



## EVALUATION OF DIRECT-FED MICROBIAL SUPPLEMENTATION TO IMPROVE UTILIZATION OF THE LOW QUALITY ROUGHAGES IN RUMINANTS

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### ABSTRACT

Direct-fed microbials (DFM) feed additives have been shown to improve average daily gain (ADG) and feed efficiency in ruminant animals in many studies. So, this study aimed to evaluate effect of using fungal and bacterial DFM and their mixture on productive performance of growing lambs. Thirty-two Barkey lambs (3 months old,  $22.31 \pm 1.57$  kg) were randomly assigned into four groups, 8 lambs of each according to live body weight. The first group (control) was fed control rations without DFM supplementation, while treated groups (Fungal DFM, Bacterial DFM and Mixed DFM) were fed the control ration plus 2.5 g fungal, bacterial or mixed (1:1) DFM; respectively. Results showed that groups fed ration supplemented with DFM (fungal, bacterial and mixed) recorded higher DM, TDN and digestible CP intake. Supplementation of lambs ration with DFM (fungal, bacterial and mixed) showed not significant ( $P > 0.05$ ) effects on rumen liquor TVFA's and ammonia concentration at 0, 3 and 6 hrs post feeding. While DFM supplemented rations showed significant higher rumen liquor pH at 0, 3 and 6 hrs after feeding compared to the control group. Numerically increase was recorded in cellulose activity as unit per ml rumen liquor for groups fed ration supplemented with bacterial and mixed DFM. Direct fed microbial supplementation significantly ( $P < 0.05$ ) improved nutrients digestibility as dry matter, organic matter, crude protein, crude fiber, nitrogen free extract, neutral

detergent fiber (NDF) and acid detergent fiber (ADF) as well as feeding values as TDN and digestible crude protein. Bacterial or mixed DFM supplementation showed numerically increased ( $P > 0.05$ ) in plasma total protein concentration compared to lambs fed ration not supplemented. While albumin, globulin, urea, triglycerides, creatinine ALT and AST, alkaline phosphates activity were not significantly ( $P > 0.05$ ) affected by DFM supplementation. Total gain and ADG were significantly increased ( $P \leq 0.05$ ) for groups received rations supplemented with DFM compared to control group. Also DFM supplementation significantly ( $P \leq 0.05$ ) improved feed conversion as DM, TDN, CP and DCP compared to the control group. It could be concluded that supplementing lambs ration with fungal, bacterial or mixed DFM improved feed intake, digestibility, average daily gain and feed conversion without any adverse effects on animal health and performance.

### INTRODUCTION

Improvements of animal productivity, feed utilization and animal health are the aims of rumen microbial studies. These aims could be achieved by producing desirable fermentation products as direct fed microbial (DFM). Many of the feed additives have been used to improve animal productivity and feed utilization efficiency. The probiotics (direct-fed microbial, DFM) are microbial growth promoters that could be manipulating the rumen fermentation characteristics in intestinal tracts of livestock animals (Weiss et al 2008).

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The name probiotic comes from the Greek 'pro bios' which means 'for life'. The term "probiotic" has been defined as "a live microbial feed supplement, which affects beneficially of the host animal through improving the microbial balance in the intestine" (Fuller, 1989). Also, they are known as direct-fed microbial (DFM). Probiotic or DFM have been used to describe viable microorganisms, culture extracts, enzymes, exopolysaccharides or various combinations of them (Yoon and Stern, 1995).

Direct-fed microbials (DFM) have been shown to improve average daily gain and feed conversion efficiency in feedlot animal (Krehbiel et al 2003), increase milk production in dairy cows (Oetzel et al 2007 and Chiquette et al (2008)), and improve health and performance of young calves Adams et al (2008, Dicks and Botes, (2010) and Frizzo et al (2010).

