

EFFECT OF USING NON-CONVENTIONAL FEEDS ON PRODUCTIVE PERFORMANCE OF SHEEP

By

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ABSTRACT

Ahmed Ragab Mohamed Khattab. Effect of Using Non-Conventional Feeds On Productive Performance Of Sheep. Unpublished Ph.D. Thesis, Department of Animal Production, Faculty of Agriculture, Ain Shams University, 2012.

This study aimed to replace the conventional ruminal ration energy source (yellow corn) by using non-conventional energy sources (date palm or sugar beet pulp). An experiment was conducted on 21 crossbred lambs (Finnish × Rahmani) in which the energy source in the concentrate ration was the yellow corn in T1 (the control), date palm in T2 and sugar beet pulp in T3. The effect of feeding untreated energy sources on performance of sheep was studied.

Results from metabolic trials indicated that all experimental rations had the same CP content but there were differences in CF and NFE. No significant differences were observed in total dry matter intake DMI (kg/ h/d) and crude protein intake CPI (g/h/d) among the different experimental rations. T1 had higher values ($P<0.05$) of DM, OM, CP and NFE digestibilities compared with T2 and T3.

Total digestible nutrients (TDN) and N-balance had higher values ($P<0.05$) for T1 (74.11% and 6.57g) and T2 (68.00% and 5.93g) than T3 (63.30% and 4.46g). Significant differences in rumen pH values among all rations was recorded, although the rumen pH was lower than 7.00 in all experimental groups. Total volatile fatty acids (TVFA's) had higher value ($P<0.05$) for T3 compared with other experimental rations, but T1 had the highest significant ($P<0.05$) for ruminal ammonia nitrogen concentration compared with the other treatments.

Comparisons between the different three experimental treatments for blood parameters, T1 recorded the highest value followed by T2 and then T3 which recorded the lowest value. Differences between treatments were not significant.

In feeding trial 21 lambs of 26.35 ± 0.22 kg weights were divided into three similar groups included seven lambs in each. Total gain, average daily gain (ADG) and feed efficiency (kg gain/kg DMI) were significantly ($P < 0.05$) higher for T1 followed by T2 and T3 orderly. Hot carcass cuts, edible offal's and the average weights of 3 ribs (9th, 10th and 11th) were significantly ($P < 0.05$) higher for T1 followed by T2 and T3, respectively.

Total cellulolytic bacteria had higher significant difference value in R3 than other experimental rations. Number of *Cellulomonas*, *Bacillus*, *Acetobacter* and *Ruminococcus* were high in T3, while *Thermonospora* was the highest number in T2.

Key words : *yellow corn, date palm, sugar beet pulp , feed intake, energy sources, digestibility, rumen parameters, blood parameters, average daily gain, feed efficiency, carcass characteristics, cellulolytic bacteria.*

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Contents

	Page
LIST OF TABLES	v
LIST OF FIGURES	vii
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	ix
1. INTRODUCTION	1
2. REVIEW OF LITERATURE	2
2.1. Date palm as a feedstuff.....	2
2.1.1. Chemical composition of date palm.....	2
2.1.2. Effect of feeding date palm on animal performance.....	2
2.1.2.1. Feed intake.....	2
2.1.2.2. Nutrients digestibilities, nutritive value and nitrogen balance.....	5
2.1.2.3. Rumen parameters.....	8
2.1.2.4. Blood parameters.....	9
2.1.2.5. Body weight gain, feed conversion and carcass characteristics.....	10
2.2. Sugar beet pulp as a feedstuff.....	14
2.2.1. Chemical composition of sugar beet pulp.....	14
2.2.2. Effect of feeding sugar beet pulp on animal performance...	16
2.2.2.1. Feed intake.....	16
2.2.2.2. Nutrients digestibilities, nutritive value and nitrogen balance.....	19
2.2.2.3. Rumen parameters.....	25
2.2.2.4. Blood parameters.....	30
2.2.2.5. Body weight gain, feed conversion and carcass characteristics.....	31
2.3. Rumen ecosystem.....	36
2.3.1. Rumen microorganisms (Rumen bacteria).....	37

