EVALUATION OF TAPIOCA RIND AS AN UNCONVENTIONAL FEED INGREDIENT IN THREE-WAY SYNTHETIC PIGS

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A biological experiment was carried out to explore the possibility of tapioca rind as an unconventional feed ingredient in fattening pigs. A total of 21 weaned Three-way synthetic pigs (Duroc x (Large White Yorkshire x Landrace) were selected randomly and divided into three groups namely T₁ (Control; pigs fed with balanced swine grower ration), T₂ (pigs fed with balanced swine grower ration containing 5% Tapioca rind) and T₃ (pigs fed with balanced swine grower ration containing 10% Tapioca rind). All the pigs were fed with iso-caloric iso-nitrogenous grower ration throughout the experimental period (from 2 to 8 months of age). The mean initial and final body weights of pigs fed with ration containing 0, 5 and 10% Tapioca rind were 14.00 ± 2.58 & 81.75 ± 3.64, 14.38 ± 2.12 & 81.50 ± 5.46 and 13.80 ± 1.77 & 83.20 ± 4.66 respectively. Numerically better body weight gain (kg) was recorded in both T₂ and T₃ groups than control. Though there was no significant difference between treatment groups in economic parameters like market age weight, body weight gain and feed efficiency, about 2.90 and 7.85 per cent reduction in feed cost of production per kg live weight gain was recorded in pigs fed with rations containing 5 and 10% of tapioca rind compared to control. From this study, it was concluded that, tapioca rind can be incorporated at 10 per cent level in swine grower rations.