



Economic analysis of Pantanal locally adapted lambs finished under three production systems

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Introduction. The economic evaluation of the sheep industry is important to help decision making by the producer in order to choose the most accurate lambs termination system in the Midwest region of Brazil. This study compares the Pantanal locally adapted lambs termination systems as the economic results and the cost per produced unit of weight.

Material and Methods.

The trial was conducted at Embrapa's Midwest Regional Center of Goats and Sheep, Terenos – Mato Grosso do Sul. 25 and 16 male and female lambs were finished per system in 2013 and 2014 years, respectively. All lambs were weaned at 70 days and were completely dewormed. Treatments were: Piatã-grass and Paiaguás-grass pastures established in succession to sorghum and soybean crops (LCS-Livestock-Crop System), respectively in 2013 and 2014; Piata-grass as five months stockpiled pasture (STOCKED); feedlot (CONF) with sorghum silage as roughage. Lambs were fed a 2% of body weight energy-protein concentrate (15% CP and 70% TDN) in all treatments. Economic analysis was carried out considering total production costs (cost of inputs and animal purchase, effective operational cost of pasture maintenance, of crop production, and of feedlot, and depreciation on buildings for each system), prorated by lamb (TCL-Total Cost by Lamb), and total revenue in grains and meat sales, beyond the economic leveling point. The lamb per kg live weight price was considered R\$ 5.96 (1 USD = 3 R\$-Brazilian Reais). The soybean yield was 110.23 bushel ha⁻¹, priced R\$ 29.50 per bushel.

Results and Conclusions

Table 1. Economic analysis of “pantaneiro” lamb finishing systems in Mato Grosso do Sul, Brazil. Prices in Brazilian Reais (R\$).

INDICADORES	2013 (63 days)- 25 lambs			2014 (70 days)- 16 lambs		
	CONF	STOCKED	LCS	CONF	STOCKED	LCS
	-----R\$-----					
TCL (kg)	8,55	5,82	5,49	11,93	9,98	8,30
TCL (kg of carcass)	18,99	12,94	12,19	26,51	22,18	18,45
Total Sales Income	3.770,53	4.030,45	4.362,72	2.558,51	2.443,12	3.059,15
Total Costs	5.406,50	3.937,38	4.016,18	5.121,33	4.091,09	4.262,45
Profit	(-1.635,96)	93,07	364,54	(-2.562,82)	(-1.647,96)	(-1.203,30)
	-----Lambs-----					
Leveling point	34	24	23	32	27	22

Economic results were favorable to livestock-crop systems considering all evaluated variables (Table 1). Prices at sale, climate conditions, and genetic animal variation have to be taken into account for a profitable decision making by the sheep meat farmers.

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