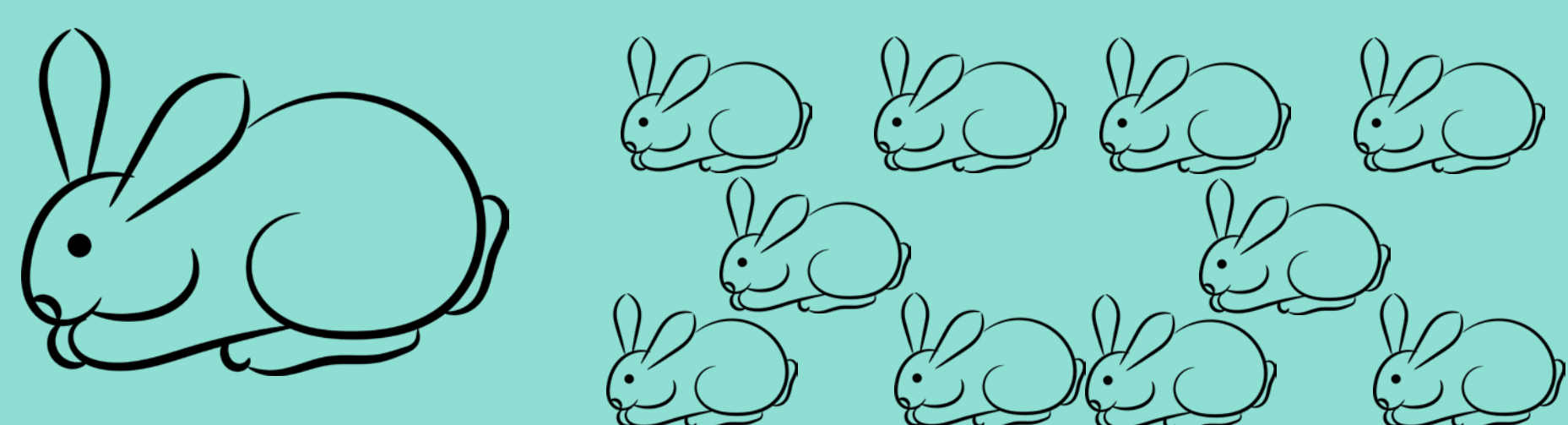


The importance of litter size components in three selected maternal rabbit lines.

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LITTER SIZE



Synthetic lines of polytocous species

AIM

The aim of this study was to compare the litter size components in 3 synthetic lines named A, V and LP all of them selected by litter size at weaning.

WHY?

PRENATAL MORTALITY

In selected lines for efficient reproduction

Line A

was originated in 1980 from New Zealand White rabbits reared by farmers (47 generations)

Line V

was established from 4 specialized maternal lines in 1984 (43 generations)

Line LP

was founded by selecting females from commercial farms that showed an extremely long productive life associated with prolificacy (12 generations)

PARAMETERS MEASURED

Total number of corpora lutea

Ovulation rate

Implantation rate

Number of embryo implanted at 12th days)

Implantation losses

Foetal losses

Perinatal losses

Percentage of potential embryos produced [number corpora lutea] that did not reach the implantation

Percentage of implanted embryos related with litter size at birth

Ratio between live born and litter size at birth

Ovulation rate, implantation, foetal and perinatal losses rates were analyzed by a GLM model with line and lactation state as fixed factors

