



ISSN (E): 2277-7695  
ISSN (P): 2349-8242  
NAAS Rating: 5.23  
TPI 2022; SP-11(10): 1667-1672  
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[www.thepharmajournal.com](http://www.thepharmajournal.com)  
Received: 25-08-2022  
Accepted: 30-09-2022

#### Basavaraj

Veterinary officer, Department of Veterinary Gynaecology and Obstetrics, Veterinary College, Bidar, Karnataka, India

#### Tandle MK

Professor & Head, Department of Veterinary Gynaecology and Obstetrics, Veterinary College, Bidar, Karnataka, India

## Reproductive traits of Boer buck with pairwise comparison till the age of puberty and sexual maturity

Basavaraj and Tandle MK

#### Abstract

The present study was conducted to evaluate Seven Boer bucks from the age of 4 – 5 months and were kept under a semi-intensive system. The linear body measurement parameters *viz.* body weight, stature, wither height, body depth, chest width, heart girth / chest girth, body length, flank width, rump width, testicular length, body condition score and libido were increased gradually from 29<sup>th</sup> to 49<sup>th</sup> weeks of age and were statistically significant at 5% ( $p < 0.05$ ) level of significance. The scrotal circumference and scrotal diameter were also increased gradually from 29<sup>th</sup> to 49<sup>th</sup> weeks of age with statistically significant ( $p < 0.05$ ) difference and few parameters were not significant ( $p > 0.05$ ). As the age advanced the linear body measurements, testicular measurements and body condition score of Boer kids were increased gradually (from 29<sup>th</sup> to 49<sup>th</sup> weeks) with statistically significant difference.

**Keywords:** Linear body measurements, testicular measurements, pairwise comparison, sexual maturity

#### Introduction

Puberty is the details view of sexual development at which the animal becomes competent of reproduction (first spermatozoa in the ejaculate of the male), but animals are not yet fully sexually mature at this stage. Reproductive capacity is the time when the animal expresses its full Sexual maturity. In both the female and male goats, puberty may often be reached without adequate physical growth to support reproduction. In bucks, at puberty, complete separation of the prepuce and the penis occurs and motile spermatozoa are first detected in the ejaculate. In immature bucks, the penis has adhesions that prevent it from being fully extended. At puberty, these adhesions dissolve under the influence of testosterone and the penis can be fully extended. This may occur as early as 5 months. However, full reproductive competence may not occur until 15 months of age. Spermatogenesis has been found to begin as early as 84 days of age with spermatozoa present in the epididymis at 140 days of age (Pacheco *et al.* 2009) [27]. The information generated by phenotypic characterization studies is essential for planning the management of AnGR at local, national, regional, and global levels (FAO, 2012). The global plan of action for AnGR recognizes that a good understanding of breed characteristics is necessary to guide decision-making in livestock development and breeding programs (FAO, 2007). Phenotypic characterization is essential in mapping out an inventory of characteristics peculiar to a group of animals and sustainable use of its animal genetic resources. Lack of information on characterization of the genetic

During selection of goat, attention must be given to the age, growth rate, HG, BL, and WH. The prediction of BW and its relationships to other morphological measurements produces appreciable knowledge for breeding investigation with regard to meat production per animal (Janssens and Vandepitte, 2004; Yilmaz *et al.*, 2013 and Iqbal *et al.*, 2013) [18, 35, 15].

The onset of the breeding season may vary depending on climatic conditions and feed supply. Boer goats can reach puberty at 6 months and at 18 kg body weight. Bucks reach sexual maturity at about 40% of their ultimate mature size but they begin sexual behaviors at an earlier age. This means most bucks are fertile at about 16 to 20 kg body weight (Chemineau *et al.*, 1992) [11]. Age is also one of the major contributing factors to differences in scrotal circumference and semen characteristics (Toe *et al.*, 1994) [31], with testicular size being closely related to total sperm output (Oldham *et al.*, 1978; Ahmad and Noakes, 1995) [26, 5]. For Boer goats, information is almost non-existing with regard to the relationships between body conformation, testicular traits and reproductive performance under semi-temperate and temperate conditions (Adeyinka and Mohammed, 2006) [4].

