



Tropentag, September 18-21, 2016, Vienna, Austria

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Comparison of Growth and Carcass Characteristics of Thai Native Pigs Fed Curd Milk Supplemented

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Abstract

In Thailand, a population of native pigs, known as Kadon, is found in the North-Eastern areas. Recent studies showed that Kadon pigs fed rice bran as a basal diet gained approximately 200 g per day. The objective of this study was to evaluate the effect of curd milk supplement diets on growth performance and carcass characteristics in Thai native pigs. 24 Thai native pigs (female vs. castrated male) with an average weight of 20 kg were used in a randomised complete design (CRD). The experiment lasted for 170 days. The pigs (8 per group) were assigned to 3 group diets: 1) control diet, 2) 5 % curd milk supplemented diet and 3) 10 % curd milk supplemented diet. Thai native pigs fed 5 % curd milk supplemented diet (groups 2) had a higher average daily gain than pigs fed control diet and diet 3 (10 % curd milk supplemented diet). All pigs were slaughtered at a weight of approximately 55 ± 5 kg for carcass evaluation. There were no differences in weight gain, carcass length, lean and back fat between diet groups. Carcass weight and bone were heavier in pigs fed 10 % curd milk supplemented diet group (groups 3). The weight of head, blood, tail, heart, liver, lung, spleen, kidney and large intestine was not different between groups, but the stomach and small intestine were heavier in group 3. This study could show no effect of the different diets on growth rate and carcass weight. It is the first to document reference data for Thai native pigs.

Keywords: Carcass characteristics, curd milk supplement, growth, Thai native pig