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A biometric study of the ovary of the female African Giant Rat (*Cricetomys gambianus*, Waterhouse)

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This study was carried out in order to investigate the structure of the ovaries of the African giant rat (AGR) (*Cricetomys gambianus*, Waterhouse). A total of 10 mature female AGRs were used in this study. The rats were anaesthetized lightly with chloroform and later weighed. Ovaries were obtained through a midventral incision and examined. The mean length, width and thickness of the right and left ovaries were 0.78 ± 0.05, 0.02 ± 0.03 0.24 ± 0.03 cm and 0.78 ± 0.04, 0.02 ± 0.01, 0.25 ± 0.03 cm respectively. The mean weight of the ovaries were observed to be 0.08 ± 0.02 and 0.08 ± 0.03 for both right and left respectively. Sections of 5µm were cut in paraffin blocks, stained with haematoxylin and eosin stain. In histological examinations, it was composed of two zones, cortex and medulla. The surfaces of the ovaries were wavy and lined by simple cubiodal or columnar epithelium. The tunica albuginea consisted of connective tissues fibres. Primary, secondary, tertiary follicles, corpus luteum and atretic follicles were seen in the cortex of the ovaries. The mean diameter of these follicles varied between 16-40 µm. The medulla consisted of loose connective tissue which contained blood and lymph vessels of varying sizes.

Biography

Ali Nkweshi Magdalene has completed his DVM and M.Sc. in the year 2003 and 2009 respectively at Ahmadu Bello University Zaria, Kaduna State, Nigeria. He was employed as Assistant Lecturer in the Department of Veterinary Anatomy ABU Zaria in the year 2005. He has published about 9 papers in reputable journal and has attended several local conferences. Currently, he is working on his Ph.D.

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