Important puberty indicators in goats are age, weight at birth, weaning weight, growth rate, weight gain, scrotal circumference (SC) at puberty, weight and age at puberty, volume of

#### Corresponding Author:

#### Basavaraj

Veterinary officer, Department of Veterinary Gynaecology and Obstetrics, Veterinary College, Bidar, Karnataka, India

ejaculate and individual and mass motility, abnormal morphology spermatozoa and the concentration of spermatozoa and penis detachment (De La Vega *et al.*, 2001 and Bezerra *et al.*, 2009) [12, 10]. The display of mating behavior is an important criterion for male selection since early sexual behavior allows for the evaluation of reproductive capacity of an animal that will be used to intensify genetic selection and shorten the generation gap (Madani and Rahal, 1988) [22].

The sperm output has been shown to be positively associated with body weight in bucks (Mekasha 2007) [23] and delayed growth in body size and testicular mass obviously leads to reproductive wastage and economic loss. Increase of testicular size and body mass is influenced by several factors, including breed, age, nutrition and other environmental clues (Karagiannidis *et al.*, 2000) [19]. Large-sized breeds are heavier and have greater testicular measurements than small-sized breeds (Al-Ghalban *et al.*, 2004) [8]. Even though body and testicular sizes of animals increase with age, the particular age at which domestic animals reach puberty is usually postponed until they attain a required body size (Karagiannidis *et al.*, 2000 and Nsoso *et al.*, 2004) [19, 25].

## Materials and Methods

### Experimental Design and Animal Management

From Nimbkar Agriculture Research Institute (NARI), Phaltan, Maharashtra state Seven Boer kids were purchased at the age of 4 – 5 months and kept separately under routine management. Birth weight and weaning weight values were collected records from NARI. This study was conducted from 29<sup>th</sup> to 49<sup>th</sup> weeks of age at the Semen Collection Centre, Department of Veterinary Gynaecology and Obstetrics, Veterinary College, Bidar. Animals received regular inspection and dipping (ectoparasite), as well as drenching (deworming), anti-helminthic and vaccination against endemic diseases. Drinking water was provided *ad libitum*. The experiment commenced when the bucks were 29<sup>th</sup> week of age and terminated when they were 49<sup>th</sup> week of age.

### Data Collection and Traits Measurement

The various linear body measurements were measured using a tape from 29<sup>th</sup> to 49<sup>th</sup> weeks of age in Boer kids. Body weight was measured by digital weighing balance in kilograms. The Heart girth was measured (cm) by circumference of the body at a point immediately behind the fore limbs and perpendiculars to the body axis by using a flexible measuring tape. The Stature was measured (cm) from the top of the spine in between the hip to the ground. The Chest width was measured (cm) from inside the surface between the top of the front legs. Withers height was measured (cm) from highest point over the scapular vertically to the ground. Body depth was measured (cm) from the distance between the top of the spine and bottom of the barrel at the last rib. Body length was measured (cm) from the point of shoulder to the ischium. Flank width was measured (cm) from the highest distances between transverse process of lumbar vertebra. Rump width was measured (cm) from the distance between the posterior points of pin bone using a flexible measuring tape. Growth rate was calculated by using the formula.

$$GR = \frac{\text{Growth rate of Present week} - \text{Growth rate of Previous Past week.}}{\text{Past week.}}$$

Testicular length was measured (cm) with a flexible

measuring tape as the distance along the caudal surface of the scrotum from its point of attachment to the tip of scrotum. Scrotal circumference was measured (cm) by encircling the neck of the scrotum with the hand using the finger to push the testicles ventrally to eliminate wrinkles in the scrotal skin. The scrotal tape was passed over the scrotum and tightened at the point of greatest circumference to note down the reading. Scrotal diameter was calculated in centimeters by standard formula i.e. measured scrotal circumference (SC) is product of one by pie (P) where  $P = 22/7$  or 3.143.

