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Combination of B-Spline and Legendre functions in random regression models to

fit growth curve of Moghani sheep

Short title: Combination of functions to fit sheep growth curve

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Highlights

• Legendre and B-Spline functions were compared in random regression models.

B-Splines in fixed and Legendre in random parts improved goodness of fit.

Legendre polynomials in random parts, enhanced convergence ability of the

models.

• Different functions resulted in similar estimates for body weight of sheep.

• B-Splines have high potential for genetic evaluation of body weight in sheep.

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