

INFLUENCE OF JERUSALEM ARTICHOKE IN EXTRUDED COMPOUND FEED ON LAMBS PRODUCTIVITY, CARCASS YIELD, MEAT CHEMICAL COMPOSITION AND WOOL PROPERTIES

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Abstract. In this study, effects of using Jerusalem artichoke in extruded compound feed on lambs productivity, carcass yield, chemical composition of lamb meat and quality of wool was analysed. A total number of 24 Lithuanian blackhead breed sheep were assigned into 2 groups (12 lambs in each group). I was control group, II experimental, where farm ratio was supplemented with 200 g/day of Jerusalem artichoke tuber's flour. Lambs were weighed after being born, 21st day of age, 2 months age, 3 months age, 4 months age and 6 months age, i.e. before slaughter. Weighings were performed before morning feeding. Lambs were slaughtered at 6 months of age. In the end of the trial, lamb's from experimental group had 5 percent bigger weight, comparing to control group. Jerusalem artichoke had no effect on lamb's carcass yield, though it influenced meat's chemical composition, concentration of fat in experimental group's meat increased by 1.83 percent ($P < 0.05$) comparing to control group. Feed supplementation with jerusalem artichoke tuber's flour had no statistically significant effect on lamb's wool quality.

Keywords: jerusalem artichoke, extruded compound feed, lamb, wool