

CHEESE WHEY AS A NATURAL SOURCE OF PEROXIDASE TO AMELIORATE THE NEGATIVE EFFECTS OF PHENOLIC COMPOUNDS OF FEED INGREDIENTS AND THE GOSSYPOL OF COTTONSEEDS IN RABBITS DIETS.

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ABSTRACT

This study was conducted to investigate the influence of 3 levels of cheese whey as a natural source of peroxidase to overcome the negative effects of poly-phenolic compounds naturally found in feed ingredients of rabbit feed. Thirty New Zealand growing rabbits were used. The rabbits were divided according to body weight into 5 similar experimental groups. They were assigned at random to receive the 5 experimental diets. The control ration was a commercial diet. Un-decorticated cotton seed cake partially replaced soybean meal protein in the second diet. The other 3 experimental diets were the same as diet 2 but supplemented with 1, 2, and 3% of cheese whey, respectively. The experiment lasted for 72 days to study the effects on nutrients digestibility and feeding values, growth performance, and economical efficiency.

Results showed that rabbits fed diet containing 3% whey recorded significant increase in digestibility coefficients of DM, OM, CP, CF, EE and NFE compared to the other ratios while diets which contained 2 or 3% whey had higher digestibility of NDF, ADF, hemi-cellulose, cellulose and lignin. The nutritive value as TDN, DE and ME significantly ($P < 0.01$) increased with 2 or 3% whey. Final body weights were 2545, 2248.33, 2466.67, 2470.50 and 2456.67 g. for animals fed the control, 0, 1, 2 and 3% whey, respectively. Corresponding averages of daily gains were 26.02, 21.78, 24.84, 24.85 and 24.63 g. These results revealed significant ($P < 0.05$) improvement in growth performance in response to whey supplementation. In addition, economical efficiency and relative economic efficiency were the best for the group fed 1% whey (163.41 and 119.27%) followed by the other groups. It was concluded that cheese whey could be used as a natural source of peroxidase to ameliorate the negative effects of phenolic compounds naturally found in feed ingredients and the gossypol of cotton seeds.

Keywords: Rabbits, cotton seed meal, cheese whey, peroxidase, nutrient digestibility, growth performance, economical efficiency.

INTRODUCTION

Rabbits and poultry have fast reproductive and growth rates, and are excellent species in converting feed into body weight. Both are known to yield high quality protein meat with low fat. Rabbits also have a small body size but can be raised on relatively small amounts of non-conventional feedstuffs. They can be raised on grain-free diets, mainly on forages and other type of agricultural by-products. The specific advantages of rabbits have been reviewed by Cheeke, (1987). Some of these advantages make rabbits a suitable livestock species for meat production in the developing nations. The anti-nutritive factors (ANFs) may be defined as those substances generated in natural feedstuffs by the normal metabolism of species and by different

mechanisms e.g inactivation of some nutrients, interference with the digestive process or metabolic utilization of feed which exert effects contrary to optimum nutrition. Being an ANF is not an intrinsic characteristic of a compound but depends upon the digestive process of the ingesting animal.

Soybean meal commonly used in animal diets is becoming very expensive. Un-decorticated cottonseed meal is cheaper but it contains appreciable amounts of gossypol and some feed ingredients contain polyphenolic compounds which are considered anti-nutritional factors.

Whey is the valuable co-product resulting after the production of cheese, curd cheese or casein from milk. The type of whey produced depends on the method of precipitation that is employed to separate the casein. Whey products have been successfully used in feed for young animals (e.g. in milk replacer for calves, lambs and goat kids and also in diets for weaned pigs). Moreover, whey products are increasingly being used in animal feed for both breeding and fattening purposes (EWPA, 2006). It is rich in peroxidase. Peroxidases have conquered a prominent position in biotechnology and associated research areas (enzymology, biochemistry, medicine, genetics, physiology, histo- and cytochemistry). They are one of the most extensively studied groups of enzymes and the literature is rich in research papers dating back from the 19th century. Nasrabadi and Asadpour (2008) determined the LP activity of buffalo milk, it was found to be 16.84 U/mL. also, reported buffalo milk LP is more susceptible to increases of temperature above 71°C than lower temperature. Lacto-peroxidase is one of the most stabilized enzymes in milk (Shakeel- ur- Rehman and Farkye, 2002). The importance of peroxidases is emphasised by their wide distribution among living organisms and by their multiple physiological roles. They have been divided into three super families according to their source and mode of action: plant peroxidases, animal peroxidases and catalases (Azevedo. *et al.*, 2003).

