Short Communication

EFFECT OF LACTIC ACID ADDITION IN DIET ON GROWTH PERFORMANCE OF PRE WEANING PIGLETS.

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Several factors are likely to influence voluntary feed intake in pre weaning and post weaning piglets, including preweaning environment, age at weaning, creep feeding and health status etc. Various nutritional approaches for optimizing the weaning transition and minimizing enteric diseases have been tested in the past decade. Various organic acids are used to increase the feed intake in pre weanling and post weanling piglets. Organic acids normally used as an acidifier in animal feeds have been considered to be alternatives for improving nutrient digestibility and growth performance of weanling pigs (Risley et al., 1992). Hence an experiment was undertaken to study the impact of lactic acid supplementation in creeper diet on growth performance of pre weanling piglets.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Fourteen White yalk shire piglets were divided into two groups , seven piglets in each group. The control group (A) animals were fed with normal creep ration (contains 22.0% crude protein and 3350 kcal DE.) and treatment group(B) animals were fed with creep ration containing 1% lactic acid. Both the groups had free access to their mother's milk. Experimental creep feed was introduced at the age of 21 days and continued up to 56th day of age. The daily feed intake and weekly body weight was recorded.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Total body weight of all piglets of both the groups (13.5 and 14.1 Kg of group A and B), average birth weight per piglet (1.93±0.120 and 2.01± 0.135 Kg of group A and B) ,total weight at 21 days of age at the start of experiment (43.1 and 43.9 Kg of group A and B) and average weight at start per piglet (6.16±0.215 and 6.27 ± 0. Kg of group A and B) was almost similar statistically. At the end of experiment significantly higher ($P<0.05$) weight gain in treatment group B(63.6 Kg) was observed as compared to control group A(50.4 Kg). FCR in treatment group (4.42)was lower than the control (5.33) group. Animals that have a low FCR are considered efficient users of feed. Our results corroborate with the reports of Kil (2004) and Tsiloyiannis et al. (2001).

REFERENCE

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