

# Assessment of gelation of weaner diet on the growth performance, immunoglobulin contents, diarrhea occurrence and the number of fecal microflora of postweaning pigs <sup>(1)</sup>

Fang-Chueh Liu <sup>(2)(5)</sup> Cheng-Hsun Chung <sup>(3)</sup> and Yu-Chun Lin <sup>(4)</sup>

Received: Oct. 1, 2016; Accepted: Mar. 27, 2017

## Abstract

The objectives of this experiment was assessed the effect of gelaton of weaner diet and regular weaner diet on growth performance, immunoglobulin content, diarrhea incidence and the number of fecal microbial of postweaning pigs. Experimental animals adopted 26-28 days of age weaning piglets, a total of 24 hd male and female in half, and in accordance with gender and body weight random allocating to 12 pens (1 male 1 female per each pen). Feeding diets had regular weaner diet and gelation of weaner diet (dry matter roughly at 30-35%) for 4 weeks of test period, during the first week, daily at 8:00, 11:00, 14:00 and 17:00 were feeding time, after that piglets were allowed free access to diet. The results showed that in bodyweight and average daily gain fed piglets with gelation of weaner diet had a better tendency than fed pigs with regular weaner diet. In feed intake and feed efficiency and BUN (blood urea nitrogen) concentration of piglets, fed piglets with gelation of weaner diet surpassed fed pigs with regular weaner diet. Diarrhea incidence showed light soft feces and intermediate soft feces of percentage, feeding gelation of weaner diet group was lower than feeding regular weaner diet group. Thus, application of gelation of weaner diet of feeding regime might be used to rear weaning piglets to improve their growth performance and incidence of diarrhea during the weaning period.

Key words: Gelation, Growth performance, Weaner pig.

---

(1) Contribution No. 2556 from Livestock Research Institute, Council of Agriculture, Executive Yuan.

(2) Nutrition Division, COA-LRI, Hsinhua 712, Tainan, Taiwan, R.O.C.

(3) Livestock Management Division, COA-LRI, Hsinhua 712, Tainan, Taiwan, R.O.C.

(4) Animal Products Processing Division, COA-LRI, Hsinhua 712, Tainan, Taiwan, R.O.C.

(5) Corresponding author, E-mail: fcliu@mail.tlri.gov.tw.