

EFFECT OF ADDING YEAST CULTURE TO RATION ON THE PERFORMANCE AND SOME BLOOD PARAMETERS OF ARABI FATTENING LAMBS.

Suzan M.N. Muhamad

Department of Animal Resources, College of Agriculture, University of Salahaddin, Erbil, Iraq.

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SUMMARY

Twenty four individual Arabi male lambs weighing 30.7 ± 0.400 kg and 5 months of old were used to test the effect of additional three levels of *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* (SC): 0, 3 and 6 g SC / lamb/day to the ration on growth rate and some blood parameters. Lambs in R₁ group were fed diet with no SC and in R₂ and R₃ groups were fed on diets supplemented with 3 and 6g /lamb/day of SC, respectively. The concentrate diet was offered once daily in quantities calculated to support maintenance and 200 g daily gain while barley straw was offered *ad libitum*. The final body weights were 43.95, 45.30 and 47.46 kg for R₁, R₂ and R₃ respectively. Average daily gain was 193, 201 and 239 g/d for the same respective groups. Dietary addition of SC improved the growth rate by 13.8 and 30.2% at the levels of 3 and 6 g/lamb/d respectively over the control diet; differences however, failed to be significant. Lambs fed SC treated diets utilized their feed more efficiently than control treatment. Serum sugar (SG) concentration was significantly increased in R₂ and R₃ group (P<0.01). In contrast, serum urea-N (SUN) concentration was decreased (P<0.01) due to the addition of SC. Glutamate oxaloacetate transaminase (GOT) showed a significant differences among different experimental groups, were the control group recorded the lowest value (P<0.05). In conclusion, additional of SC improved live weight gain, feed conversion ratio and some blood parameters.

Keywords: *saccharomyces cerevisiae*; Arabi lambs; performance.

INTRODUCTION

Probiotic was a mixture of benefit microbes which mixed with fed of animals in order to make a benefit and healthy microbial balance in the intestine, this balance lead to improved animal productivity especially in stressed animal which face a heat stress, fed on toxic or improper diets (Yoruk *et al.*, 2006; Zinedine *et al.*, 2005). Inclusion the probiotic contain *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* in animal diets seemed to improve lambs performance (Hassan and Hassan, 2008) and increased live weight gain (Orr *et al.*, 1988.; Galyean *et al.*, 2000) and improve digestibility (El-Shaer, 2003) and enhanced feed conversion ratio. Recently Hassan and Hassan (2008, 2011) reported significantly improvement in live weight gain and feed conversion ratio was associated with lamb fed diet supplemented with local (Iraqi) probiotic containing SC as compared with control diet. This improvement was associated with highly reduction in blood urea nitrogen (BUN). In normal condition, the lactate is utilized by specific bacteria and thus the pH value is maintained at 6.0. At this pH value the cellulolytic bacteria well, derive their energy requirements and produce volatile fatty acids (VFA), which help the ruminant animal derive its energy (Bowen, 2009). Otherwise, when the lactate accumulates in the rumen, the pH value drops, suppressing the cellulolytic bacteria and this leads to accumulation of fiber in the rumen. At this points digestion of dry matter (DM) and its components would affected negatively. Incorporation of yeast into ruminant diets is thought to help decrease lactate concentration in the rumen by stimulating bacteria that ferment lactate (Rossi *et al.*, 2006). Moreover, addition of baker's yeast (SC) to ruminant diets has improved the digestibility of DM, crude protein (CP) and hemicellulose, increased rumenal bacteria numbers (Marghany *et al.*, 2005). However, little literatures are available about the effect of yeast culture on the growth performance of sheep and/or goats. Therefore, the objective of this work was to investigate the effects of feeding different SC levels on daily intake, growth rate and some blood parameters.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