	Page
2.3.1.1. Factors affecting rumen microorganisms.....	38
2.3.1.1.1. Rumen pH.....	39
2.3.1.1.2. Diurnal variation of population.....	39
2.3.1.1.3. Nutrient limitation.....	40
2.3.1.1.4. Diet effects on ruminal bacteria.....	40
3. MATERIALS AND METHOD.....	45
3.1. Digestibility trials.....	45
3.1.1. Experimental rations.....	45
3.1.2. Experimental animals.....	46
3.1.3. Rumen liquor sampling.....	47
3.1.4. Blood serum sampling.....	47
3.2. Feeding trials.....	47
3.2.1. Experimental animals.....	47
3.2.2. Carcass characteristics.....	48
3.3. Microorganism counts.....	49
3.3.1. Direct microscopic counts of bacteria.....	49
3.3.2. Enumeration of cellulolytic bacteria.....	49
3.4. Analytical methods.....	53
3.4.1. Rumen liquor analysis.....	53
3.4.2. Blood serum analysis.....	53
3.4.3. Statistical Analysis.....	53
4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION	55
4.1. Effect of treatments on feed intake (g/head/day).....	55
4.2. Effect of treatments on nutrients digestibility.....	57
4.3. Effect of treatments on nitrogen balance (g/day).....	59
4.4. Effect of treatments on rumen liquor parameters.....	61
4.4.1. Rumen liquor pH.....	62
4.4.2. Rumen liquor total volatile fatty acids (TVF's m.eq/dl).....	62

	Page
4.4.3. Rumen liquor ammonia-nitrogen (mg/dl).....	66
4.4.4. Rumen liquor total nitrogen (mg/dl).....	68
4.5. Effect of treatments on blood serum parameters.....	70
4.5.1. Serum glucose (mg/dl).....	70
4.5.2. Serum total protein (g/dl).....	72
4.5.3. Serum albumin (g/dl).....	75
4.5.4. Serum globulin (g/dl).....	75
4.5.5. Serum albumin/ globulin ratio (A/G ratio).....	77
4.5.6. Serum creatinine (mg/dl).....	79
4.5.7. Serum urea (mg/dl).....	81
4.5.8. Effect of treatments on serum transaminases.....	83
4.5.8.1. Serum AST (U/l).....	83
4.5.8.2. Serum ALT (U/l).....	85
4.6. Effect of treatments on growth performance.....	88
4.7. Effect of treatments on carcass characteristics.....	92
4.7.1. Effect of treatments on carcass hot cuts.....	92
4.7.2. Effect of treatments on carcass offal's.....	92
4.7.3. Effect of treatments on ribs samples.....	92
4.7.4. Effect of treatments on ribs cut weight content.....	99
4.7.5. Effect of treatments on physical characteristics.....	99
4.7.5.1. Effect of treatments on eye muscle area (Cm ²).....	99
4.7.5.2. Effect of treatments on water holding capacity (W.H.C)..	101
4.7.6. Effect of treatments on chemical composition of meat.....	101
4.8. Effect of treatments on bacterial cultures.....	102
4.8.1. Cellulolytic bacterial.....	102
4.8.1.1. <i>Cellulomonas</i> bacteria.....	102
4.8.1.2. <i>Bacillus</i> bacteria.....	104
4.8.1.3. <i>Thermonospora</i> bacteria.....	104
4.8.1.4. <i>Acetobacter</i> bacteria.....	107
4.8.1.5. <i>Ruminococcus</i> bacteria.....	109
4.9. Economic efficiency.....	113

	Page
5. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION	114
6. REFERENCES	122
7. ARABIC SUMMARY	

List of Tables

	Page
Table (1): Chemical composition of date palm.....	2
Table (2): Chemical composition of sugar beet pulp.....	15
Table (3): The bacterial and protozoal numbers in a rumen...	43
Table (4): Complete feed mixtures composition.....	45
Table (5): Chemical composition of the experimental rations (DM basis).....	46
Table (6): Effect of treatments on feed intake (g/head/day)...	56
Table (7): Effect of treatments on nutrients digestibility.....	58
Table (8): Effect of treatments on nitrogen balance (g/day)...	60
Table (9): Effect of treatments on rumen liquor pH.....	63
Table (10): Effect of treatments on rumen liquor total volatile fatty acids (m.eq/dl).....	65
Table (11): Effect of treatments on rumen liquor ammonia- nitrogen (mg/dl).....	67
Table (12): Effect of treatments on rumen liquor total nitrogen (mg/dl).....	69
Table (13): Effect of treatments on serum glucose (mg/dl).....	71
Table (14): Effect of treatments on serum total protein (mg/dl)	73
Table (15): Effect of treatments on serum albumin (mg/dl).....	74
Table (16): Effect of treatments on serum globulin (mg/dl).....	76
Table (17): Effect of treatments on serum albumin / globulin Ratio.....	78
Table (18): Effect of treatments on serum creatinine (mg/dl).	80
Table (19): Effect of treatments on serum urea (mg/dl).....	82
Table (20): Effect of treatments on serum AST (U/l).....	84
Table (21): Effect of treatments on serum ALT (U/l).....	87
Table (22): Effect of treatments on lambs body weight changes	89
Table (23): Effect of treatments on lambs body weight and feed efficiency (kg gain / kg feed intake).....	90

