**Pre-weaning growth performance of Borgou F1 crosses with Gir, Girolando and Holstein at the ranch of Okpara, northern Benin.**

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A study was carried out to evaluate growth performance of Borgou F1 crosses with Gir (BG), Girolando (BGH) and Holstein (BH) at the ranch of Okpara, northern Benin. Analysis of variance based on General Linear Model of SAS 2010 was used to analyze the data. The genetic group of the calf (BG, BGH and BH) had no significant effect (p> 0.05) on birth weight. As against its effect was significant (p <0.05) on weaning weight at 205 days (119.8 *vs* 129.3 *vs* 137.5 kg) and on pre-weaning average daily gain (464 *vs* 476 *vs* 536 g) respectively for BG, BGH and BH. The season of birth had no significant effect (p> 0.05) or weight at birth, nor pre-weaning ADG, but impacted (p <0.05), weaning weight at 205 days (133.5 *vs* 124.0 kg) for calves born during the respective dry and rainy seasons. The effect of calf sex was significant (p <0.05) on birth weight (21.0 *vs* 22.7 kg), weaning weight at 205 days (128.4 *vs* 132.7 kg) and pre-weaning ADG (493 *vs* 508 g) for female and males calves respectively. The year of birth of the calf affected (p <0.05) birth weight (21.9 *vs* 22.6 *vs* 22.1 *vs* 19.4 kg), weaning weight at 205 days (141.4 *vs* 128.8 *vs* 125.2 *vs* 124.7 kg) for the years 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013 respectively. By cons, this factor had no effect on calves pre-weaning ADG. This study showed that the BH F1 crosses had the best pre-weaning growth performance, offset by a lower resistance to disease and weather conditions.

**Keywords:** Birth weight, pre-weaning growth, Borgou, Benin.