This experiment was conducted to evaluate the effect of increasing levels of yeast (SC) supplementation on daily feed intake, growth rate and some blood parameters. Twenty four growing Arabi male lambs with an average body weight of 30.7± 0.4 kg live weight and 5-6 months old were used in this experiment. Animals were divided into 3 comparable groups (8 lambs each) and randomly allocated to the three rations (R₁, R₂ and R₃). The basal ration (control, R₁) contained a mixture of barley 35%; wheat bran 35%; soybean meal 12%; yellow corn 17% and 1% minerals and vitamins mixture. The chemical composition of the control ration and its ingredients are presented in Table 1. Treatments consisted of a SC-free basal ration (control, R₁); the basal ration supplemented with either 3g (R₂) or 6g (R₃) of SC/lamb/day. While barley straw was offered *ad libitum*. Yeast culture (Yea-Sacc, product of Alltech Biotechnology Center, Kentucky, USA) was included in the ration by simple mixing with concentrate diet just before the morning feeding. The concentrate diet was offered once daily at about 08.00 am in quantities calculated to support maintenance and 200 g daily gain (Al Jassim *et al.*, 1996). The diets were gradually introduced to the lambs over a period of 2 weeks before the start of experiment, during this time all animals treated for tape worms and other helminthes. Fresh water was available all the time. Live body weight (LBW) was recorded once weekly to the nearest 0.100 kg. The amount of ration offered was changed weekly according to the body weight changes and keeping SC level unchanged. The feeding trial lasted for 70 days during which live body weight was recorded every week, feed intake (concentrate and straw) was recorded daily by subtracting the refusals (if any) from the amount offered. Average daily gain (ADG) and feed efficiency conversion ratio (FCR) were calculated.

Table (1): Chemical composition of feedstuffs and concentrate diet (g/kg DM).

Chemical composition	Barley	Soybean meal	Yellow corn	Wheat brain	Barley* straw	Concentrate diet
Dry Matter g/kg (fresh)	951	945	937	914	940	925
Organic Matter (OM)	915	880	927	859	841.4	833
Total nitrogen (TN)	19	70	13	25	2.976	26
Ether extract (EE)	12	149	34	45	15	44
Crude Fiber (CF)	65	50	36	118	335	76
Nitrogen free extract (NFE)	718	244	433	610	472.8	568
Metabolizable energy ME, MJ)**	12.17	13.56	13.07	12.37	6.5	12.4

*Chemical composition according to Hassan and Hassan (2010).

**ME (MJ/ kg DM) = 0.012 CP +0.031 EE+0.005 CF +0.014 NFE (MAFF, 1979).

Blood samples:

Within 2 days before ending the fattening period, five ml of blood samples were collected from half of the experimental animals in each treatment (4 lambs treatment) by jugular vein puncture just three hours post morning feeding to determine serum sugar (SG), serum cholesterol (SCH), serum creatinine (SCR) and some of liver and kidney functions such as glutamate oxaloacetate transaminase (GOT), glutamate pyruvate transaminase (GPT) and urea-N (SUN). The blood samples were centrifuged at 4000 rpm. for 20 minutes and blood serum was separated and preserved in sterile test tube and stored at -20 C° for biochemical assay. SG was determined as soon as possible after sampling serum were analyzed for SG, SCH, SCR, SUN, GOT and GPT. Means concentrations were calculated for each animal within each treatment group, SG was measured by spectrophotometrically (Spectronic Instruments, USA) utilizing standard kits (Bio-Merieux, France). The concentration of SCH was determined by using commercial kits according to Schmidt-Nielsen (1964). Creatinine was assayed according to Bartels *et al.* (1971). SUN was

measured photometrically using urea-kit S180 (France) and according to method of Coulombe and Faveran (1963). Serum GOT and GPT activities were determined by using commercial kits according to Armstrong and Carr (1964).

Chemical analysis:

Chemical analysis were conducted on the ingredients and concentrate diet for DM, ash, total nitrogen, crude fiber and ether extract analysis following A.O.A.C.(1990) procedures.

