



CAHIERS DU CRPS

CENTRE DE RECHERCHE POUR LA PROMOTION DE LA SANTE

Volume I, N°2

Juillet– Décembre 2013



PHENOTYPIC CHARACTERIZATION OF CAVIES (*CAVIA PORCELLUS*) IN THE TERRITOIRES OF WALUNGU, KABARE AND KALEHE IN SUD-KIVU, EASTERN DR CONGO

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Abstract

The main objective of this study was to characterize, using different morphological traits, the cavy populations in the territoires of Walungu, Kabare and Kalehe, in the province of Sud-Kivu, eastern DR Congo. After collecting morphometric data on 204 covies located on 37 villages in Walungu, Kabare and Kalehe, using a biodata sheet, it resulted from this study that the main coat colors are plain colors (white, yellow, black) and mosaic coat colors (white-black, black-yellow, white-black-yellow). Males generally weigh, or are heavier, than females. Most animals are blue eye colored.