



KEY WORDS

- ✓ Kivircik
- ✓ reproductive performance
- ✓ growth performance
- ✓ survival rate
- ✓ Manisa

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DETERMINATION OF THE FERTILITY AND GROWTH PERFORMANCE OF THE KIVIRCİK EWES RAISED IN MANİSA PROVINCE

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THESIS ABSTRACT

A study was conducted to determine the reproductive performance and growth characteristics of the Kivircik sheep breed by recording the productivity data of breeding ewes and lambs born in 40 Kivircik sheep farms in Manisa Province over a five-year period.

The results demonstrated that the Kivircik breed exhibited high adaptability and productive performance under the ecological conditions of Manisa, while breeding programs implemented under farmer conditions played a critical role in the conservation of native genetic resources and in increasing farmers' awareness and management practices.

APPLICATION AREAS OF THE THESIS RESULTS

In addition to determining reproductive performance and growth parameters under farmer conditions, this study contributed to sheep production through improving farmers' awareness, enhancing flock management practices, and increasing productivity per animal.

The Kivircik breed represents an important native genetic resource in Türkiye due to its superior meat quality, high adaptability, and strong resistance to diseases. Based on the findings of this thesis, it is considered essential to continue breeding and improvement programs for the Kivircik breed, improve animal care and feeding conditions, prevent uncontrolled crossbreeding, and strengthen flock management practices to ensure sustainable livestock production.

ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

1. Tezcanlı, Ö., Üstüner, H., Selvi, T. N., & Gök, A. (2025). Effect of melatonin on growth performance in Saanen kids. *Acta Veterinaria Brno*, 93(11), 47-53.
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