles weight and dimensions.....	131
4.2.6. Growth rate and dimensions of body offals and internal organs of lambs in fattening experiment.....	134
4.2.6.1. The head.....	134
4.2.6.2. Growth rates of small and large intestine.....	135

4.2.6.3. Growth rates of body offals and internal organs of lambs.	138
4.2.6.4. Growth rates of lean, fat and bone of 9, 10, 11 th ribs, meat component ratios and <u>Longissimus dorssi</u> measurements.....	146
4.2.6.5. Growth rates of dimensions of forelimb bones and hindlimb bones of lamb.....	151
4.2.6.5.1. Dimensions of forelimb bones.....	151
4.2.6.5.2. Dimensions of Hindlimb bones.....	156
4.2.6.6. Growth rates of Neck Bones dimensions (Cervical vertebrae) of lambs.....	160
4.2.6.7. Growth rates of thoracic vertebraes dimensions of experimental lambs.....	169
4.2.6.7.1. Thoracic vertebrae (1).....	169
4.2.6.7.2. Thoracic vertebrae (7).....	171
4.2.6.7.3. Thoracic vertebrae (9).....	173
4.2.6.7.4. Thoracic vertebrae (10).....	175
4.2.6.7.5. Thoracic vertebrae (11).....	177
4.2.6.8. Growth rate of lumber vertebrae dimensions of lambs in fattening experiment.....	179
4.2.6.8.1. Length of lumber bone.....	179
4.2.6.8.2. Dimensions of the six vertebraes.....	179
4.2.6.9. Bone growth and development.....	186
4.2.6.9.1. Growth rates of dimensions of casted tibia bone.....	186
4.2.6.9.2. Growth rates of dimensions of casted fumers bone.....	190
4.2.6.9.3. Growth rtes of dimensions of location of ossification centers, thediaphysis, the epiphyseal centers and epiphyseal plate of castedtibia bone of lambs.....	193
4.2.7. Chemical analysis of lean on 9, 10, 11 th ribs.....	198
4.2.8. Histological changes in six muscles affected with age and sex factors.....	202
5. Conclusion.....	222

6. Summary.....	225
7. References.....	232
8. Arabic summary.....	