MATERIALS AND METHODES

Animals:

Thirty growing male New Zealand White (NZW) rabbits at 5 weeks of age were used in this study. The rabbits were divided according to body weight into 5 similar groups (6 in each). The 5 groups were assigned at random to 5 experimental dietary treatments. The initial live body weight were 0.641, 0.694, 0.690, 0.700 and 0.698 kg, respectively. The experimental period lasted 72 days. Rabbits were individually weighed every 24 days in the morning before feeding.

Housing and management:

Male rabbits used in this study were individually housed in double flat galvanized wire cages (40x50x60 cm). Each cage had feeder and stainless nipple for drinking water. The batteries were arranged in rows in a windowed house and feeds and water were available all time, through the provision of feed twice a day. Rabbits of all groups were individually kept under the same managerial conditions.

Experimental diets:

Five iso- nitrogenous and iso- calories total mixed rations (TMR) were formulated to cover the nutrient requirements for breeding and mature rabbits according to NRC (1994), as presented in Table 1. The control ration was a commercial diet. Un-decorticated cotton seed cake replaced 20% of soybean meal protein in the second diet. The other 3 experimental diets were supplemented with 1, 2, and 3% of cheese whey, respectively. All experimental diets were in pelleted form.

Table 1: Formulation of the experimental diets (%).

Ingredient.	R1 Control	R2 0% Whey	R3 1% Whey	R4 2% Whey	R5 3% Whey
Barley grain	22	22	22	22	22
Wheat bran	26	26	26	26	26
Berseem hay 3 rd cut	30	30	30	30	30
Soybean meal	17	10	10	10	10
UD CSM	0	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5
Molasses	3	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5
Salt	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Limestone	1	1	1	1	1
Premix	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Total	100	100	100	100	100
Cheese whey (%)	-	-	1	2	3

Premix : One kilogram of premix contain: vit. A 12000 000 IU, vit. D3 2200 00 IU, vit. E 1000 mg, vit. K, 2000 mg, vit. B₁ 1000 mg, vit. B₂ 4000, vit. B₆ 100 mg, vit. B₁₂ 10 mg, pantothenic acid 3.33 g, biotin 33 mg, folic acid 0.83 g, cholin chloride 200 g, Zn 11.79 g, Mn5 g, Fe 12.5 g, Cu 0.5 g, I 33.3 mg, Se 16.6 mg and Mg 66.7 g.

Digestibility trails:

Five digestibility trails were carried out using three NZW rabbits from each group. Rabbits were fed in such away to cover their requirements (NCR, 1994). Rabbits were weighed at the beginning and the end of the collection period to make sure that their weights were maintained. The preliminary period was 3 days, followed by 4 days as a collection period. Quantitative collection of feces started 24 hours post-offering the daily feed, the feces of each rabbit was collected every day in the morning shaded hair were eliminated. The feces were dried at 60°C for 48 hours. At the end of collection, all collected feces for each rabbit was weighed, pooled and stored at (2 – 5)°C for chemical analysis purpose. Proximate analysis were carried out according to (A.O.A.C, 1990), crude protein (CP) by Kjeldahl, while nitrogen free extract (NFE) was calculated by difference. Fiber fractions (NDF, ADF and ADL) were determined as described by (Goering and Van Soest, 1970). Hemicelluloses and cellulose were calculated by difference.

Statistical Analysis:

Data were subjected to analysis of variance according to Snedecor and Cochran, (1982) using General Linear Model program of SAS (2001). Significant difference among treatments were identified at 5% level by Duncan (1955) multiple range tests.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Chemical analysis of the experimental diets:

Chemical analysis of Un-decorticated cottonseed meal (UCSM) and the five experimental diets are presented in table 2. The proximate analysis of UCSM recorded 92.00, 92.14, 24, 23, 6.20, 38.94 and 7.86% for DM, OM, CP, CF, EE, NFE and ash, respectively. Azhdari *et al.*, (2012) reported that chemical analyses of CSM was 91.7% DM, 43.7% CP, 13% CF, 1.6% EE and 6.6% ash. Dadgar *et al.*, (2010) reported that chemical analyses of CSM was as follows: 91.92% DM, 36.9% CP, 10.6% CF, 4.72% ash, and 2250 Kcal/Kg energy on DM basis. Ojewola *et al.*, (2006) reported that chemical analysis of CSM was 89.38% DM, 39.86% CP, 17.38% CF, 6.57% EE and 6.79% ash., Also, Erturk, *et al.*, (2004) showed that chemical analysis of extracted CSM was 92.79% DM, 87.9% OM, 30.56% CP, 17.1% CF, 34.44 % NFE, 5.8% EE, and 4.89% ash

Table 2: Chemical analysis of different experimental diets.