$$SD = SC \times 1/p$$

### Statistical Analysis

Statistical analysis such as mean, standard error and co-variance were recorded variables and compared using the mixed design ANOVA model tests for repeated measures, considering various parameters and the age and their interaction as fixed effects and the animal into the random effect. Linear measurements of body measured in the standard statistical analysis. Data were presented as mean and mean standard error of the mean. Statistical analyses of data were carried out as per the program SPSS (2008) statistical package designed for windows was used for the statistical analyses. Means were separated using the two-tailed, two-sample *t* test. Differences were considered to be significant at  $p < 0.05$ . Relationships between the several reproductive traits with body measurements were calculated by Pearson correlations, and regression equations were established. Live body weight was regressed on linear body measurements using stepwise multiple linear regression analysis. The coefficient of determination was used to assess the accuracy of prediction equations between body weights and linear body measurements. Separate prediction equations were developed for the male.

### Results and Discussion

The mean body weight, Body linear measurements, scrotal parameters and BCS from 29<sup>th</sup> to 38<sup>th</sup> week and 39<sup>th</sup> to 49<sup>th</sup> week is shown are Table 1 to Table 4 respectively. In the present study, it was revealed that the linear body measurement parameters *viz.* body weight, stature, chest width, heart girth/chest girth, withers height, body depth, body length, flank width, rump width, testicular length and body condition score were increased significantly ( $p < 0.05$ ) from 29<sup>th</sup> to 49<sup>th</sup> weeks of age (Table 1 to 4) and few were not significantly ( $P > 0.05$ ).

Descriptive analysis of body weight and morphological traits The higher values reported for the morphometric traits of males compared to females seem in accordance with earlier reports on goats (Vargas *et al.*, 2007) [34]. The results thus obtained in this study are likely connected with our previous studies. The previous results have shown that the higher live body weight of male kids after weaning may be attributed to their birth weight; this is because they were born heavier than females in crossbred Boer goats (Abd-Allah, 2014 and Abd-Allah *et al.*, 2016) [1, 2]. Isaac (2005) [16] reported that sexual dimorphism in body size is clearly widespread among many mammalian taxa, with male-biased dimorphism being the more common, but certainly not the exclusive pattern. It is important that the coefficient of variation in the morphometric traits ranged from 9.70-20.0%; this indicates homogeneity between traits under study. The findings of the present study show that BL is 76.26 cm, HG is 76.43 cm, and WH is 64.96 cm in Shami goats. The observations of the current

investigation are somewhat different from those of Alsheikh (2013) [7] who reported that low mean lives in BL, HG, and WH were 57.21, 31.66, and 41.76, respectively, in Shami does of the same environmental condition in Sinai, Egypt. Also, our values were higher than that reported by Moaenud-Din *et al.* (2006) [24] who reported 64.97 cm body length, 70.23 cm height at withers, and 61.29 cm heart girth, for crossbred goats. The variation in various body measurements in different studies on the same breed may be due to the difference in the environment, size of data set, and other management practices.

Bivariate correlations between body weight and measurements of Shami goats the results are supported by Abdel-Mageed and Ghanem (2013) [3], who decided that both

HG ( $r = 0.91$ ) and BL ( $r = 0.90$ ) presented the highest correlations with LBW of Shami kids. BL and HG may be used as good reliable predictors to assess live weight according to Bhattacharya *et al.* (1984) [9] and Islam *et al.* (1991) [17] reported that heart girth in males is a good predictor of live weight in Bengal goats. There was a correlation of LBW with length, height, and HG in Black Bengal goats (Prasad *et al.*, 1981) [29]. Since there are high correlation coefficients between live body weight and body measurements, either of these variables or combination could provide a good estimate for predicting live weight in Shami goats. Khan *et al.* (2006) [21] concluded that since the body measurements had a high correlation with the live body weight, this may be used as selection criteria.

