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Animal Nutrition

Lamb Finishing Trial, France

Trial Report: 403

Summary

A study to access the performance of growing and finishing lambs was carried out at a leading research site in Europe, wherein RumiBio was fed using a matrix value. Results found significant increase in average daily live weight gain (DLWG) by 10% and improved feed conversion ratio (FCR) by 7.5%.

Objective of the Trial	Access the performance of lambs fed RumiBio versus a negative control
Location	Leading research site, France
Number of Animals	90 (Three control groups n=15, three RumiBio groups n=15)
Age	21 days
Breed	Ile de France x Romanov / Texel (F2)
Diet	*Ad Lib Concentrate (Barley, Sugar Beet Pulp, Maize) and Wheat Straw*
Summary of Results	• Significant increase by 10% in average DLWG • Improved FCR by 7.5%

Materials and Methods

90 Ile de France x Romanov / Texel (F2) cross breed lambs were allocated to three control groups and three RumiBio treatment groups (three control groups of n=15 and three RumiBio treatment groups of n=15). Groups were balanced for age, sex and weight.

Control lambs received complete feed concentrate (Barley, Sugar Beet Pulp and Maize) and wheat straw *ad lib* throughout the trial (see Table 1). The RumiBio group received a complete feed concentrate that included RumiBio on a matrix (more barley, less beet pulp and corn grain) and wheat straw *ad lib*.
RumiBio was included at 1g/head/day on top of the concentrate.

Weaning was at 70 days. The fattening period was 21 days before slaughter. Slaughter target weights for female lambs was 36kg and 38kg for males. For statistical analysis, performance was compared with weight at the start of the trial used as a covariate (comparison test at 5% with Bonferroni adjustment - SPSS Software).

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Table 1. Diet analysis for control and RumiBio treatments

	Control Concentrate	RumiBio Matrix Concentrate
UFV	0.95	0.93
Crude Protein	17.2%	17.1%
PDI	116/114/55	117/112/54
Starch & Sugar	34.7%	35.0%
DM4	41.6%	40.0%
Crude Fat	1.7%	1.7%
Crude Fibre	8.4%	8.4%

Results

Average DLWG of the lambs fed RumiBio was significantly increased by 8.5% (328g vs 356; *P<0.05*) as shown in Figure 1. FCR was improved by 7.5% as shown in Figure 2. There was no significant difference in kill out percentage between the two groups.

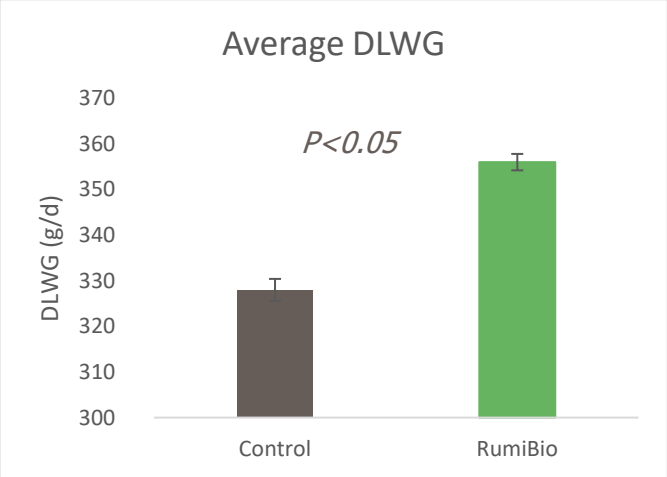

Figure 1. Average DLWG of control and RumiBio treatment groups.

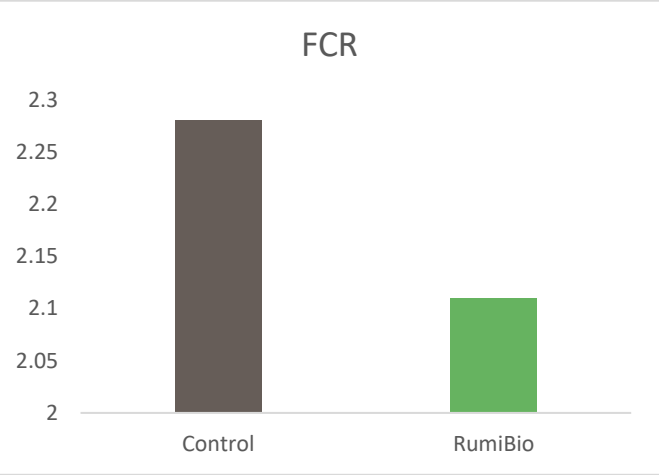

Figure 2. FCR for the control and RumiBio treatment groups.

Conclusion

Using a matrix value for RumiBio to reduce concentrate feed costs, lambs fed RumiBio for finishing showed a significant 8.5% improvement in average DLWG. RumiBio also improved FCR by numerically be 7.5% versus the control group.

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RumiBio™ PHYTOGENICS