Ingredient	UCSM	Experimental rations				
		R1 Control	R2 0% Whey	R3 1% Whey	R4 2% Whey	R5 3% Whey
(DM)	92.00	88.62	88.76	89.69	90.62	91.55
Chemical analysis (% as DM basis):						
(OM)	92.14	92.14	92.12	92.03	91.94	91.84
(CP)	24	16.85	16.30	16.43	16.56	16.70
(CF)	23	13.92	14.43	14.43	14.43	14.44
(EE)	6.20	2.43	2.64	2.65	2.65	2.66
(NFE)	38.94	58.94	58.75	58.52	58.3	58.04
Ash	7.86	7.86	7.88	7.97	8.06	8.16
Fiber fractions:						
NDF	40	39.14	39.61	39.5	39.38	39.38
ADF	29	22.13	22.59	22.59	22.59	22.60
ADL	11	7	7	7	7	7
Hemi-cellulose	21	17.11	17.02	16.91	16.79	16.68
Cellulose	18	15.13	15.59	15.59	15.59	15.60

Digestibility coefficients and nutritive values of the experimental diets :

The nutrients digestibility coefficient and nutritive values of the experimental rations are presented in Table 3. Results showed that animal fed diet 2 (0% whey) containing 6.5% UCSM replacing SBM recorded lowered digestibility of all nutrients compared with this fed diet 1 (control diet). At the same time, animal fed diet 2 (0% whey) recorded lowered digestibility Fiber fractions (NDF, ADF, ADL, hemi-cellulose and cellulose) and Nutritive values (TDN, DCP, DE and ME) compared with this fed the diet 1 (control diet). The recorded digestibility coefficients of CP were 81.15, 78.27, 78.01, 80.89 and 82.24% for rations control, D2 – D5, respectively, it is clearest that diet 2 decreased compared with control diet but ration 5 (3% whey) recorded highest significant ($P<0.01$) value for CP. The same higher

significant ($P < 0.01$) value was observed for CF, EE and NFE digestibility for ration 5 (3% whey). These results are in agreement with Abd El- Hadi, (2011) who reported that the digestion coefficients of DM, OM, CP, CF, EE and ash were improved ($P < 0.05$) with calves fed diet supplemented with 2 or 3 % whey compared with animals fed the control diet (0% whey). The improvement in digestibility may be attributed to the positive effect of lactoperoxidase enzyme (which naturally found in whey) in detoxification of phenolic compounds which are naturally known as a constituent of ration fiber lignin (Kroon *et al.*, 1999). The detoxification of phenolic compounds by natural peroxidase source cause an increase of digestibility of all nutrients (Monties, 1994). Also, the same author added that peroxidase is ligninolytic enzyme. Since most phenolic compounds are known to be enzyme inhibitor, the detoxification of it by any way cause increase in digestibility of all nutrients. Whey proteins are of special importance. They are mainly represented by β -lactoglobulin, α -lactalbumin, immunoglobulins, bovine serum albumin, lactoferrin and lacto-peroxidase (Brodziak *et al.*, 2012).

Table 3: Digestibility coefficients (%) and feeding values (%) of the experimental diets.