Many factors, such as the microbial type and strain, presence of enzymes in the products, their mode of action and level of application, the animal type, diet and energy level as well as animal productivity may affect animal response to DFM supplementation. Moreover few researches has been found to evaluate effect of using DFM on small ruminant performance, Also no available researches have been found to evaluate effect of using DFM on the low quality roughage efficiency of utilization.

So, this study was conducted to evaluate effect of supplement fungal or bacterial DFM or their mixture supplementation on productive performance of growing lambs fed low quality roughage (wheat straw).

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

The present study was carried out in Al-Fayroz farm for agriculture and animal production, El-Noubaria, El-Behaira governorate and labs of Animal Nutrition, Animal Production Department, Faculty of Agriculture, Ain Shams University, Egypt. Preparing of the direct fed microbial (DFM) products.

Ten ml containing  $10^8$  CFU/ml of each standard inoculum (*Phanerochaete chrysosporium* NRRL-11460 as a fungus and *Bacillus subtilis* as a bac-

teria) were used separately to inoculate 2000 ml Erlenmeyer flasks containing 1000 ml of the selective medium for each strain under investigation, and then incubated on rotary shaker (150 rpm). Incubation period was different according to the strain used to produce broth culture media of each of the tested strain, having a cell load  $10^{12}$  CFU/ml for *Bacillus subtilis* while the fungus (*Phanerochaete chrysosporium*) were calculated as 0.06 g dry weight/ 10ml. A constant volume (4000 ml) from each strain was used to inoculate constant weight of talk powder (2000g) each of them separately and let to dry under room temperature (25° C). The inoculums were added to the talk powder in intervals. Cellulase activity was determined according to Lone et al (2012). The cellulase enzyme activity was 75.5, 81.39 and 78.00 unit per 1 gm fungal, bacterial and mixed MDF, respectively.

## Animals, and experimental design

Thirty-two Barkey lambs (3 months old,  $22.31 \pm 1.57$  kg body weight) were randomly assigned to four groups, 8 lambs for each according to live body weight. Each group was assigned randomly to receive one of the four experimental treatments. The animals were fed restricted amount of concentrate feed mixture (CFM) to cover about 80 % of their allowances according to NRC (1985) and the wheat straw was offered free choice. The concentrate feed mixture (CFM) consisted of 40.5% yellow corn grain, 11.2% soybean meal, 11.2% wheat barn, 22.2% sun flower meal, 11.2% wheat, 0.2% dicalcium phosphate, 0.1% salt, 1%linestone, 0.3% yeast, 0.1% ammonium chloride, 1% mineral mix, 1% sodium bicarbonate and 0.2% detoxification agent. The first group (control) was fed control rations without DFM supplementation, while treated groups were fed the control ration plus 2.5 g fungal, bacterial or mixed (1:1) DFM, respectively. The chemical composition of the experimental ration ingredients are presented in Table (1). Complete rations were offered twice daily at 7 am and 4 pm in quantities sufficient to allow free choice access to the ration, and animals have free access to clean fresh water. The growth phase lasted 124 days, the animals were weighed monthly to calculate total gain, daily gain and feed conversion.

**Table 1.** chemical composition of the experimental rations ingredients (%) on DM basis

Item	Rations ingredients %	
	CFM <sup>1</sup>	Wheat straw
Organic matter (OM)	94.71	90.16
Ash	5.29	9.84
Crude protein (CP)	18.59	4.12
Ether extract (EE)	3.97	1.83
Crude Fiber (CF)	11.14	36.46
Nitrogen free extract (NFE)	61.01	47.75
Non fiber carbohydrate (NFC)	39.91	4.73
<b>Cell wall constituents</b>		
Neutral-detergent fiber (NDF)	32.23	83.14
Acid-detergent fiber (ADF)	13.67	54.39
Acid-detergent lignin (ADL)	4.10	7.82
Lignin	3.07	7.59
Hemicellulose	18.56	28.75
Cellulose	9.57	46.57

<sup>1</sup> CFM: Concentrate feed mixture

### Digestibility trials

Through the entire experimental period, the digestibility trial was performed after two months of the experimental beginning, six animals from each treatment were used and fecal bag technique was applied. Fecal collection bags were fixed on the lambs and after a 3-day adaptation period, total feces were collected for 5 consecutive days. Fecal collection bags were emptied twice daily and the contents weighed. Total feces were sub-sampled at a percentage set for individual lambs to obtain approximately 100 g of fecal DM from each animal over the five days collection.