Statistical analysis:

Data of growth performance were analyzed by ANOVA for completely randomized design according to Gill (1978) using the model: $Y_{ij} = \mu + T_i + e_{ij}$; where Y_{ij} is the dependent variable, μ is the overall mean, T_i is the effect of the YSC supplementation and e_{ij} is the residual error assumed to be independently and randomly distributed. Duncan's test (1955) was used to compare the treatment means.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

All lambs finished the experiment without any health problems. The effect of dietary addition of SC on lamb productive performance is presented in Table 2. Lambs had an average initial body weight of 30 kg \pm 1.56. The final body weights were 43.95, 45.30 and 47.46 kg for R₁, R₂ and R₃ groups respectively. Average daily gain was 193, 201 and 239 g/d for the same respective groups. Dietary addition of SC improved the growth rate by 13.8% and 30.2% at the levels of 3 and 6 g/lamb/d, respectively over the control diet; differences however, failed to be significant. Since the amount of concentrate diets offered according to the live body weight requirement, In general all the lambs consumed similar amount of concentrate diet across treatments (1005, 1000 and 1016 g/lamb/d for R₁, R₂ and R₃ respectively). However, lambs fed the treated groups consumed more feed as DM, ME and CP. Manley due to the group feeding system used in the present study (R₂ and R₃) consumed more barley straw (399 and 408 g/d/h respectively) as compared with control treatment (346 g/d/h).

Table (2): Performance of Arabi lambs as affected by dietary addition of SC.

Item	Experimental ratios ^(a)		
	R ₁ (control)	R ₂	R ₃
Levels of SC g/d	0	3	6
Avg. initial weight (kg)	30.43	31.21	30.68
Avg. final weight (kg)	43.95 ^b	45.30 ^b	47.46 ^a
Growth period (day)	70	70	70
Avg. total gain (kg)	13.52 ^b	14.09 ^b	16.78 ^a
Avg. daily gain (g)	193 ^b	201 ^b	239 ^a
Improvement, %	-	4.15	23.83
<i>Feed intake/lamb/day</i>			
DM (g)	1351	1399	1424
OM (g)	1128	1168	1189
TN (g)	169.3	170.0	162.5
ME (MJ)	14.71	14.99	15.25
<i>Efficiency of feed utilization</i>			
g DM/g gain	6.99 ^b	6.96 ^b	5.96 ^a
MJ ME/g gain	0.076 ^b	0.075 ^b	0.063 ^a
g TP /g gain	0.878 ^b	0.846 ^b	0.721 ^a

^aR1 = Control basal diet; R1 + 3g SC/h/d= R2; R1+ 6g SC/h/d =T3

Data of feed intake and feed efficiency were not statistically analyzed. Lambs fed the SC treated diets utilized their feed more efficiently than control treatment. Such improvement in LWG, straw intake and FCR may be attributed to first, improvement in the digestibility of most nutrients (Robinson, 1997; Dawson, 1993; Harris *et al.*, 1992; Wiedmeier *et al.*, 1987; Williams *et al.*, 1991 and Wohlt *et al.*, 1991). Robinson (1997) reported that supplementation of yeast culture in the diet increased net digestion in the fore stomach, particularly of fiber leading to increase energy output. Earlier work (Chademana and Offer,

