

Abstract

Characteristics based on the growth of domestic animals have a great importance, because of the direct relationship with the economical profit. Growth curve shows the biological efficiency of an animal in time span. It is a means for the selection and management of the nutrition. Inbreeding programs, the awareness of the form of growth curve, can be a suitable means for making decision to choose the next generation. The aim of this study was to determine the best model describing growth curve using different non-linear models. For this purpose, body weight records 800 Japanese quail during 70 days were used for growth curve fitting. Five non-linear models: exp, logistic, Gompertz, van Bertalanffy, Morgan-Mercer-Flodin fitted by computer program R and best function was selected via Bayesian Information Criteria (BIC), Akaike Information Criterion (AIC), Mean Square Error (MSE), and R^2 adjust. The results showed that based on the criteria used logistic function (lowest MSE, AIC, BIC and highest R^2 adjust) and exp function (highest MSE, AIC, BIC and lowest R^2 adjust) are the best and worst models for describe the growth curve Japanese quail. The highest (0.9996) correlation between predicted and actual values of body weight were obtained for the logistic function. According to this function, generally, the results indicate that growth curve description of Japanese quail using logistic function was appropriate and should be noted to body weight.

Key words: Growth curve, Japanese quail, Body weight, Logistic



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Estimation of growth curve parameters in Japanese quail

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