### Rumen parameters

After 45 days of experimental beginning rumen contents were sampled from 5 animals of each group by stomach tube. Samples were collected before the morning feeding (i.e., t = 0), 3 and 6 h after the morning feeding. The collected rumen fluid was squeezed through four layers cheese-cloth and immediately after rumen liquor filtration; pH value was measured using pH-meter (Hanna, Italy). Ammonia concentration was carried out by a modified Nessler's method modified by **Szumacher-Strabel et al (2002)**. Frozen rumen liquor samples were analyzed for total volatile fatty acids (TVF's) by steam distillation according to **Warner (1964)**.

### Chemical analysis

Feeds and feces samples were subjected to proximate chemical analyses (crude protein (CP), crude fiber (CF), ether extract (EE) and Ash) according to AOAC, (2000) while nitrogen free extract (NFE) was calculated by difference. The NDF, ADF and ADL were determined according to **Van Soest et al (1991)**. Cellulose and hemi-cellulose were calculated by difference and non-fiber carbohydrate (NFC) was calculated according to following equations:

Cellulose, % = %ADF -% ADL

Hemi-cellulose, % = %NDF-% ADF.

NFC, % = 100- (%ND+%CP + %fat + %ash) (NRC, 2001).

### Blood parameters

At the end of growth trial, blood samples were taken from 5 animals for each group. A sample of 10 ml of blood was withdrawn from the jugular vein of each animal. The blood sample was directly collected into a clean dried glass culture tubes (after addition of heparin as an anti-coagulant) at 3 hrs post feeding. The blood plasma was harvested by centrifuging the collected blood samples soon after collection at about 4000 (rpm) for 15 minutes. The blood plasma was harvested into a clean dried 2 ml ependorph tube and then stored at -18° C for subsequent chemical analysis. Blood plasma samples were analyzed using commercial kits.

### Statistical analysis

The data were statistically analyzed using the statistical analysis system (SAS, 1999). Separation among means was carried out according to Duncan Multiple Range test (Duncan, 1955). Data of total and daily gain, digestibility, feed conversion and some blood parameters were statistically analyzed according to the following model:  $Y_{ij} = \mu + T_i + e_{ij}$ , Where  $y_{ij}$  = represents observation,  $\mu$  = the overall mean,  $T_i$  = effect of treatment (experimental group),  $e_{ij}$  = experimental error.

While the data of rumen fermentation parameters were statistically analyzed according to the following model:  $Y_{ij} = \mu + T_i + S + an(t) + S^*T + e_{ij}$  Where:  $Y_{ij}$  = The observation on the  $i^{th}$  treatment,  $\mu$  = Overall mean,  $T_i$  = Effect of the  $i^{th}$  treatment,  $S$  = Effect of the period,  $an(t)$  = Effect of the animal in the treatment and  $e_{ij}$  = Random experimental error

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Nutrient digestibility

Direct fed microbes (DFM) supplementation significantly improved nutrients digestibility as dry matter, organic matter, crude protein, crude fiber and nitrogen free extract content (Table 2). Also, DFM supplementation improved, neutral detergent fiber (NDF), acid detergent fiber content (ADF), cellulose and hemicellulose digestibility by about 6.73 and 18.14 % compared to control.