Item	Experimental rations					SE
	R1 Control	R2 0% Whey	R3 1% Whey	R4 2% Whey	R5 3% Whey	
Digestion coefficients (%):						
DM	73.97 ^{bc}	71.4 ^{ac}	70.23 ^a	75.57 ^{ba}	77.64 ^a	±0.94
OM	74.58 ^{bc}	72.12 ^{ac}	70.93 ^a	76.06 ^{ba}	78.1 ^a	±0.92
CP	81.15 ^a	78.27 ^b	78.01 ^b	80.89 ^a	82.24 ^a	±0.72
CF	27.08 ^{bac}	22.41 ^{bc}	18.01 ^c	31.94 ^{ba}	36.1 ^a	±2.59
EE	91.06 ^b	89.55 ^c	90.21 ^{cb}	94.09 ^a	93.56 ^a	±0.31
NFE	81.9 ^a	78.64 ^b	78.93 ^b	82.26 ^a	83.53 ^a	±0.69
Fiber fractions (%):						
NDF	57.45 ^{ba}	52.95 ^{bc}	49.37 ^c	61.02 ^a	61.43 ^a	±1.56
ADF	56.03 ^{bc}	51.13 ^{ac}	50.23 ^d	59.00 ^{ba}	62.99 ^a	±1.59
H. Cellu.	59.29 ^{ba}	55.37 ^b	48.22 ^{bc}	63.73 ^a	59.32 ^{ba}	±1.52
Cellulose	56.98 ^{bc}	52.93 ^{ac}	51.18 ^d	58.21 ^{ba}	62.57 ^a	±1.56
Lignin	53.96 ^b	47.12 ^c	48.10 ^c	60.75 ^a	63.91 ^a	±1.66
Nutritive values (%):						
TDN	73.64 ^{ba}	70.2 ^{bc}	69.37 ^c	73.78 ^{ba}	75.3 ^a	±0.97
DCP	15.50 ^a	14.37 ^{ca}	14.29 ^a	14.78 ^{cb}	15.00 ^b	±0.13
DE	11.44 ^b	11.08 ^b	11.01 ^b	11.93 ^a	12.37 ^a	±0.14
ME	10.87 ^b	10.53 ^b	10.46 ^b	11.34 ^a	11.76 ^a	±0.14

^a, ^b, ^c, ^d Means in the same row bearing different superscript letters differ significantly ($P < 0.05$).

Szczurek *et al.*, (2013) reported that although birds were fed diets containing whey protein concentration yet they had numerically the lowest pH in the caeca and in the small intestine, and the greatest relative intestinal

weight compared to the control group. They also indicated that the improvement in growth rate of WPC-fed birds occurred was primarily due to better nutrient digestibility and/ or the capacity of the intestines to absorb nutrients.

With regard fiber fractions additive whey to diet 2 with 2 or 3% significantly ($P<0.01$) increased with rabbits fed ration 4 and 5. The present results in Table 3 indicated that the nutritive value as TDN significantly ($P<0.01$) increased with rabbits fed ration 5 (3%whey) compared with other rations, while rabbits fed control and ration 4 (2%whey) significantly ($P<0.01$) increased with rabbits fed rations 2(0%whey) and 3 (1%whey). There were significant ($P<0.01$) increase in TDN when whey was added at the rate of 2 and 3% in rations 3 and 4 respectively. Moreover, rabbits fed the control un supplemented recorded the highest ($P<0.01$) values of DCP, followed by those fed ration 5 (3%whey).The data showed that DE and ME significantly ($P<0.01$) increased with rabbits fed ration 4 and 5 (2 and 3%whey).

Productive performance:

1- Changes of live body weight:

Effect of feeding experimental diets on LBW of rabbits during the experimental periods (35 to 107 days) are presented in Table 4. At the beginning of the experiment, the initial body weight of the experimental rabbits were 671.67, 680.00, 678.33, 681.67 and 683.33 g for the control, ration 2, 3, 4 and 5, respectively, indicating unbiased distribution of individuals among the treatment groups. Also, 24 days later, there was no significant differences in body weight, but rabbits fed ration 2 (1%whey) had numerically the highest body weight compared to other groups. After 48 days, groups fed control, rations 3 and 4 (1 and 2% whey) had significantly ($P< 0.05$) higher body weight than that of ration 2 and 5. The final weight was significantly ($P< 0.01$) higher in all groups compared to the control ration R1 (0% whey). The increases might be attributed to the higher digestibility of most nutrients, fiber fractions digestibility and nutritive values. The increase in live body weight (LBW) and live body weight gain (LBWG) of rabbits fed diets supplemented with whey (as source of peroxidase enzyme) at 1, 2 and 3 % to diet are in agreement with the findings of Eiben *et al.* (2002), Gidenne *et al.*, (2002) and Zheng *et al.* (2012). Eiben *et al.*, (2002) found that feeding rabbit a diet supplemented with cellulose enzyme significantly improved weight gain. Also, Gutierrez *et al.*, (2002) showed that addition of enzymes has improved BWG of young rabbits (by 3.1%) from 25 to 39 days of age. Gidenne *et al.*, (2002) reported that the improvement in live BW and BWG of the rabbits fed enzymes may be due to the enhancing effect of enzymes in microflora growth in gut and cecum as well as increase in volatile fatty acids production and organic matter digestibility. Antioxidant enzymes were an important indicator of animals' physical health and reaction in response to external stimuli (Johnson, 2002).

Table 4: Live body weight of growing NZW rabbits as affected by feeding the experimental diets at different periods.