1990) found that yeast increased the initial rate of forage digestion in the rumen. Moreover, Ahmed and Salah (2002) reported that addition of yeast culture (SC) improve the digestibility of DM, CP and CF leading to an increase in the nutritive value (TDN, DCP and ME) and nitrogen balance. Secondly, the increase in digestibility, especially for CF, may have been due to an increase in the population (Newbold *et al.*, 1996 and Wiedmeier, *et al.*, 1987) and/or activity (Dawson, 1993, Erasmus *et al.*, 1992) of rumen cellulolytic bacteria. Proteolytic bacteria counts were also stimulated by yeast culture (Yoon and Stern, 1996). This will lead to higher concentration of total VFA this may have been due to the increase in the bacterial counts and activity (Newbold *et al.*, 1996; Dawson, 1993; Wiedmeier, 1987; Erasmus *et al.*, 1992 and Yoon and Stern, 1996) and the stability of the rumenal environment (Lyons, 1994). Similar trend was reported by (Taie *et al.*, 1998). Finally, the ability of different yeast preparations to stimulate the viable count of bacteria in the sheep rumen appears to correspond with their ability to remove O₂ from rumen fluid (Newbold *et al.*, 1996). The amount of O₂ entering the rumen of sheep daily was calculated to be in the range of 11.5–38 liters through saliva, food and diffusion of the blood of the host animal (Newbold *et al.*, 1996 and Czerkawski, 1969). Oxygen is known to be toxic to anaerobic bacteria and it inhibits the growth of rumen bacteria in pure culture studies (Loesche, 1969; Marounek and Wallace, 1984) and the adhesion of cellulolytic rumen bacteria to cellulose (Roger *et al.*, 1990). The presence of respiring yeast, therefore, would be predicted to be beneficial to the rumen microorganisms. Statistical analysis revealed that neither BTG nor BCH were significantly affected by addition of SC, Similar finding was obtained by Milewski and Sobiech (2009). It was noted that the reserve fat in high producing ruminant was mobilized to compensate the negative energy balance which was often observed leading to a temporary rise in BTG (El-Sherif and Assad, 2001). Since, BTG concentration was not affected in a current study due to addition of SC; there was probably a supported influence for yeast on energy metabolism (Milewski and Sobiech, 2009). Suskovic *et al.*, (2001) indicated that inclusion probiotics in ruminant diets reduced blood concentration of BCH; however, the mechanisms are still unknown.

To clarify the mode of action of SC in the present study, serum biochemical parameters was evaluated as concentrations of SG, SUN, SC, SCR, GPT and GOT (Table 3). Table (3) clarified that SG concentration was significantly ($P<0.01$) increased due to addition of SC. R₃ group recorded the highest ($P<0.01$) SG concentration in comparison with the other treatments. While, the control group (R₁) recorded the lowest ($P<0.01$) SG concentration in comparison with the other treatments.

Table (3): Blood parameters of Arabia lambs as affected by dietary addition of SC

Item	Experimental ratios		
	R ₁ Control	R ₂	R ₃
Levels of SC g/d	0	3	6
Serum glucose (mg /dl)	80.9 ^b	93.5 ^a	101.8 ^a
Serum urea -N (mg /dl)	27.1 ^a	22.8 ^b	21.9 ^b
Serum cholesterol (mg /dl)	58.4 ^b	76.4 ^a	82.4 ^a
Serum creatin (mg /dl)	0.62 ^b	0.71 ^b	0.90 ^a
GOT (IU/dl)	29.5 ^b	71.4 ^a	78.0 ^a
GPT (IU/dl)	12.0 ^b	13.0 ^a	10.5 ^a

^{a and b} Means within rows with different superscripts are significantly different ($P<0.05$)

Similar result was observed by Milewski and Sobiech (2009). These increases can be simply explained by the propionogenesis process that proved to be improved by yeast inclusion (Erasmus *et al.*, 1992; Lesmeister *et al.*, 2004 and Kawas *et al.*, 2007). Propionic acid is the main substrate for glucose synthesis in ruminants (El-Ashry *et al.*, 1988). However, Jouany *et al.* (2000) reported that yeast metabolize the glucose and small oligosaccharides produced by amylolytic bacteria that adhere to starch grains and, as a consequence, less glucose is available for fermentative bacteria the growth of which is then decreased. *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* cells can consume as much as 4g glucose per hr. per g DM. In contrast, SUN concentration was decreased ($P<0.01$) due to addition of SC. However, differences between R₂ and R₃ group were not statistically significant. The urea-N level ranged from 21 to 27 mg/dl. Rakha (1985) reported that the normal urea-N level in sheep and goats was ranged from 8 to 40 mg/dl. Changes in serum urea would reflect changes in ruminal ammonia-N concentration (Fouda, 2008). This decrease might be consistent with the decrease in rumenal NH₃-N due to the same reason that confirmed by many other studies (El-Ghani, 2004; Khadem *et al.*, 2007 and Lascano and Heinrichs, 2009). Since, a

