

3rd International Conference on

VETERINARY & LIVESTOCK

November 02-03, 2017 Bangkok, Thailand

Effect of feeding certain probiotics on the performance of lactating lambs**Komireddy Kondal Reddy**
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The objective of this study was to find the influence of administration of certain probiotics (*Pediococcus acidilactici* and *Saccharomyces boulardii*) in lambs on certain health parameters. The study used three weeks old 18 suckling lambs of either sex of Decanni breed, each weighing about 7.0 kg. Standard starter ration with 12% CP was given with routine deworming practice. The experiment design comprised of three groups each consisting of six lambs. No probiotic was given to the control lambs in Group C except the standard starter ration, whereas lambs in group PA received lyophilized *P. acidilactici* at 30 mg/day/lamb for 1st 5 weeks of experiment and at 50 mg/day/lamb for the rest of 5 weeks and lambs in group SB received lyophilized *S. boulardii* at 30 mg/day/lamb for 1st 5 weeks of experiment and at 50 mg/day/lamb for the rest of 5 weeks of experiment, so as to provide 107 to 1011 CFU/day/lamb. Body weights of all the lambs in 3 groups were recorded at weekly intervals for 10 weeks (4th to 13th week of age). Growth performance (body weights), serum cholesterol, serum triglycerides, serum calcium (using ERBA Mannheim Instrument and ERBA chemical kits), fecal coliforms and immunity response using *Brucella* plain antigen and estimating antigen titer). Statistical evaluation of the results was done by analysis of variance test with the 5% level of significance. The results indicated no significant difference in the serum parameters but a significant ($p < 0.01$) body weight gain was recorded in both the probiotic supplemented groups (PA and SB). The coliform counts in feces were significantly decreased in lambs fed with probiotics (PA and SB) compared to the control group. There was no significant increase of HI titers statistically in probiotic fed lambs (PA and SB groups) compared to control group. However, the HI titers of probiotic fed lambs were numerically higher compared to control lambs in 1st and 4th week indicating development of a moderate level of immunity in probiotic fed lambs against brucellosis.

Biography

Komireddy Kondal Reddy has completed his MVSc, PhD (Australia), PDF (Japan), interested in the field of veterinary science and currently he is working as a Registrar at PV Narsimha Rao Telangana Veterinary University, India. He has published more than 120 papers and received many awards including ICAR Junior Fellowship, Common Wealth Fellowship, Japan Science and Technology Fellowship, State Best Teacher Award, University Best Teacher Award, 2 Best Research Paper Awards, Rythu Nestham Award, Best Video presentation award for the French project by PRSI, SAB Honorary Fellowship and Outstanding Achievement Award by the Society for Applied Biotechnology for 2016, etc.

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