

THE INFLUENCE OF PROBIOTIC LACTOAMYLOVORINUM ON THE GROWTH OF CALVES

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Summary. The experiment was carried out with three groups of calves (6 animals in each): control group, I exploratory group and II exploratory group at centre of Practical Training and Experiments at Lithuanian Veterinary Academy. Efficiency of probiotic preparation of *Lactoamylovorinum* made in Russia was investigated for growth of calves from 0 to 180 days. Calves from the I exploratory group were given 1 ml fluid probiotic *Lactoamylovorinum* each at first 30 days of experiment, calves from II exploratory group – 2 ml. Calves were given dried probiotic *Lactoamylovorinum* mixed with mixture of grinded grain (barley, corn, wheat of equal parts) in proportion: calves from I exploratory group – 1 g/kg and calves from II exploratory group – 2 g/kg later during and to the end of experiment. Average overweight of both exploratory groups was 8,1 percent ($P>0,05$) better than from control group. They digested some nutrients of the ration better. Digestion of the dry matter was accordingly: 0,69 percent and 0,85 percent, organic matter – 0,36 percent and 0,54 percent, protein – 1,54 percent and 1,61 percent, fibre – 0,75 percent and 0,65 percent better than calves from control group. Probiotic preparation of *Lactoamylovorinum* used in experiment and its selected dosage did not show the negative influence on physiological condition of calves. Morphological indexes of blood from all groups of calves were accorded with physiological standards and characterized a good physiological condition of calves. Carcass yield of calves which were given preparation was accordingly 1,3 percent and 1,4 percent, and carcass yield of soft pieces was accordingly – 1,7 percent and 1,5 percent better than calves from control group. The results of our experiment show that bigger dosage of used probiotic *Lactoamylovorinum* in calves feeding does not have conspicuous influence on their growth.

Keywords: calves, probiotic, digestion, carcass yield, carcass yield of soft pieces.