

ABSTRACT

The National Flour Mill feed was compared to that of the Master Mix feed in Trinidad and Tobago using two litters of rabbits. The both litters contained eight (8) rabbits each weaned at four weeks on the sixth of February 2006 and had similar bread characteristics. The test period was conducted for a period of eight weeks starting on the sixth of February to the third of April 2006. Each batch was fed a different feed one litter was fed National Flour Mills and the other Master Mix feed. The litter that was fed National Flour Mills feed obtained greater growth rates of 10.8 kg over the period but the litter fed with the Master Mix feed had overall heavier weights than those fed the National Flour Mill feed.

In both litters there were three males and five females. The females fed with National Flour Mills feed had lower final live weights at the end of the period along with lower slaughter weights than the females fed with Master Mix feed. The males however performed better in terms of live weight at the end of the period and slaughter weight when fed National Flour Mills feed.

In terms of revenue that can be earned from each carcass in both litters the revenue per carcass was TT\$ 41.14 and TT\$41.80 for National Flour Mills and Master Mix respectively. The costs also associated with the both feeds as per carcass was TT\$ 0.93 and TT\$ 0.65 for National Flour Mills and Master Mix respectively. As a result, the profitability of using each feed were TT\$40.21 and TT\$ 41.15 per carcass for National Flour Mills and Master Mix feeds respectively. Thus it was recommended that using the Master Mix feed will result in higher profitability for farmers.