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diets were calculated so as to supply the same amount of total lysine (0.75 p. 100), the sulphur amino acid content, minimum for sulphite yeast (0.55 p. 100) being sufficient for the castrated males. The digestive utilization of the energy and proteins of the diet containing sulphite yeast was significantly inferior to that of the other diets which did not differ the one from the others, the nitrogen retention coefficient was higher for yeast than for Peruvian fish meal or soybean oil-meal (53 p. 100 vs 46 p. 100). As far as the finishing pigs are concerned, the growth performances were almost equivalent, the intake of the diet containing sulphite yeast being the most important. The food conversion ratio obtained with alkane yeast was a little lower than that resulting from the other diets, but the carcasses obtained with this yeast so as with soybean oil-meal were a little leaner than those obtained with sulphite yeast and fish meal. These trials show that alkane yeast constitutes a very suitable protein source for the pig, taking into account its important content of available lysine.

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RÉSUMÉ

Dans l'alimentation des porcs, le remplacement du tourteau de soja ou de la farine de poisson par des levures cultivées sur un substrat contenant des alcanes entraîne, en moyenne, des performances de gain de poids et d'indice de consommation identiques (et même parfois légèrement bénéfiques) jusqu'à incorporation de 7,5 p. 100.

Un effet bénéfique plus net, mais pas toujours statistiquement significatif, est détectable, particulièrement en ce qui concerne l'indice de consommation, pour les incorporations supérieures à 10 p. 100.

Enfin, ni la qualité des carcasses, ni les caractéristiques organoleptiques des produits animaux ne sont modifiées par l'incorporation de levures d'alcanes BP dans l'aliment des porcs.

SUMMARY

UTILIZATION OF YEAST GROWN ON ALKANES IN PIG FEEDING

Yeast, grown in a medium containing alkanes, has been used to replace fish and soya bean meals in the rations of growing/fattening pigs. Liveweight gain and feed conversion efficiency were not affected except that in certain cases, they were even improved slightly up to a 7.5 p. 100 incorporation of the yeast.

A more systematic and clear improvement in performance was observed, particularly in respect of feed conversion efficiency, when 10 p. 100 or more of yeast was used in the diet though it was not statistically significant in every case.

Finally, the inclusion of BP yeast in the feed, even at high levels, had no effect on carcass quality nor on the organoleptic properties of meat from these pigs.