**Table 1:** Pairwise comparison between Heart girth and chest width from 29<sup>th</sup> to 41<sup>st</sup> week in pubertal Boer kids

Weeks	Birth weight	Weaning weight	Heart girth																					
			29 <sup>th</sup> week	30 <sup>th</sup> week	31 <sup>st</sup> week	32 <sup>th</sup> week	33 <sup>th</sup> week	34 <sup>th</sup> week	35 <sup>th</sup> week	36 <sup>th</sup> week	37 <sup>th</sup> week	38 <sup>th</sup> week	39 <sup>th</sup> week	40 <sup>th</sup> week	41 <sup>st</sup> week	42 <sup>nd</sup> week	43 <sup>th</sup> week	44 <sup>th</sup> week	45 <sup>th</sup> week	46 <sup>th</sup> week	47 <sup>th</sup> week	48 <sup>th</sup> week	49 <sup>th</sup> week	
29 <sup>th</sup>	-	-	-	0.71	0.413	0.159	0.111	0.035	0.017	0.007	0.001	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
30 <sup>th</sup>	-	-	0.186	-	0.655	0.298	0.22	0.082	0.042	0.02	0.003	0.002	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
31 <sup>st</sup>	-	-	0.006	0.142	-	0.551	0.435	0.194	0.111	0.059	0.012	0.008	0.002	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
32 <sup>nd</sup>	-	-	0.000	0.000	0.001	-	0.852	0.479	0.315	0.194	0.054	0.039	0.014	0.003	0.001	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
33 <sup>rd</sup>	-	-	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.461	-	0.602	0.413	0.265	0.082	0.059	0.022	0.005	0.002	0.001	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
34 <sup>th</sup>	-	-	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.078	0.303	-	0.766	0.551	0.22	0.17	0.076	0.02	0.01	0.006	0.004	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
35 <sup>th</sup>	-	-	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.004	0.028	0.239	-	0.766	0.352	0.281	0.138	0.042	0.022	0.014	0.009	0.003	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
36 <sup>th</sup>	-	-	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.004	0.057	0.461	-	0.527	0.435	0.235	0.082	0.046	0.029	0.02	0.007	0.003	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
37 <sup>th</sup>	-	-	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.02	0.239	0.658	-	0.882	0.577	0.265	0.17	0.119	0.088	0.039	0.018	0.005	0.003	0.001	0.001	0.001
38 <sup>th</sup>	-	-	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.006	0.106	0.377	0.658	-	0.682	0.334	0.22	0.159	0.119	0.054	0.027	0.007	0.004	0.002	0.001	0.001
39 <sup>th</sup>	-	-	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.013	0.078	0.186	0.377	-	0.577	0.413	0.315	0.249	0.128	0.07	0.022	0.014	0.008	0.000	0.003	0.003
40 <sup>th</sup>	-	-	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.004	0.133	0.106	-	0.794	0.655	0.551	0.334	0.207	0.082	0.054	0.035	0.017	0.017
41 <sup>st</sup>	-	-	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.006	0.057	0.768	-	0.852	0.737	0.479	0.315	0.138	0.095	0.064	0.032	0.032
42 <sup>nd</sup>	-	-	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.006	0.239	0.377	-	0.882	0.602	0.413	0.194	0.138	0.095	0.05
43 <sup>rd</sup>	-	-	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.002	0.142	0.239	0.768	-	0.71	0.503	0.249	0.181	0.128	0.07
44 <sup>th</sup>	-	-	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.057	0.106	0.461	0.658	-	0.766	0.435	0.334	0.249	0.148
45 <sup>th</sup>	-	-	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.02	0.041	0.239	0.377	0.658	-	0.628	0.503	0.392	0.249
46 <sup>th</sup>	-	-	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.009	0.02	0.142	0.239	0.461	0.658	-	0.852	0.71	0.503
47 <sup>th</sup>	-	-	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.006	0.013	0.106	0.186	0.377	0.768	0.883	-	0.852	0.628
48 <sup>th</sup>	-	-	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.002	0.028	0.057	0.142	0.658	0.461	0.555	-	0.766
49 <sup>th</sup>	-	-	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.009	0.02	0.057	0.303	0.239	0.303	0.658	-	-

\*The given P-values shows  $p < 0.05$  is significant at 5%.  
 \*\*The given P-values shows  $p > 0.05$  is non significant at 5%

