

## **African Journal of Agricultural Research**

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## **Abstract**

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The study was carried out in a private ovine exploitation of Ben M' Hidi (wilaya of El-Tarf), located at northeast of Algeria during the period going from June 2000 to May 2002. It related to 13 nursing ewes of race Ouled Djellal including six first calf cows and seven multipares. The diagnosis of the subclinic mammites was made according to California Mastitis Test (CMT) without bacteriological study. The counting of the somatic cells was carried out using an optical microscope on cell of Malassez and the various types of distinguished cells (polynuclear, macrophages, and lymphocytes). The results of the CMT made it possible to distinguish three ewes reached from subclinic mammites on a total of 13 examined ewes. The given leucocytic formula at the beginning of lactation in the healthy ewes showed a prevalence of the lymphocytes (44 to 47%); the rate the polymorphonuclear ones and macrophages varies from 21 to 25%. In the batch of the ewes reached, that is, subclinic mammites, the rate of lymphocytes range between 23 and 29%, the rate the polynuclear ones are 28 to 34 %; the macrophages represent the highest rate (40 to 47%).

**Key words:** mastitis - subclinical - ewes - leucocytic formula - milk.

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