Nutritive values in term of total digestion nutrients (TDN), digestible crude protein were significantly improved with rations supplemented by DFM compared to control ration. The improvement of nutritive values (TDN and DCP%) of rations supplemented with DFM may be due to the improvement of nutrients digestibility as shown in Table (2). Other reports have also shown improvement in dry matter digestibility and fiber with fibrolytic enzyme addition (Gado and Salem, 2008 and Hristov et al 2008). Bowman et al (2002) reported an increase in total NDF digestibility at rate 25 % with a fibrolytic enzyme product. Exogenous fibrolytic enzymes (EFE) supplementation would be expected to improve fiber digestion by increasing ruminal digestion rate of the potentially NDF fraction digestibility (Yang et al 1999), alterations of rumen fermentation (Nsereko et al 2002) and/or enhanced colonization and attachment of ruminal microorganisms to plant cell wall (Nsereko et al 2000; Wang et al 2001).

However, increased fiber digestibility is unlikely due to supplemental enzyme activity alone because the contribution of added EFE to total ruminal enzyme activity is relatively very small (Beauchemin et al 2001). Wang et al (2001) reported that EFE supplementation increased numbers of total bacteria (non-fibrolytic and fibrolytic) in an *in vitro* batch culture system. Stimulation of rumen microbial counts by the use of EFE could result in higher microbial biomass production, consequently, provide more total polysaccharidase activity in the digested feedstuffs.

**Table 2.** Effect of lamb's ration supplementation with different DFM's on nutrient digestibility coefficients

Item	Control	Fungal DFM	Bacterial DFM	Mix DFM	SE	P value
Dry matter, %	68.37 <sup>b</sup>	72.87 <sup>a</sup>	72.45 <sup>a</sup>	72.9 <sup>a</sup>	0.632	0.0003
Organic matter, %	70.27 <sup>b</sup>	74.71 <sup>a</sup>	73.97 <sup>a</sup>	74.67 <sup>a</sup>	0.56	0.0001
Crude protein, %	64.66 <sup>b</sup>	72.11 <sup>a</sup>	69.27 <sup>a</sup>	69.66 <sup>a</sup>	1.309	0.0087
Ether extract, %	79.82	76.26	76.73	77.29	2.131	0.6535
Crude fiber, %	55.46 <sup>b</sup>	62.39 <sup>a</sup>	60.73 <sup>a</sup>	61.23 <sup>a</sup>	0.625	0.0001
Nitrogen free extract, %	77.52 <sup>b</sup>	80.58 <sup>a</sup>	80.7 <sup>a</sup>	81.58 <sup>a</sup>	0.64	0.003
<b>Cell wall constituents</b>						
Neutral-detergent fiber (NDF)	57.31 <sup>b</sup>	64.1 <sup>a</sup>	63.59 <sup>a</sup>	64.68 <sup>a</sup>	0.752	0.0001
Acid- detergent fiber (ADF)	53.19 <sup>b</sup>	60.41 <sup>a</sup>	61.15 <sup>a</sup>	62.03 <sup>a</sup>	0.732	0.0001
Hemicellulose	62.89 <sup>c</sup>	70.56 <sup>b</sup>	71.61 <sup>a</sup>	74.30 <sup>a</sup>	1.104	0.0001
Cellulose	62.42 <sup>b</sup>	68.69 <sup>a</sup>	66.62 <sup>a</sup>	67.96 <sup>a</sup>	1.062	0.0041
<b>Feeding value</b>						
Total digestible nutrient, %	71.31 <sup>b</sup>	75.22 <sup>a</sup>	73.69 <sup>a</sup>	74.5 <sup>a</sup>	0.605	0.0023
Digestible crude protein, %	10.99 <sup>b</sup>	12.36 <sup>a</sup>	11.07 <sup>b</sup>	11.23 <sup>b</sup>	0.221	0.0017

a, b and c Means with different superscripts in the same row are significant different