Ovulation rate



Implantation rate

RESULTS

Ovulation Rate

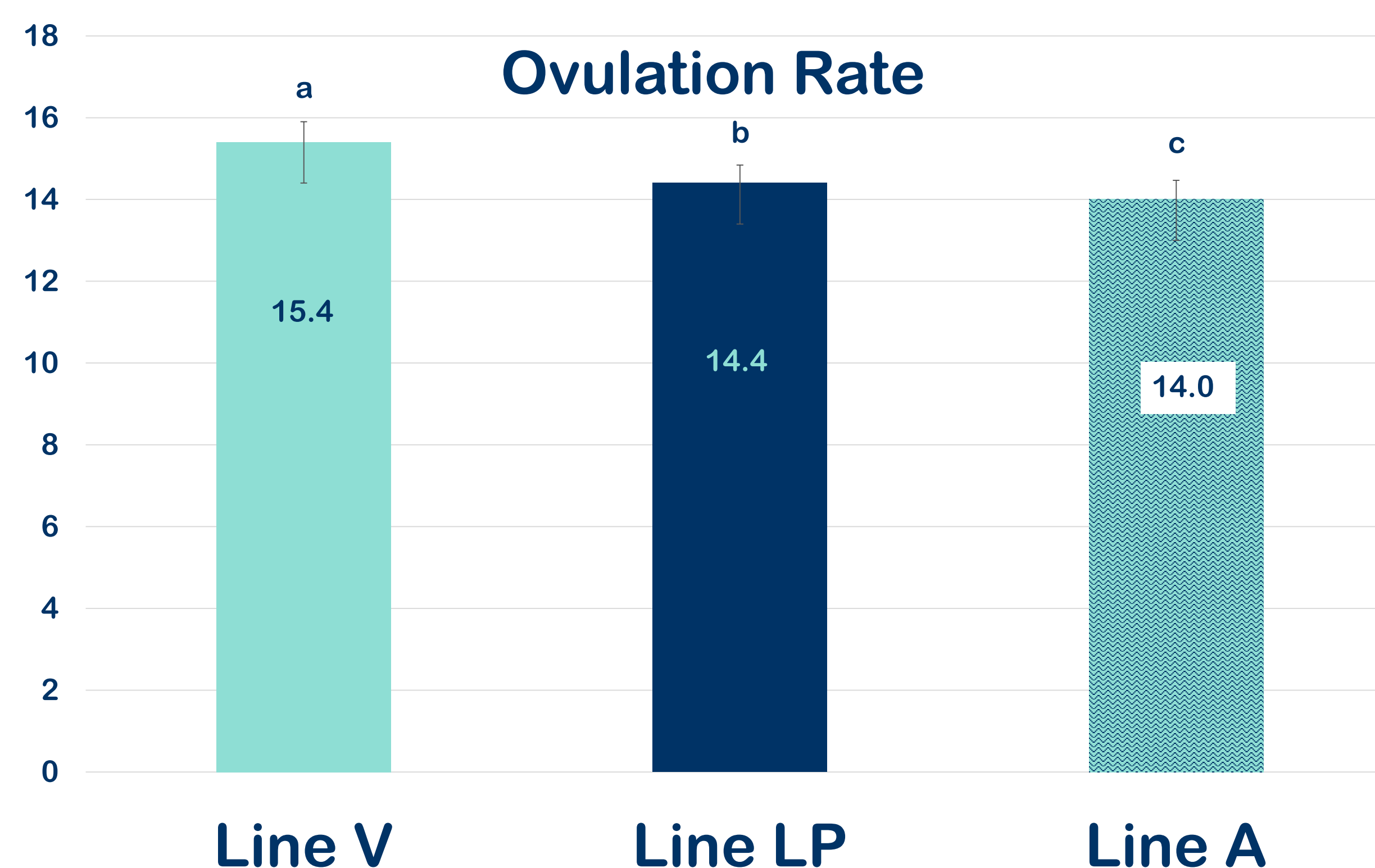
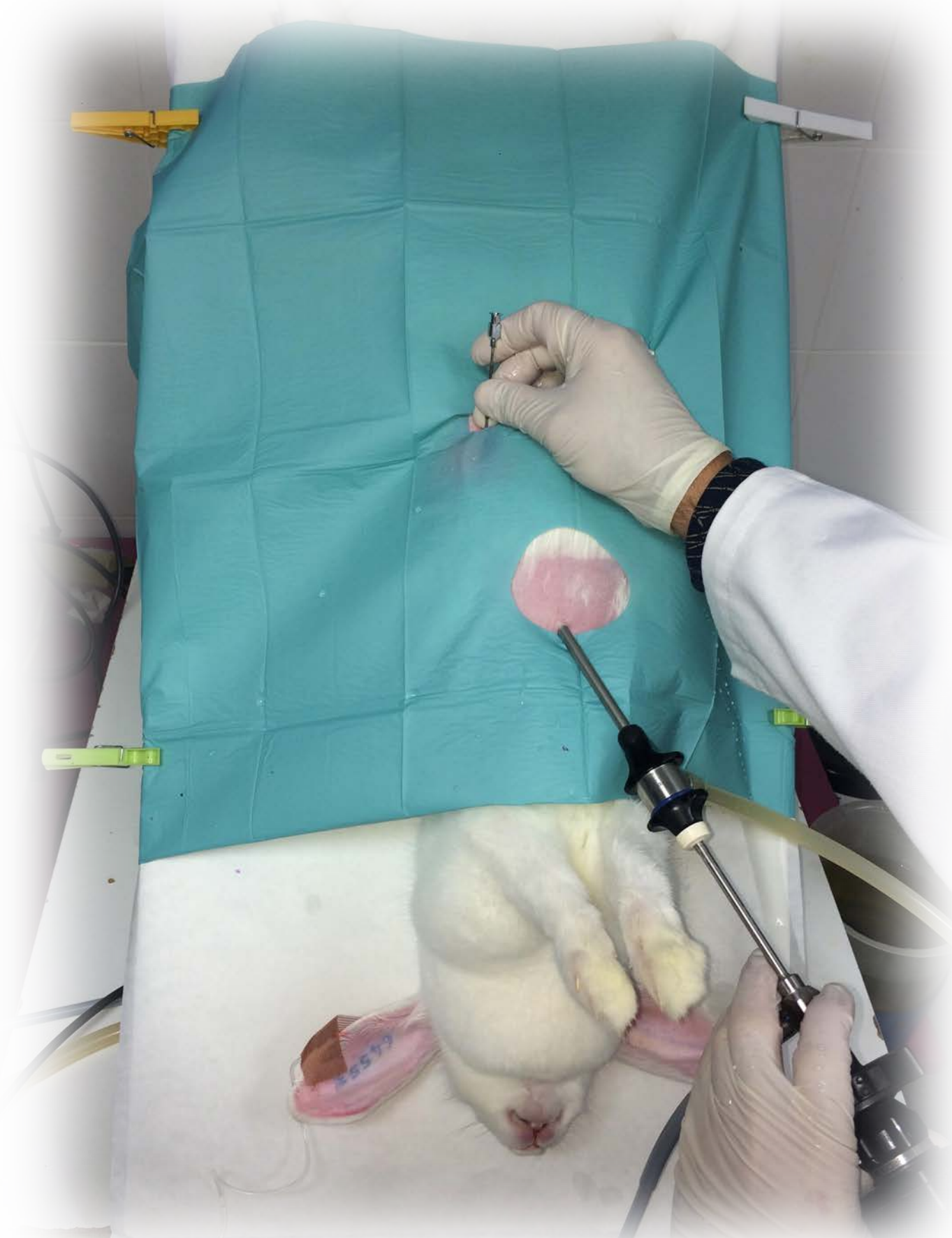


Figure 1. Total number of corpora lutea in three maternal rabbit lines



207 laparoscopies between 3rd-5th parity

CONCLUSIONS

Results showed that synthetic lines differ in ovulation rate (15.4 ± 0.50 , 14.4 ± 0.44 and 14.0 ± 0.47 from line V, LP and A, respectively). Regardless of the criteria for the foundation of the lines, the percentage of implantation ($12.8 \pm 2.50\%$), foetal ($14.0 \pm 2.33\%$) and perinatal losses ($7.2 \pm 2.10\%$) and litter size at birth (11.4 ± 0.41) were no different.

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