



287 Research paper

Use of a micro-encapsulated eucalyptus-medium chain fatty acids product as an alternative to zinc oxide and antibiotics

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In Significant Impact Groups:

Specific alternatives \ New antibiotics Feed / gut health

Species targeted: Pigs;

Age: Young;

Summary:

The effects of eucalyptus-medium chain fatty acids (E-MCFAs), zinc oxide (ZnO), and antibiotics on performance, nutrient digestibility, and serum chemistry parameters of were studied in nursery pigs. Three experiments were conducted. Recently weaned pigs, were given five treatments consisting of a basal diet or the basal diet supplemented with antibiotics (33 mg per kg tiamulin and 44 mg per kg lincomycin), ZnO (1500 or 2500 mg per kg), or 0.1% E-MCFAs (Experiments One and Two). In Experiment Three, 1% diatomaceous earth was added and the negative control was not used. In all three experiments, performance of pigs fed the four supplemented diets did not differ. Digestibility was higher in the diet supplemented with E-MCFAs than in diets supplemented with ZnO or antibiotics. This study indicates eucalyptus-MCFAs can be successfully used as a growth promoter in diets fed to nursery pigs.

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Where to find the original material:

<https://www.aasv.org/shap/issues/v19n1/v19n1p34.html>;

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