**Table 2:** Pairwise comparison between Body weight and Stature from 29<sup>th</sup> to 41<sup>st</sup> week in pubertal Boer kids

Weeks	Birth weight	Weaning weight	Body weight																					
			29 <sup>th</sup> week	30 <sup>th</sup> week	31 <sup>st</sup> week	32 <sup>th</sup> week	33 <sup>th</sup> week	34 <sup>th</sup> week	35 <sup>th</sup> week	36 <sup>th</sup> week	37 <sup>th</sup> week	38 <sup>th</sup> week	39 <sup>th</sup> week	40 <sup>th</sup> week	41 <sup>st</sup> week	42 <sup>nd</sup> week	43 <sup>th</sup> week	44 <sup>th</sup> week	45 <sup>th</sup> week	46 <sup>th</sup> week	47 <sup>th</sup> week	48 <sup>th</sup> week	49 <sup>th</sup> week	
weeks	-	0.00	0.000	0.000	0.00	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
29 <sup>th</sup>	-	-	-	0.982	0.82	0.757	0.442	0.370	0.346	0.268	0.191	0.151	0.099	0.068	0.031	0.017	0.009	0.004	0.003	0.001	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000
30 <sup>th</sup>	-	-	0.726	-	0.83	0.774	0.456	0.382	0.358	0.278	0.198	0.158	0.103	0.072	0.033	0.018	0.009	0.005	0.003	0.002	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000
31 <sup>st</sup>	-	-	0.484	0.540	-	0.940	0.592	0.507	0.479	0.382	0.282	0.229	0.155	0.111	0.054	0.031	0.017	0.009	0.006	0.003	0.002	0.001	0.000	0.000
32 <sup>nd</sup>	-	-	0.336	0.406	0.79	-	0.645	0.556	0.527	0.424	0.316	0.259	0.178	0.129	0.064	0.037	0.021	0.011	0.007	0.004	0.003	0.001	0.001	0.001
33 <sup>rd</sup>	-	-	0.239	0.127	0.63	0.827	-	0.898	0.862	0.734	0.587	0.502	0.374	0.288	0.162	0.102	0.062	0.035	0.024	0.015	0.010	0.005	0.002	0.002
34 <sup>th</sup>	-	-	0.062	0.068	0.24	0.359	0.484	-	0.964	0.833	0.678	0.587	0.446	0.350	0.204	0.131	0.082	0.047	0.033	0.014	0.007	0.004	0.014	0.014
35 <sup>th</sup>	-	-	0.030	0.726	0.14	0.222	0.315	0.759	-	0.868	0.712	0.619	0.474	0.374	0.220	0.143	0.090	0.052	0.037	0.023	0.016	0.008	0.004	0.004
36 <sup>th</sup>	-	-	0.017	0.041	0.090	0.150	0.222	0.600	0.827	-	0.839	0.740	0.582	0.469	0.288	0.193	0.125	0.075	0.054	0.035	0.024	0.013	0.007	0.007
