

OXYGEN CONSUMPTION - A PARAMETER IN THE ENERGY BUDGET OF *CHICOREUS RAMOSUS*

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ABSTRACT

Measurements of rates of oxygen consumption in relation to the size of *Chicoreus ramosus* have been carried out, using two methods: the flow-through system and the closed system. The relationships were found to be $VO_2 = 0.2751W^{0.632}$ with $r^2=0.77$, $n=19$ for the flow-through system and $VO_2 = 0.0174W^{1.36}$ with $r^2=0.93$, $n=11$ for the closed system. It is likely that the relationship obtained from the closed system can either under-estimate or overestimate the oxygen consumption. The weight exponent (b) from the flow-through system agrees well with the values reported elsewhere.