

USING OF YOGHURT FOR DIARRHEA PREVENTION IN SUCKLING PIGS

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Abstract Diarrhea prevention by using yoghurt was studied in suckling pigs. One hundred and thirty nine piglets (1 day old) from 20 sows were randomly divided into 5 groups: 1) 28 piglets received nothing as a control group 2) 27 piglets received commercial plain yoghurt 3) 25 piglets received commercial drink yoghurt 4) 29 piglets received home-made yoghurt produced from commercial yoghurt and 5) 30 piglets received yoghurt produced from pure culture. Yoghurt was given orally twice a day, 5 mL/piglet, from 1-5 days of age. The results showed that the percentage of diarrheic piglets in group 2 and 5 were significantly lower than that of the control group during 6-10, 11-15 and 16-20 days of age ($p<0.05$). The percentage of diarrheic piglets in group 3 was significantly lower than that of the control group during 6-10 and 16-20 days of age ($p<0.05$) but not different during 11-15 days of age. The percentage of diarrheic piglets in group 4 was significantly lower than that of the control group during 16-20 days of age ($p<0.05$) but not different during 6-10 days of age and significantly higher during 11-15 days of age ($p<0.05$). However, when the comparison was done between the control and all of the treatment groups, the percentage of diarrheic piglets in the control group was significantly higher than that of the treatment groups (92.9 vs 61.3%; $p<0.05$). These results suggest that yoghurt can be used for diarrhea prevention in suckling pigs. *Chiang Mai Veterinary Journal* 2006;4(2):117-125.

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