37 <sup>th</sup>	-	-	0.003	0.010	0.024	0.046	0.075	0.275	0.431	0.570	-	0.898	0.729	0.603	0.390	0.272	0.183	0.115	0.084	0.056	0.040	0.022	0.012	0.012
38 <sup>th</sup>	-	-	0.001	0.003	0.008	0.017	0.030	0.138	0.239	0.336	0.694	-	0.827	0.695	0.465	0.331	0.229	0.147	0.110	0.074	0.054	0.031	0.017	0.017
39 <sup>th</sup>	-	-	0.000	0.001	0.002	0.005	0.010	0.056	0.107	0.163	0.406	0.662	-	0.862	0.608	0.451	0.324	0.217	0.167	0.116	0.087	0.051	0.030	0.030
40 <sup>th</sup>	-	-	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.002	0.004	0.030	0.062	0.098	0.275	0.484	0.793	-	0.734	0.561	0.416	0.288	0.226	0.162	0.124	0.075	0.046	0.046
41 <sup>st</sup>	-	-	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.002	0.003	0.022	0.046	0.075	0.222	0.406	0.694	0.896	-	0.809	0.635	0.469	0.382	0.288	0.229	0.149	0.096	0.096
42 <sup>nd</sup>	-	-	0.000	0.000	0.00	0.001	0.001	0.010	0.022	0.037	0.127	0.256	0.484	0.662	0.759	-	0.815	0.629	0.527	0.411	0.335	0.229	0.153	0.153
43 <sup>rd</sup>	-	-	0.000	0.000	0.00	0.000	0.000	0.003	0.006	0.012	0.050	0.115	0.253	0.377	0.452	0.655	-	0.803	0.689	0.556	0.465	0.331	0.232	0.232
44 <sup>th</sup>	-	-	0.000	0.000	0.00	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.002	0.008	0.024	0.068	0.117	0.150	0.256	0.490	-	0.880	0.734	0.629	0.469	0.343	0.343
45 <sup>th</sup>	-	-	0.000	0.000	0.00	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.004	0.012	0.037	0.068	0.090	0.163	0.341	0.793	-	0.850	0.740	0.567	0.425	0.425
46 <sup>th</sup>	-	-	0.000	0.000	0.00	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.002	0.007	0.022	0.041	0.056	0.107	0.242	0.630	0.827	-	0.886	0.700	0.542	0.542
47 <sup>th</sup>	-	-	0.000	0.000	0.00	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.003	0.010	0.021	0.029	0.059	0.148	0.447	0.618	0.779	-	0.809	0.641	0.641
48 <sup>th</sup>	-	-	0.000	0.000	0.00	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.002	0.005	0.007	0.017	0.052	0.206	0.315	0.431	0.612	-	0.822
49 <sup>th</sup>	-	-	0.000	0.000	0.00	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.003	0.004	0.010	0.031	0.138	0.222	0.315	0.468	0.827	-