**Feed intake**

The experimental groups were fed restricted amount of feed (concentrate feed mixture and wheat straw, according to NRC allowances, 1985) and the orts were recorded. So the data of **Table (3)** clearly showed that the concentrate feed mixture (CFM) intake was the same for the four experimental groups, while wheat straw and total DM intake was higher in the groups fed rations supplemented with bacterial DFM and mixed DFM

compared to the group fed control ration and that supplemented with fungal DFM. Also the data indicated that the groups fed ration supplemented with DFM (fungal, bacterial and mixed) recorded higher TDN intake and digestible CP intake. These results could be postulated to that DFM contained exogenous enzyme that increase rate of digestion and /or digestibility (**Gado & Salem, 2008 and Krueger et al 2008**) also may be increased hydrolytic enzyme activity in the rumen consequently reduce gut fill and increase feed intake (**Adesogan, 2005**).

**Table 3.** Effect of lamb's ration supplementation with different DFMs on feed intake

Item	Control	Fungal DFM	Bacterial DFM	Mixed DFM
Concentrate feed mixture, kg/h/ d	0.784	0.784	0.784	0.784
Wheat straw, kg /h/ d	0.202	0.208	0.251	0.255
Total feed intake, kg /h/ d	0.986	0.992	1.035	1.039
Dry matter intake, kg /h/ d	0.860	0.865	0.904	0.908
Total digestible nutrient intake, g /h/ d*	0.708	0.738	0.759	0.788
Crude protein intake, g /h/ d*	153.4	154.3	156.5	155.6
Digestible crude protein intake, g /h/ d*	110.1	120.0	113.5	120.0

\* = Calculated based on nutrients digestibility results

**Rumen parameters**

Supplementation of lambs ration with DFM (fungal, bacterial and mixed) showed no significantly effect on rumen liquor TVFA's and ammonia concentration at 0, 3 and 6 hrs post feeding (**Table 4**). In this connection **Qiao et al (2009)** found that adding DFM contained *Bacillus subtilis* resulted in increased total VFA concentration. Concerning effect of sampling time, the values of rumen TVFA's and ammonia concentration showed a normal pattern, which the highest value (P<0.05) were recorded at 3 hrs post feeding and gradually decreased to reach the lowest values at 0 hrs of feeding (pre- feeding). This may be attributed to that fermentation process of both nonstructural and structural carbohydrates started with a low rate as a result to absence of substrate then increased with the time and reached the maximal level at 3 hrs after feeding then decreased up to the next meal, parallel to the gradually disappearance of substrate (**EI-Bordeny et al 2015 b**).

Data of **Table (4)** clearly indicated that supplementation of lambs ration with different DFM significantly increased rumen liquor pH at 0, 3 and 6 hrs after feeding compared to the control group (not supplemented). This result may be due to the higher feed intake (P>0.05) from wheat straw (table 3), consequently increase ruminating process and saliva excretion which enhance the buffering control and resulted in increase the pH value as well as the non-significant increase in TVFA's for control group compared to the group supplemented with different DFMs.

Concerning effect of sampling time, the values of rumen liquor pH showed a normal pattern, the mean value of rumen pH started high at zero time then decreased (P<0.05) at 3 hrs, then increased (p<0.05) again at 6 hrs after feeding. These results may be related to fermentation processes of both nonstructural and structural carbohydrates and production of volatile fatty acids which increased with proceeding time so that affected the pH values to some limit until they were proportionally and relatively absorbed from the rumen wall

resulting in decrease in pH value. These results agree with the conclusion of **El-Bordeny et al (2015b)** who stated that the pH values were related to TVFA's concentration in the rumen inversely. Numerically increase (not significant) was noticed in cellulase enzyme activity as unit per ml rumen liquor for groups fed ration supplemented with bac-

terial and mixed DFM, and no differences was recorded among the different experimental groups in specific activity of Table cellulose as unit per mg protein (**Table 4**). This may be due topost-ingestive enzyme effects, which may improve hydrolytic activity in rumen ecosystem (**Adesogan, 2005**).

