

EFFECT OF PROBIOTIC *LEVUCCELL SB* ON GROWTH RATE IN SUCKLING AND WEANED PIGS

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Summary. Gastrointestinal health in growing pigs and the relations with resident bacteria are of growing concern. Although piglets kept in large groups is known to influence microbial balance when pathogenic microflora predominate over the commensal microflora. In light of this, there is a need to develop effective biologically active preparations that will help to protect disbalance of microflora. Probiotics, which are biologically active are based on commensal microflora and can help to tackle this problem.

Probiotics, which in composition have yeast, are recommend for piglets. For determining the probiotic activity of *Levucell SB* on growth rate in suckling and weaned pigs, a completely randomized design was used with two treatments: the control and the use of *Levucell SB*. Addition of *Levucell SB* significantly increased the growth rate of experimental pigs. The average of body weight in pigs aged 21 day, 35 days, 60 days and 84 days was on 7%, 8%, 2% and 10% higher in experimental group compared to controls, respectively ($P>0.05$).

Keywords: pigs, probiotics, growth rate, body weight.