

## Growth performance and carcass characteristics of albino rats fed diets containing palm kernel cake (pkc) and synthetic amino acids (l – lysine and dl - methionine)

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An experiment was conducted to determine the effects of the inclusion of PKC and synthetic amino acids (L-Lysine and L-Methionine) in the diet on the growth performance and carcass characteristics in monogastric livestock using the laboratory rat as a model. Fifteen weanling albino rats with initial liveweights between 38 and 109 g were randomly allocated to three dietary treatments [T1=Control, T2= PKC(20%) + lysine(0.1%), T3 = PKC(20%) + lysine(0.1%) + methionine(0.1%)] in a Completely Randomized Design (CRD). There were 5 rats on each treatment, housed individually in plastic cages and each rat served as a replicate. The rats on the three dietary treatments were provided both feed and water ad libitum. Their growth performance was monitored for 28 days, after which the rats were chloroformed and dissected to collect carcass data for analysis. The mean values for total feed intake and daily weight gains were similar ( $P>0.05$ ) for all the rats under various dietary treatments. The feed conversion ratios (FCR) were 3.75(T1), 4.69(T2) and 4.34(T3) which were not significantly different ( $P>0.05$ ). The carcass characteristics of the albino rats on all the three dietary treatments were similar ( $P>0.05$ ) except the lungs which showed significant differences ( $P>0.05$ ). It can be concluded that PKC and the synthetic amino acids (L-lysine and DL-methionine) can be incorporated into the diet of monogastrics without any detrimental effect since there were no significant differences ( $P>0.05$ ) among the parameters of the three treatment except the lungs

### Biography

Adjei Richard is a student born on the 7<sup>th</sup> April 1986, in Kumasi the Ashanti Region of Ghana by a Christian family. He exhibited great academic prowess and always came up first in class. Richard now a fully grown proud African boy studied in some of the countries prestige schools such as morning star and kumasi Anglican High School and furthering his education at kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology pursuing B.Sc. Agriculture where his interest in animal science has been tremendous, in June 2012, he traveled to Germany to do research on organic dairy farm and obtained certificate to that effect.

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