**Table 4.** Effect of lamb's ration supplementation with different DFMs on rumen fermentation kinetics

Item	Control	Fungal DFM	Bacterial DFM	Mixed DFM	mean	SE
<b>pH value</b>						
Before feeding (0h)	6.52	6.77	7.13	7.09	6.88 <sup>a</sup>	0.071
After 3 hours	5.51	5.56	5.87	5.87	5.71 <sup>c</sup>	0.075
After 6 hours	5.76	6.03	6.01	6.62	6.11 <sup>b</sup>	0.08
Mean	5.93 <sup>C</sup>	6.13 <sup>BC</sup>	6.34 <sup>AB</sup>	6.34 <sup>A</sup>		
<b>Total volatile fatty acids concentration (TVFA's), m equiv. dL<sup>-1</sup></b>						
Before feeding (0h)	7.22	5.12	4.92	5.32	5.65 <sup>c</sup>	0.258
After 3 hours	8.4	8.46	8.3	8.5	8.42 <sup>a</sup>	0.247
After 6 hours	6.31	6.41	6.69	6.90	6.58 <sup>b</sup>	0.247
Mean	7.31	6.66	6.64	6.91		
<b>Ammonia concentration, mg dL<sup>-1</sup></b>						
Before feeding (0h)	4.50	3.67	4.11	4.78	4.26 <sup>b</sup>	0.559
After 3 hours	8.95	9.58	9.86	9.68	9.52 <sup>a</sup>	0.527
After 6 hours	4.12	3.48	6.34	7.52	5.36 <sup>b</sup>	0.618
Mean	5.86	5.58	6.77	7.328 <sup>a</sup>		
<b>Cellulose activity, unit ml<sup>-1</sup></b>						
Before feeding (0h)	4.99	6.06	4.53	3.91	4.87	2.799
After 3 hours	10.24	11.62	17.73	7.65	11.81	2.799
After 6 hours	17.46	12.12	17.11	26.96	18.41	2.799
Mean	10.90	9.93	13.12	12.84		
<b>Specific activity of cellulase, unit mg<sup>-1</sup> of protein</b>						
Before feeding (0h)	1.10	1.49	1.19	2.01	1.45	1.28
After 3 hours	5.72	4.06	5.42	2.71	4.48	1.28
After 6 hours	6.77	3.40	4.76	9.70	6.16	1.28
Mean	4.53	2.98	3.79	4.81		

a, b and c, means with different superscripts in the same column are significant (P<0.05) different.

A, B and C, means with different superscripts in the same row are significant (P<0.05) different.

#### Blood metabolic parameters

Adding fungal, bacterial or mixed DFM to lambs ration showed insignificantly numerically increased (P>0.05) in plasma total proteins concentration compared to lambs fed control ration (**Table 5**). This may be attributed to that DFM supplementation improve metabolic process as a response to increase nutrients digestibility specially, crude protein and organic matter (**Table 4**) as well as increase flow of microbial protein from the rumen (**Yang et al 1999**). Moreover, **Kumar et al (1980) and Bush, (1991)** postulated that blood total proteins plasma concentration is reflect the nutritional status of the animal and reported a positive corre-

lation between blood total proteins concentration and dietary protein level.

Blood plasma albumin, globulin, urea, triglyceride and creatinine concentration and ALT, AST, alkaline phosphates activity were not significantly (P>0.05) affected by DFM supplementation to lambs ration (**Table 5**). The present values of AST and ALT activity indicated normal activity of the animal liver tissues; consequently, DFM supplementation in the present study had no any adverse effect on the liver function. **Furthermore, Kholif et al (2012) and El-Bordeny et al (2015a)** found that adding exogenous fibrolytic enzyme as a DFM to dairy buffaloes and dairy cows rations had not any significant effect on buffalo's blood metabolites.

