EFFECT OF A FEED SUPPLEMENTED WITH CUNIDIGEST[®] ON FATTENING RABBIT PERFORMANCES

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ABSTRACT

Six different experiments were conducted in order to assess the effect of Cunidigest[®], a nutritional complementary of organic acids and essentials oils, on fattening rabbits. Each experiment was designed with two dietary treatments : a Control group (Control) received a commercial fattening feed and a trial group (Cunidigest[®]) received the same feed supplemented with 0.5% of Cunidigest[®]. A mortality reduction was observed in five trials (-0.4% in trial 1, NS ; -9% in trial 2, P<0.001 ; -4.5% in trial 3, P<0.10 ; -5% in trial 4 , P<0.01 and -6.9% in trial 5 , P<0.01). In the last trial, significant morbidity and Sanitary Risk Index (SRI) reductions were observed (P<0.05). Growing performances, feed intake and feed conversion ratio were not affected. According to these results, it may be concluded that the addition of Cunidigest[®] up to 0.5% in diet improves rabbit viability without affecting growing performances.

Key words: Rabbit - Health status - Organic acids- Essential oils- Cunidigest®