Item	R1 Control	Experimental rations				SE
		R2 0% Whey	R3 1% Whey	R4 2% Whey	R5 3% Whey	
Live body weight (LBW) (g) at						
35 days	671.7	680.0	678.3	681.7	683.3	±52.72
59 days	1416.7	1479.67	1541.7	1521.7	1475.0	±49.59
83 days	2015 ^a	1859 ^b	2060 ^a	2028.3 ^a	1950.0 ^{ba}	±41.55
107 days	2545.0 ^a	2248.3 ^b	2466.7 ^a	2470.5 ^a	2456.7 ^a	±42.15

^{a, b} Means in the same row bearing different superscript letters differ significantly (P<0.05).

2-Changes in body weight gain:

Means of average daily gain (g) for the five experimental groups (control, rations 2, 3, 4 and 5) are presented in Tables 5.

During the first period of the experiment (5th week) body weight gain and average daily gain (g) indicated no significant difference (P≤0.05) among the tested groups. However, 24 and 48 days later rabbits fed control diet had the highest body weight gain compared to the other experimental groups. But feeding rations supplemented with whey (R3, R4 and R5) significantly (P≤ 0.05) increased gain compared ration 1. At the end of experimental periods the results indicated significant (P≤ 0.05) increase for control and other rations contained whey compared with ration 2 (0% whey).

Table 5: Live body weight gain of growing NZW rabbits as affected by feeding the experimental diets.

Item	R1 Control	Experimental rations				S.E
		R2 0% Whey	R3 1% Whey	R4 2% Whey	R5 3% Whey	
Average weight gain (g) at						
35- 59 (d)	745.0	799.7	863.3	840.0	791.67	±52.57
59- 83 (d)	598.3 ^a	379.3 ^c	518.3 ^{ba}	506.7 ^{ba}	475.0 ^b	±31.35
83- 107 (d)	530.0 ^a	389.3 ^c	406.7 ^c	442.2 ^{ba^c}	506.7 ^{ba}	±34.84
35- 107 (d)	1873.3 ^a	1568.3 ^b	1788.3 ^a	1788.8 ^a	1773.3 ^a	±58.94
Average daily gain (g)						
35- 59 (d)	31.04	33.32	35.97	35	32.99	±2.19
59- 83 (d)	24.93 ^a	15.81 ^c	21.6 ^{ba}	21.11 ^{ba}	19.79 ^b	±1.31
83- 107 (d)	22.09 ^a	16.22 ^c	16.95 ^{bc}	18.43 ^{ba^c}	21.11 ^{ba}	±1.45
35- 107 (d)	26.02 ^a	21.78 ^b	24.84 ^a	24.85 ^a	24.63 ^a	±0.82

^{a, b, c} Means in the same row bearing different superscript letters differ significantly (P<0.05).

Eiben *et al.*, (2002) found that feeding rabbits a diet supplemented with cellulose enzyme significantly improved weight gain. Also, Gutierrez *et al.*, (2002) showed that addition of enzymes has improved BWG of young rabbits by 3.1% from 25 to 39 days of age. Abd El-Latif *et al.*, (2008) reported that enzymes supplementation improved body weight gain for rabbits fed diets

containing 10% CF during the experimental period. Kanyinji and Sichangwa (2014) reported that replacing soybean meal with 15 and 20% fermentation cottonseed meal and 15% cottonseed meal in broiler finishing diets had no significant effect on the parameters assessed. However, broilers fed diets with 20% CSM had lower ($p<0.05$) daily weight gain or total weight gained compared to birds in other treatments.

Economical efficiency:

Data of economic evaluation of replacing CSM for SBM (ration 2) and addition of whey (rations 3, 4 and 5) is given in Table 6.

Results revealed that groups fed ration 3, 5 and 4 (1, 3 and 2 % whey) achieved the best economic efficiency (163.41, 159.72 and 150.05%) and relative economic efficiency (119.27, 116.58 and 109.52%). The least value was recorded for the control group. This improvement in feed efficiency was a reflection of improved body weight gain with less feed intake and the cheap price of whey when added as a natural source of peroxidase enzyme to rations 3, 5 and 4.

Table 6: Economical efficiency of growing NZW rabbits as affected by feeding the experimental diets at the end of lactation period.

