

**STUDY OF DRESS PERCENTAGE AND RELATIVE WEIGHTS  
OF CARCASS PARTS IN VARIOUS AGES OF JAPANESE QUAIL  
IN IRAQ.**

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**ABSTRACT**

This study was conducted in Animal Resources Dept. – College of Agriculture – University of Diyala during the period 1 Feb. to 8 April 2013 , aimed to determine dress percentage , some relative weight of carcass parts( include breast , thigh and back ) , some vital organs( heart , liver ) at various ages in Japanese quail in Iraq. The study use 100 one day old chicks , the study slaughtered random sample of them consist of 70 birds , as 20 , 20 , 15 , 15 birds in 4 , 6 , 8 , 10 week of age respectively , and the measurements taken in each age and the correlation coefficients were calculated among the various measurements .

The results indicated that, the age has highly significant effect in body weight , carcass weight , intestine length , also there was significant effect of age in thigh weight .

The sex has significant effect in body weight , dress percentage , intestine length , liver weight , back weight , there were highly significant effect of the interaction between age and sex in body weight and carcass weight , while there was significant effect of this interaction in relative weight of liver.

There were highly significant correlation coefficients among all measurements included in the study.

**Key words:** Japanese quail , dress percentage , carcass parts , vital organs .