\*The given P-values shows  $p < 0.05$  is significant at 5%. \*\*The given P-values shows  $p > 0.05$  is non significant

**Table 3: Pairwise comparison between Wither Height and Body depth from 29<sup>th</sup> to 41<sup>st</sup> week in pubertal Boer kids**

		Wither height																							
		Birth weight	Weaning weight	29 <sup>th</sup> week	30 <sup>th</sup> week	31 <sup>th</sup> week	32 <sup>th</sup> week	33 <sup>th</sup> week	34 <sup>th</sup> week	35 <sup>th</sup> week	36 <sup>th</sup> week	37 <sup>th</sup> week	38 <sup>th</sup> week	39 <sup>th</sup> week	40 <sup>th</sup> week	41 <sup>th</sup> week	42 <sup>th</sup> week	43 <sup>th</sup> week	44 <sup>th</sup> week	45 <sup>th</sup> week	46 <sup>th</sup> week	47 <sup>th</sup> week	48 <sup>th</sup> week	49 <sup>th</sup> week	
Body depth	29 <sup>th</sup> week	-	-	-	0.479	0.302	0.212	0.143	0.074	0.027	0.011	0.004	0.003	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
	30 <sup>th</sup> week	-	-	0.794	-	0.744	0.586	0.446	0.277	0.129	0.066	0.027	0.024	0.006	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
	31 <sup>th</sup> week	-	-	0.682	0.881	-	0.828	0.663	0.446	0.232	0.129	0.058	0.052	0.015	0.003	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
	32 <sup>th</sup> week	-	-	0.234	0.352	0.434	-	0.828	0.586	0.328	0.193	0.093	0.083	0.027	0.005	0.002	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
	33 <sup>th</sup> week	-	-	0.102	0.169	0.22	0.654	-	0.744	0.446	0.277	0.143	0.129	0.046	0.01	0.004	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
	34 <sup>th</sup> week	-	-	0.069	0.119	0.158	0.526	0.852	-	0.663	0.446	0.254	0.232	0.093	0.024	0.01	0.003	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
	35 <sup>th</sup> week	-	-	0.029	0.054	0.075	0.315	0.576	0.709	-	0.744	0.479	0.446	0.212	0.066	0.031	0.01	0.003	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
	36 <sup>th</sup> week	-	-	0.018	0.035	0.05	0.234	0.456	0.576	0.852	-	0.703	0.663	0.355	0.129	0.066	0.024	0.007	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
	37 <sup>th</sup> week	-	-	0.008	0.017	0.024	0.137	0.297	0.392	0.628	0.765	-	0.957	0.586	0.254	0.143	0.058	0.021	0.005	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
	38 <sup>th</sup> week	-	-	0.002	0.005	0.008	0.059	0.147	0.206	0.371	0.479	0.682	-	0.624	0.277	0.158	0.066	0.024	0.005	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
	39 <sup>th</sup> week	-	-	0.001	0.001	0.002	0.02	0.059	0.088	0.181	0.249	0.392	0.654	-	0.549	0.355	0.175	0.074	0.021	0.005	0.002	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000
	40 <sup>th</sup> week	-	-	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.002	0.008	0.014	0.035	0.054	0.102	0.22	0.434	-	0.744	0.446	0.232	0.083	0.024	0.01	0.004	0.001	0.000	0.000
	41 <sup>th</sup> week	-	-	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.002	0.007	0.011	0.024	0.064	0.158	0.526	-	0.663	0.384	0.158	0.052	0.024	0.01	0.003	0.003	0.066
	42 <sup>th</sup> week	-	-	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.003	0.005	0.011	0.032	0.088	0.352	0.765	-	0.663	0.328	0.129	0.066	0.031	0.01	0.003	0.003
	43 <sup>th</sup> week	-	-	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.001	0.005	0.018	0.11	0.333	0.502	-	0.586	0.277	0.158	0.083	0.031	0.01	0.01
	44 <sup>th</sup> week	-	-	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.005	0.038	0.147	0.249	0.628	-	0.586	0.384	0.232	0.104	0.04	0.04
	45 <sup>th</sup> week	-	-	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.002	0.017	0.075	0.137	0.412	0.737	-	0.744	0.514	0.277	0.129	0.129
	46 <sup>th</sup> week	-	-	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.007	0.035	0.069	0.249	0.502	0.737	-	0.744	0.446	0.232	0.232
	47 <sup>th</sup> week	-	-	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.007	0.035	0.069	0.249	0.502	0.737	1	-	0.663	0.384	0.384
	48 <sup>th</sup> week	-	-	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.003	0.018	0.038	0.158	0.352	0.551	0.794	0.794	-	0.663	0.663
49 <sup>th</sup> week	-	-	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.002	0.011	0.024	0.11	0.264	0.434	0.654	0.654	0.852	-	-	

\*The given P-values shows P < 0.05 is significant at 5%.

\*\*The given P-values shows P > 0.05 is non significant

**Table 4: Pairwise comparison between Testicular length and Body length from 29<sup>th</sup> to 41<sup>st</sup> week in pubertal Boer kids**

