

THE INFLUENCE OF SODIUM BUTYRATE AND VEGETABLE FATTY ACIDS ON PRODUCTIVITY AND MEAT QUALITY OF FATTENING PIGS

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Abstract. The aim of this study was to determine the effect of sodium butyrate and vegetable fatty acids on productivity parameters and meat quality of fattening pig. The feeding trial was started with 40 day old (hybrid (mother) and Yorkshire (father)) fattening pigs, which were individually weighed and were randomly assigned to two dietary treatments with four replicate stalls of 16 fattening pigs each. The pigs of control and experimental groups were fed *ad libitum* with a standard wheat-barley-soybean meal compound diet, just experimental group supplemented with a mixture of sodium butyrate and vegetable fatty acids (dosage 2 kg/t of feed). Meat traits in live pigs were measured by ultrasonic equipment Piglog 105. All samples were taken from the *M. longissimus dorsi* between 12 and last rib. The analysis of cholesterol and chemical composition was determined by standard methods. During all experimental period (from 40 till 156 days), the inclusion of 2.0 kg/t sodium butyrate and vegetable fatty acids in the diets of fattening pigs had tendency to increase the weight and daily gain of pigs by 5%, gain ratio by 12% and cholesterol levels by 5% compared to the control group, but no significant differences between groups were determined.

Keywords: fattening pigs, sodium butyrate, vegetable fatty acids, productivity, meat quality