decrease in rumenal $\text{NH}_3\text{-N}$ can be attributed to the increase of its utilization by rumen microbes (Chaucheyras-Durand and Fonty, 2001), then a decrease in SUN which is a real useful indicator for CP status and N metabolism, can be explained by the same explanation as in a decrease in rumenal $\text{NH}_3\text{-N}$, because the SUN concentration was closely related to the rumenal $\text{NH}_3\text{-N}$ evolutions (Valkeners *et al.*, 2008). It is very likely that large amounts of NH_3 were lost from the rumen fluid by absorption through the rumen epithelium and transferred by portal blood to the liver to produce urea. Physiologically, Milewski and Sobiech (2009) suggested that yeast supplementation had a protective effect on renal function as evidence from a decrease in SUN and creatinine concentrations. Moreover, Dobicki *et al.*, (2005) observed a significant decrease in the activity of liver enzymes in cows fed supplemental dried yeast, which indicated an improvement in the physiological condition of the liver and an increase in hepatic metabolic reserve. Serum cholesterol, Serum creatin and GOT were significantly increased ($P<0.01$) due to addition of SC. R_3 group recorded the highest ($P<0.01$) SCH, SCR and GOT concentration in comparison with the other. While, the control group (R_1) recorded the Lowest ($P<0.01$) SCH, SCR and GOT concentration respectively in comparison with the other treatments. Cholesterol values obtained in the present study were within the normal ranges obtained by Hassan and Hassan (2009) and Hassan *et al.* (2010) using Awassi and Karadi lambs. It appears that GOT and GPT assessed in blood serum, as indicators of liver function. GOT showed a significant differences among different experimental groups on contrast, the control groups recorded the lowest ($P<0.05$) GOT value. In general, the values recorded for GOT and GPT are within the normal range reported by Mohamed and Abou-Zeina (2008) in goats' kids. Abd-El-Kareem (1990) and Fouda (2008) found values ranged from 24 to 65 and 14 to 37 IU/L for GOT and GPT, respectively, in goats and sheep.

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تأثير اضافة خميرة الخبز *SACCHAROMYCES CEREVISIAE* الى علائق حملان التسمين العربية على كفاءة التحويل الغذائي وبعض متغيرات الدم.

سوزان محمد نور محمد

قسم الثروة الحيوانية - كلية الزراعة - جامعة صلاح الدين - اربيل - العراق.

تم استخدام 24 حملاً عربياً ذكراً بمعدل وزن 30.7 ± 0.400 كغم وعمر 5 أشهر لمعرفة تأثير إضافة ثلاثة مستويات من خميرة الخبز *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* 0، 3، 6 غم أحمل ايوم الى علائق تسمين الحملان العربية على النمو وبعض متغيرات الدم. قسمت الحملان الى ثلاثة مجاميع R_1 (0 خميرة خبز)، R_2 ، R_3 (3 و 6 غم أحمل ايوم خميرة خبز). قدمت العليقة المركزة مرة واحدة يومياً وفق كميات محسوبة لتوفير احتياجات الادامة و200 غم زيادة وزنية يومية مع تقديم تبن الشعير بشكل حر لكل حيوان. متوسط الأوزان النهائية للحملان كانت 43.95، 45.30 و 47.46 كغم للمجاميع R_1 و R_2 و R_3 على التوالي، بينما كان معدل الزيادة الوزنية اليومية 193، 201 و 239 غم/يوم للمجاميع السابقة على التوالي.

اتضح أن إضافة الخميرة أدى الى تحسن غير معنوي في نسبة النمو حيث بلغت 13.8 و 30.2% للمجاميع R_2 ، R_3 مقارنة مع مجموعة المقارنة.

ازداد تركيز جلوكوز الدم معنوياً ($P < 0.01$) في المجموعة R_2 و R_3 رافقه انخفاض عالي المعنوية في تركيز يوريا الدم.

تركيز انزيم Glutamate oxaloacetate transaminase (GOT) أظهر انخفاض معنوي ($P < 0.05$) في مجموعة المقارنة R_1 مقارنة مع المجاميع الاخرى.

تم الاستنتاج من نتائج البحث ان إضافة خميرة الخبز أدت الى تحسن في الزيادة الوزمية، كفاءة التحويل الغذائي و بعض متغيرات الدم.