
An experiment was conducted to examine the effects of various milk products in starter diets on growth performance during the starting, growing and finishing phases. A total of 200 pigs (initially 7.4 kg and 28 d of age) were blocked by weight (5 blocks) and allotted to four dietary treatments. The starting phase was split into Stage 1 (wk 1 and 2) and Stage 2 (wk 3, 4, and 5). Treatments were corn-soybean meal-based diets with varying inclusion of milk products. During stage 1 the treatments were: T1, no milk products; T2, 20% dried whey (DW); T3, 20% dry skim milk (DSM) plus 20% DW during wk 1 followed by 20% DW during wk 2; T4, 20% DSM plus 20% DW. During Stage 2, T1, T2, and T3 included no milk products, but T4 included 20% DSM. Stage 1 diets were formulated to contain 1.14% lysine, and stage 2 diets contained 1.15% lysine. During the growing and finishing phases all pigs received the same corn-soybean meal diets formulated to contain .78% and .63% lysine, respectively. Addition of milk products to the diet increased (P<.01) starting phase ADG and daily feed intake (DFI). In the growing phase ADG was improved (P<.02) by milk products. There were no improvements in ADG or DFI during the finishing phase. Number of days from weaning to 102 kg was reduced (P<.01) by the inclusion of milk products in the starter phase. There were, however, no differences among the three milk product treatments in days from weaning to 102 kg.

In conclusion, milk products fed only in the starting diet improved growth rate while fed, and also during the subsequent growing phase; however, there were no differences in subsequent performance among the three milk product treatments.


Ninety-six crossbred pigs were allotted to four replications of three treatments to determine the effects of dietary addition of ractopamine (RAC) or interrupted feeding of RAC on growth rate and carcass merit. Four barrows and four gilts per pen (67.5 kg) were fed a control diet (0 to 47 d), RAC (0 to 47 d; 20 ppm), or RAC-Tylosin-RAC (0 to 21 d RAC; 21 to 28 d Tylosin; 28 to 47 d RAC; RTR). Pigs were fed a 16% crude protein (.95 lysine), corn-soybean meal diet to a final weight of approximately 105 kg. Tylosin was included in the diet at 100 g/ton for the RTR treatment. Average daily gain was not influenced (P>.10) by RAC or RTR treatments. Feed intake was reduced for pigs fed RAC, while gain efficiency was greater for pigs fed RAC or RTR than control pigs. RAC- and RTR-fed pigs were leaner and had greater dressing percentages than control pigs.