		Testicular length																							
		Birth weight	Weaning weight	29 <sup>th</sup> week	30 <sup>th</sup> week	31 <sup>th</sup> week	32 <sup>th</sup> week	33 <sup>th</sup> week	34 <sup>th</sup> week	35 <sup>th</sup> week	36 <sup>th</sup> week	37 <sup>th</sup> week	38 <sup>th</sup> week	39 <sup>th</sup> week	40 <sup>th</sup> week	41 <sup>th</sup> week	42 <sup>th</sup> week	43 <sup>th</sup> week	44 <sup>th</sup> week	45 <sup>th</sup> week	46 <sup>th</sup> week	47 <sup>th</sup> week	48 <sup>th</sup> week	49 <sup>th</sup> week	
Body length	29 <sup>th</sup> week	-	-	-	0.565	0.338	0.151	0.063	0.041	0.012	0.003	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
	30 <sup>th</sup> week	-	-	0.619	-	0.701	0.388	0.196	0.138	0.051	0.015	0.007	0.007	0.004	0.003	0.002	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
	31 <sup>th</sup> week	-	-	0.274	0.55	-	0.388	0.196	0.138	0.051	0.041	0.02	0.02	0.012	0.01	0.006	0.002	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
	32 <sup>th</sup> week	-	-	0.113	0.274	0.619	-	0.362	0.27	0.115	0.041	0.02	0.02	0.012	0.01	0.006	0.002	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
	33 <sup>th</sup> week	-	-	0.092	0.233	0.55	0.921	-	0.848	0.502	0.25	0.151	0.151	0.104	0.095	0.063	0.023	0.008	0.004	0.002	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.000	0.000
	34 <sup>th</sup> week	-	-	0.023	0.075	0.233	0.486	0.55	-	0.631	0.338	0.213	0.213	0.151	0.138	0.095	0.036	0.014	0.007	0.004	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.000	0.000
	35 <sup>th</sup> week	-	-	0.009	0.034	0.124	0.297	0.345	0.727	-	0.631	0.443	0.443	0.338	0.314	0.231	0.104	0.045	0.025	0.015	0.005	0.005	0.005	0.002	0.001
	36 <sup>th</sup> week	-	-	0.008	0.03	0.113	0.274	0.32	0.69	0.96	-	0.773	0.773	0.631	0.597	0.472	0.25	0.126	0.077	0.051	0.018	0.018	0.008	0.008	0.003
	37 <sup>th</sup> week	-	-	0.000	0.002	0.012	0.043	0.054	0.18	0.32	0.345	-	1	0.848	0.81	0.666	0.388	0.213	0.138	0.095	0.036	0.036	0.018	0.008	0.008
	38 <sup>th</sup> week	-	-	0.000	0.001	0.007	0.026	0.034	0.124	0.233	0.253	0.842	-	0.848	0.81	0.666	0.388	0.213	0.138	0.095	0.036	0.036	0.018	0.008	0.008
	39 <sup>th</sup> week	-	-	0.000	0.000	0.003	0.014	0.018	0.075	0.15	0.165	0.654	0.803	-	0.962	0.81	0.502	0.292	0.196	0.138	0.056	0.056	0.029	0.014	0.014
	40 <sup>th</sup> week	-	-	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.002	0.011	0.026	0.03	0.214	0.297	0.426	-	0.848	0.533	0.314	0.213	0.151	0.063	0.063	0.032	0.015	0.015
	41 <sup>th</sup> week	-	-	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.004	0.011	0.012	0.113	0.165	0.253	0.727	-	0.666	0.415	0.292	0.213	0.095	0.095	0.051	0.025	0.025
	42 <sup>th</sup> week	-	-	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.003	0.003	0.043	0.067	0.113	0.426	0.654	-	0.701	0.533	0.415	0.213	0.213	0.126	0.07	0.07

43 <sup>th</sup> week	-	-	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.004	0.008	0.016	0.102	0.197	0.398	-	0.81	0.666	0.388	0.388	0.25	0.151
44 <sup>th</sup> week	-	-	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.004	0.011	0.034	0.197	-	0.848	0.533	0.533	0.362	0.231	
45 <sup>th</sup> week	-	-	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.004	0.043	0.455	-	0.666	0.666	0.472	0.314	
46 <sup>th</sup> week	-	-	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.002	0.023	0.32	0.803	-	1	0.773	0.565	
47 <sup>th</sup> week	-	-	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.009	0.18	0.55	0.727	-	0.773	0.565		
48 <sup>th</sup> week	-	-	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.006	0.137	0.455	0.619	0.881	-	0.773		
49 <sup>th</sup> week	-	-	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.002	0.054	0.233	0.345	0.55	0.654	-		

\*The given P-values shows  $p < 0.05$  is significant at 5%. \*\*The given P-values shows  $p > 0.05$  is non significant

## Conclusion

As there is a paucity of data on breeding soundness in Boer goats, the present study showed as age advances linear body measurements, testicular measurements and body condition score of Boer kids increases significantly. The study showed positive relation of age with testicular measurement and linear body measurement and this would help in predicting the semen production ability as well as provide information that will be useful in early selection of sires for genetic improvement in Boer goats.

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