Item	Experimental group				
	R1 Control	R2 0% Whey	R3 1% Whey	R4 2% Whey	R5 3% Whey
Average feed intake (kg/buck)	7.50	6.88	7.15	7.32	7.083
Price/ kg feed (LE)*	2.91	2.57	2.58	2.59	2.60
Average weight gain (kg/doe)	2.587	2.153	2.430	2.403	2.392
Price /kg live body (LE)**	20	20	20	20	20
Total feed cost (LE)	21.83	17.68	18.45	19.22	18.42
Price of weight gain (LE)	51.74	43.06	48.6	48.06	47.84
Feed conversion ratio	2.90	3.19	2.94	3.04	2.96
Net revenue (LE)	29.91	25.38	30.15	28.84	29.42
Economic efficiency (%)	137.01	143.55	163.41	150.05	159.72
Relative economic efficiency (%)	100	104.44	119.27	109.52	116.58

* Prices of tested diets were 2912, 2574 , 2584, 2594 and 2604 L.E. per ton for control, 0%, 1%, 2% and 3% whey respectively.

** The market price was 20 LE/kg live body weight at the time of experiment (2013).

*** Price of CSM meal was 3200 L.E. per ton at the time of experiment (2013).

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, according of the results of the present study, presence of anti nutritional factors such as phenolic compounds in feedstuffs may limit their use in formulating rations for rabbits as well as having a negative impact on utilization of those feedstuffs. The positive results of this current study may encourage the use of whey as cheap natural source of peroxidase enzyme at 1, 2 or 3% levels to decrease the deleterious effects of phenolic compounds in feed material to a safe level and to upgrade their nutritive values.

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شرش الجبنة كمصدر طبيعي للبيروكسيد للحد من التأثير السلبي للمركبات الفينولية لبعض مكونات الأعلاف وجوسيبول كسب القطن في علائق الأرانب. أحمد زكى محرز* , مصطفى عبد الحليم الحرايري* , وائل أحمد خليل* , محمد عبد الغنى شطيقة** و محمد مبروك محمود سلامة** * قسم إنتاج الحيوان – كلية الزراعة – جامعة المنصورة - مصر. ** معهد بحوث الإنتاج الحيواني – مركز البحوث الزراعية - وزارة الزراعة - مصر.

استخدم في هذه التجربة ٣٠ من ذكور الأرانب النيوزلندي الأبيض في عمر ٥ أسابيع (بعد الفطام) قسمت على خمس مجموعات بمعدل ستة أرانب لكل مجموعة، وكان متوسط الوزن ٠,٦٤١ , ٠,٦٩٤ , ٠,٦٩٠ , ٠,٧٠٠ , ٠,٦٩٨ في المجموعات الخمس على التوالي، وذلك لدراسة تأثير ثلاثة مستويات من شرش الجبن كمصدر لإنزيم البيروكسيد والذي له تأثير ايجابي على المواد الفينولية الموجودة في علف الأرانب وتم استخدام كسب بذرة القطن غير المقشور بنسبة ٢٠% استبدال بجزء من بروتين فول الصويا في العلف المصنع وذلك في المجموعات الثانية، الثالثة، الرابعة والخامسة مع إضافة شرش اللبن إلى المجموعات الثالثة والرابعة والخامسة وذلك لدراسة تأثير هذه المعاملات على معاملات الهضم للمركبات، النمو والكفاءة الاقتصادية وذلك خلال فترة ما قبل التسويق (٧٢ يوم) هي فترة التجربة. وخلال فترة التجربة كان يتم وزن الحيوانات كل ٢٤ يوم وذلك في الصباح قبل تقديم العلف لها، أما فيما يخص الكفاءة الاقتصادية فإنه تم حساب سعر الكيلو جرام حسب سعر السوق المحلي وفي نهاية فترة التجربة تم وزن الحيوانات قبل الذبح (الوزن النهائي). أظهرت النتائج تحسن في الزيادة في الوزن وكذلك الزيادة اليومية في المجموع المحتوية على شرش اللبن بالمقارنة بالمجموعة غير المحتوية عليه، كذلك فإنه من حيث الكفاءة الاقتصادية هناك تفوق للمجموع المحتوية على شرش اللبن بالمقارنة بالكنترول والتي كانت ١٦٣,٤١ , ١٥٩,٧٢ , ١٥٠,٠٥ على الترتيب. من النتائج السابقة يتضح أنه يمكن استخدام كسب بذرة القطن غير المقشور بنجاح في علائق الأرانب مع إضافته شرش اللبن للحد من تأثير المواد الفينولية والذي أدى إلى زيادة معدلات النمو وخفض تكاليف الإنتاج.