	Page
Table (24): Effect of treatments on lambs carcass cuts.....	93
Table (25): Effect of treatments on carcass offal's and carcass fat's of slaughtered lambs.....	94
Table (26): Effect of treatments on components of 9, 10, 11 th ribs, Physical characteristics and Chemical composition of eye muscle of slaughtered lambs..	97
Table (27): Effect of treatments on Cellulolytic bacterial count (Cellulomonas).....	103
Table (28): Effect of treatments on Cellulolytic bacterial count (Bacillus).....	105
Table (29): Effect of treatments on Cellulolytic bacterial count (Thermonospora).....	106
Table (30): Effect of treatments on Cellulolytic bacterial count (Acetobacter).....	108
Table (31): Effect of treatments on Cellulolytic bacterial count (Ruminococcus).....	110
Table (32): Economic efficiency.....	113

List of Figures

	Page
Fig (1): Effect of treatments on feed intake (g/head/day)	56
Fig (2): Effect of treatments on nutrients digestibility	58
Fig (3): Effect of treatments on nitrogen intake and balance (g/day)	60
Fig (4): Effect of treatments on rumen liquor pH	63
Fig (5): Effect of treatments on rumen liquor TVFA's (m.eq/dl)	65
Fig (6): Effect of treatments on rumen liquor ammonia- nitrogen (mg/dl)	67
Fig (7): Effect of treatments on rumen liquor total-nitrogen (mg/dl)	69
Fig (8): Effect of treatments on serum glucose (mg/dl)	71
Fig (9): Effect of treatments on serum total protein (g/dl)	73
Fig (10): Effect of treatments on serum albumin (g/dl)	74
Fig (11): Effect of treatments on serum globulin (g/dl)	76
Fig (12): Effect of treatments on serum albumin / globulin (A/G ratio)	78
Fig (13): Effect of treatments on serum creatinine (g/dl)	80
Fig (14): Effect of treatments on serum urea-nitrogen (g/dl)	82
Fig (15): Effect of treatments on AST	84
Fig (16): Effect of treatments on serum ALT	87
Fig (17): Effect of treatments on lambs body weight (kg)	89
Fig (18): Effect of treatments on feed efficiency (kg/kg)	90
Fig (19): Effect of treatments on carcass cuts (kg)	93
Fig (20): Effect of treatments on dressing percentage %	95
Fig (21): Effect of treatments on carcass offal's (kg)	95
Fig (22): Effect of treatments on carcass fat (kg)	98
Fig (23): Effect of treatments on Ribs 9,10,11(kg)	98
Fig (24): Effect of treatments on physical characteristics	100
Fig (25): Effect of treatments on chemical composition of Ribs	100

	Page
Fig (26): Effect of treatments on Cellulolytic bacterial count (Cellulomonas)	103
Fig (27): Effect of treatments on Cellulolytic bacterial count (Bacillus)	105
Fig (28): Effect of treatments on Cellulolytic bacterial count (Thermonospora)	106
Fig (29): Effect of treatments on Cellulolytic bacterial count (Acetobacter)	108
Fig (30): Effect of treatments on Cellulolytic bacterial count (Ruminococcus)	110

List of Abbreviations

A.O.A.C	Association of Official Analytical Chemists
ADF	Acid detergent fiber
ADG	Average daily gain
A: G ratio	Albumin to globulin ratio
ARC	Agricultural Research Council
AST	Aspartate aminotransferase
ALT	Alanine aminotransferase
Bh	Berseem hay
CF	Crude fiber
CFM	Concentrate feed mixture
CM	Concentrate mixture
CP	Crude protein
d	Day
DCP	Digestible crude protein
DDP	Dried date pulp
DE	Digestible energy
DM	Dry matter
DDM	Digestible dry matter
DMI	Dry matter intake
DN	Digestible nitrogen
DOM	Digestible organic matter
DS	Date seed
DOMI	Digestible organic matter intake
EE	Ether extract
EM	Electronic microscope
FN	Fecal nitrogen
GOT	Glutamate oxaloacetate transaminase
GPT	Glutamate pyruvate transaminase
Hb	Hemoglobin blood