**Table 5.** Effect of lamb's ration supplementation with different DFMs on some blood plasma parameters

Item	Control	Fungal DFM	Bacterial DFM	Mix DFM	SE	P value
Total protien , g dL <sup>-1</sup>	5.885	6.151	6.439	6.37	0.264	0.463
Albumin, g dL <sup>-1</sup>	2.751	2.868	2.71	2.906	0.114	0.612
Globulin, g dL <sup>-1</sup>	3.134	3.283	3.729	3.464	0.291	0.593
A/G ratio	0.872	0.94	0.751	0.868	0.096	0.628
Urea, mg dL <sup>-1</sup>	35	37.86	40.26	41.73	2.177	0.257
Triglycerides, mg dL <sup>-1</sup>	103.6	127.4	98.25	98.43	18.427	0.645
Creatinine, mg dL <sup>-1</sup>	0.7	0.725	0.6	0.68	0.14	0.959
Alkaline phosphatase, unit L <sup>-1</sup>	31.37	30.37	25.09	36.11	2.652	0.122
AST, unit L <sup>-1</sup>	8.22	9.76	8.95	10.1	1.865	0.912
ALT, unit L <sup>-1</sup>	63.44	62.12	61.96	56.96	1.839	0.105

#### Growth performance

Total gain and average daily gain were significantly increased (P=0.006) for groups received rations supplemented with DFM compared to control group (**Table 6**). In this connection Kowalski *et al.*(2009) found that adding DFM contain *Bacillus subtilis* to dairy calve ration increased average daily gain and final total gain. Moreover, **Kritas et al (2006)** fed ewes on ration supplemented with DFM and found increase in total milk yield, also **Qiao et al (2009)** found the same trend when feeding lactating cow on diets supplemented with DFM.

Also supplementation lambs rations with DFM significantly (P≤0.05) improved feed conversion as DM, TDN, CP and DCP compared to the control group. These may be due to: 1) Higher intake of CP and TDN for supplemented groups compared to control group (**Table 2**), 2) the higher nutrients digestibility for supplemented groups compared to control group (**Table 5**). Moreover, the superiority of feed conversion as DM, TDN, CP and DCP for supplemented groups could be attributed to the higher values of average daily gain recorded for supplemented groups compared to control.

**Table 6.** Effect of lamb's ration supplementation with different DFMs on growth performance

Item	Control	Fungal DFM	Bacterial DFM	Mix DFM	SE	P value
Initial weight, kg	22.17	23.17	21.57	22.43	1.46	0.902
Final weight, kg	38.33	43.67	43.00	44.00	1.97	0.22
Total gain, kg	16.17 <sup>b</sup>	20.50 <sup>a</sup>	21.43 <sup>a</sup>	21.57 <sup>a</sup>	1.03	0.006
Average daily gain. g/ day	130 <sup>b</sup>	165 <sup>a</sup>	173 <sup>a</sup>	174 <sup>a</sup>	8.4	0.006
<b>Feed conversion</b>						
Dry matter conversion, kg/kg	6.68 <sup>a</sup>	5.36 <sup>b</sup>	5.34 <sup>b</sup>	5.25 <sup>b</sup>	0.29	0.008
TDN conversion, kg/kg	5.50 <sup>a</sup>	4.57 <sup>b</sup>	4.48 <sup>b</sup>	4.56 <sup>b</sup>	0.24	0.033
Crude protein conversion, g/kg	1192.9 <sup>a</sup>	955.3 <sup>b</sup>	924.1 <sup>b</sup>	900.0 <sup>b</sup>	51.21	0.003
Digestible protein conversion, g/kg	856.2 <sup>a</sup>	742.7 <sup>b</sup>	669.8 <sup>b</sup>	694.4 <sup>b</sup>	38.06	0.016

a and b, Means with different superscripts in the same row are significant different.

