

Feeding distillers dried grains with solubles (DDGS) to pigs

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The digestibility of energy and nutrients in distillers dried grains with solubles (DDGS) has been measured and performance of pigs fed diets containing DDGS has been reported from many experiments. Seven experiments in which diets containing corn or sorghum DDGS were fed to weanling pigs from 2 weeks post-weaning were completed. Improvements in G:F were reported from 2 experiments, whereas no change in performance was reported from the remaining experiments. Results of 17 experiments in which performance of growing finishing pigs fed diets containing corn DDGS were compared with performance of pigs fed diets containing no DDGS have been reported. The ADG was improved in 1 experiment, reduced in 6 experiments, and not affected by treatment in the remaining 9 experiments. The G:F was improved in 4 experiments, reduced in 3 experiments, and not affected by dietary treatments in the remaining 10 experiments. The ADFI was improved in 1 experiment, reduced in 6 experiments, and not affected by treatment in 9 experiments. Data from 6 additional experiments showed that 25 or 30% sorghum or wheat DDGS may be included in diets fed to growing finishing pigs without affecting pig performance. Inclusion of DDGS in diets fed to finishing pigs increased dressing percentage in 1 experiment, reduced dressing percentage in 6 experiments, and did not influence dressing percentage in 3 experiments. Lean percentage of the carcass of pigs fed DDGS was reported in 13 experiments, and with 1 exception, there was no influence of DDGS on lean percentage. A reduction in belly firmness has been observed in pigs fed DDGS and the iodine value of fat from pigs fed DDGS was increased in 3 experiments. Gestating and lactating sows may be fed diets containing up to 50 and 30% DDGS, respectively, without negatively impacting sow or litter performance. The litter size of sows fed DDGS was greater than in sows fed a corn soybean meal diet in 1 experiment. It is concluded that although variable results have been reported, the results of recent research suggest that most categories of pigs may be fed 20-30% DDGS without compromising pig performance.

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