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Animal Nutrition

Lamb Finishing Trial, Ireland

Trial Report: 404

Summary

A commercial lamb finishing study was carried out to evaluate the performance of lambs fed RumiBio on top of the ration. Results found increased average daily live weight gain (DLWG) of 24% and an improved carcass weight of 3.6% in lambs fed RumiBio.

Objective of the Trial	Access the performance of lambs fed RumiBio versus a negative control
Location	Commercial farm, Ireland
Number of Animals	50 (Control (n=25), RumiBio (n=25))
Age / weight	6 months / 38kgs
Breed	Charolais and Suffolk
Diet	*Ad Lib Concentrate (Barley, Maize based) and Wheat Straw*
Summary of Results	• Increased average DLWG by 24% • Improved carcass weight by 3.5%

Materials and Methods

50 male and female Charolais and Suffolk lambs were grouped according to age, weight and sex into a control group (n=25) and a RumiBio treatment group (n=25). Lambs received barley and maize based concentrate and wheat straw both *ad lib* throughout the trial (see Table 1). RumiBio group received RumiBio at 1g/head/day on top of the complete feed. Fattening was from 38kg liveweight to 50kg (six to nine months age).

Table 1. Diet and concentrate analysis

	Diet Analysis	Concentrate Analysis
UFV	0.98	0.98
Crude Protein	13.40%	13.0%
PDI	92/106/46	
Starch & Sugar	38.00%	38.7%
DM4	40.00%	39.8%
Crude Fat	2.70%	2.7%
Crude Fibre	14.60%	9.0%
NDF	33.10%	

Volac International Ltd
Volac House, Orwell, Royston, Hertfordshire SG8 5QX, United Kingdom.
T +44 (0) 1223 208021 enquire@volac.com www.volac.com

Registered office: 50 Fishers Lane, Orwell, Royston, Hertfordshire SG8 5QX, UK Company registration number: 2576295 VAT number: GB 842935214

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Results

Average DLWG of the lambs fed RumiBio was improved by 24% (161g vs 200g) as shown in Figure 1. Carcass weight was improved by 3.6% as shown in Figure 2. There was no significant difference in kill out percentage between the two groups.

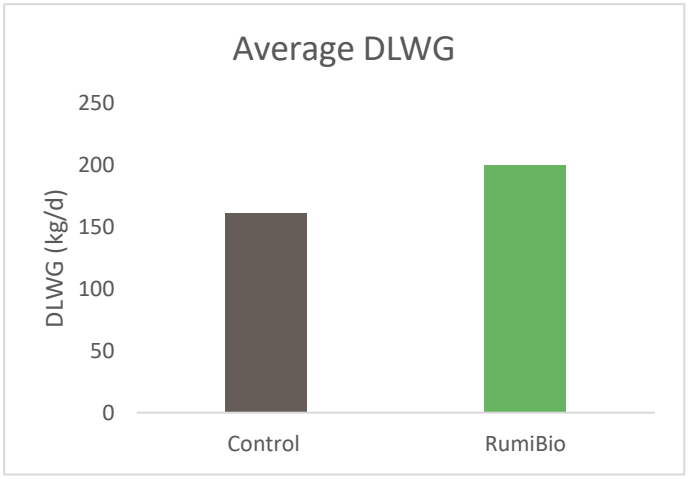

Figure 1. Average DLWG of the control and RumiBio treatment groups

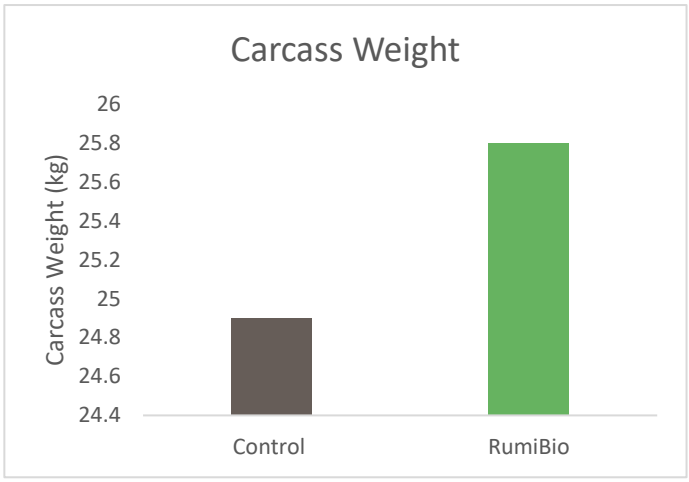

Figure 2. Carcass weights for the control and RumiBio treatment groups

Conclusion

Average DLWG and carcass weights were improved when feeding RumiBio on top of a commercial finishing lambs.

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