## CONCLUSION

It could be concluded that supplementing lambs ration with fungal, bacterial or mixed DFM improve feed intake and digestibility, consequently increased average daily gain and feed conversion without any adverse effects on animal health and performance.

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## تقييم تأثير الإضافات الميكروبية لتحسين استخدام مواد العلف المائية منخفضة الجودة في المجترات

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بالمجموعة الضابطة (الاولى). كما سجلت المجموعات المعاملة (الثانية والثالثة والرابعة) قيم أعلى في قيمة pH الكرش عند عند أوقات صفر و 3 و 6 ساعات بعد التغذية بالمقارنة بالمجموعة الضابطة (الاولى). كما أدى استخدام الإضافات الميكروبية الى زيادة نشاط انزيم السليوليز فس سائل الكرش. أدى استخدام الإضافات الميكروبية الى زيادة معدلات هضم المادة الجافة والمادة العضوية والبروتين الخام والالياف الخام ومكونات جدار الخلية بالمقارنة بالمجموعة الضابطة. كما أدى الى ارتفاع قيمة المركبات الكلية المهضومة والبروتين المهضوم بالمقارنة بالمجموعة الضابطة. لوحظ زيادة غير معنوية في مستوى بروتينات الدم للمجموعات التي أضيف الى علائقها اضافات ميكروبية بالمقارنة بالمجموعة الضابطة بينما لم توجد أي فروق معنوية في تركيز الألبومين والجلوبيولين واليوريا والجلسريدات الثلاثية. والكرياتين وانزيمات الكبد ونشاط إنزيم الفوسفاتيز. كما أدى استخدام الإضافات الميكروبية إلي زيادة معنوية في معدل النمو اليومي والنمو الكلى بالمقارنة بالمجموعة الضابطة. وأدى أيضا إلي تحسن في كفاءة التحويل كمادة جافة وكبروتين خام وبروتين مهضوم ومركبات كلية مهضومة بالمقارنة بالمجموعة الضابطة.

يمكن الخلاصه الى أن استخدام الإضافات الميكروبية الفطرية والبكتيرية والمخلوط قد حسن من المأكول والهضم وزاد من معدلات النمو وكفاءة التحويل بدون التأثير على أداء الحيوان وصحته.

الكلمات الدالة: الحملان، الإضافات الميكروبية، المأكول، الهضم، النمو، تخمرات الكرش

### الموجز

في العديد من الدراسات أدي استخدام الإضافات الميكروبية في علائق حيوانات التسمين الى زيادة معدل النمو وكفاءة التحويل. و لهذا هدفت هذه الدراسة الى تقييم تأثير استخدام الإضافات الميكروبية الفطرية والبكتيرية والمخلوطة (1:1 فطر : بكتريا) على الأداء الانتاجي للحملان النامية. استخدم في هذه الدراسة اثنين وثلاثون حمل برقي (عمر 3 أشهر ومتوسط وزن 1.57±22.31) قسمت عشوائيا على أربعة مجموعات (8 حملان لكل مجموعة) طبقا لوزن الجسم. غذيت المجموعة الاولى (الضابطة) على علائق بدون اضافات ميكروبية بينما غذيت المجموعات التجريبية الثانية والثالثة والرابعة على نفس العلائق مع استخدام اضافات ميكروبية فطرية وبكتيرية ومخلوطة على التوالي. أظهرت النتائج أن المجموعات التي غذيت على علائق مضاف لها اضافات ميكروبية فطرية وبكتيرية ومخلوط حققت ارتفاع في المأكول من المادة الجافة والمركبات الكلية المهضومة والبروتين المهضوم. كما لوحظ أن استخدام الإضافات الميكروبية المختلفة لم تؤد الى اي فروق معنوية في تركيز الاحماض الدهنية الطيارة و الامونيا في سائل الكرش عند أوقات صفر و 3 و 6 ساعات بعد التغذية بالمقارنة

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