

HEMATOBIOCHEMICAL DYNAMICS AND BODY WEIGHT GAIN OF BLACK BENGAL GOAT FOLLOWING UREA MOLASSES BLOCK (UMB) SUPPLEMENTATION

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ABSTRACT: Black Bengal goats supplemented with urea molasses block (UMB) resulted in body weight gain and significantly increased ($P<0.05$) in various hematobiochemical parameters like total erythrocyte count, packed cell volume, hemoglobin concentration, serum glutamic oxaloacetic transaminase (SGOT) and serum glutamic pyruvic transaminase (SGPT) level as compared to controlled group; whereas, erythrocyte sedimentation rate was not varied in either group.

Keywords: Black Bengal goat, body weight gain, hematobiochemical, UMB.

INTRODUCTION

Bangladesh harboring 34.4 millions of goat of which 90% goats are Black Bengal (Husain et al., 1998) and reared for poverty alleviation, self-employment, food supply and increase of skin export (Islam and Huque, 2002). Goats ranked as second most population in aspect of total contribution of livestock, in Bangladesh (FAO, 2002) though they contribute our GDP with poor production both milk and meat due to their poor genetic makeup and improper nutrition. Nutritional status of goat is very poor in Bangladesh due to shortage of feeds and fodder both in quality and quantity (Hossain et al., 2003). Farmer cannot spare land for fodder production for goat. More than 70% of the rural peoples are directly or indirectly engaged in agriculture and goats are generally reared as scavengers in Bangladesh (Huq et al., 1990). Molasses and urea supplementation with available energy and nitrogen may upgrade the energy and ammonia levels in the rumen (Freitas et al., 2003; Mancini et al., 1997). Urea molasses straw supplementation in goat accelerates body weight gain, alterations in hematological values (Drowdy and Matrone, 1968), biochemical parameters like SGOT, SGPT etc. (Tiwari et al., 2010). This study was conducted to reveal such body weight gain and hematobiochemical changes due to UMB supplementation of Black Bengal goats in Bangladesh.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Animals and Feedings

The study was conducted for 40 days on twenty Black Bengal goats of Government Goat Development Farm, Sylhet; Bangladesh. The laboratory procedures were completed jointly in the laboratory of Dairy and Poultry Science, Sylhet Agricultural University, Sylhet; and Supreme Diagnostic Centre, Dhaka-1207, Bangladesh.

Experimental goats

A total of 20 female goats (*Capra hircus*) were divided equally as A (control) and B (experimental) and the average body weights of these animals were 12-13kg and their ages ranged from 12 to 16 months. Goats were kept in semi-intensive system with grazing and supplied *ad-libitum* clean fresh drinking water throughout the experimental period.

UMB preparation

Composition of Urea Molasses Block (UMB) is given in Table 1. Ingredients for making UMB were purchased from local market at Sylhet town. UMB were prepared according to Sansoucy (1995).

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Urea Molasses Block (UMB) feeding

Experimental goats supplemented with urea molasses block (UMB) orally at the dose of 200gm/head/day as divided into half equally and offered in the morning and in the evening for 42 days along with normal concentrates and grazing status.

Ingredients	Percentage
Molasses	45
Urea	15
Mineral mixture	10
Quick lime	12
Sodium bentonite	3
Rice polish	10
Common salt	5
Total	100

Performance and Blood determination

Body weight of the animals: The body weight of each of the animal (goat) was measured with the help of balance and weight box at 0 day and every 7 day intervals during the experimental period (42 days). The body weight of the animal was taken before feeding in morning and expressed in kilogram (kg).

Blood collection: For the hematobiochemical examination, blood samples were collected aseptically with sterile syringe and needle from the jugular vein of two groups of animals (goat). Approximately 5ml of blood was collected from each animal and was transferred immediately to a clean, dried test tube containing anticoagulant (EDTA) at a ratio of 1:10 for the hematological studies and were performed within five hours after collection of blood. Approximately another 5ml of blood was collected from each animal and was transferred immediately to a clean, dried test tube which was used to collect of serum for biochemical studies.

Hematological examination: Following the method described by Lamberg and Rothstein (1977) total erythrocyte count (TEC) haemoglobin content (Hb), packed cell volume (PCV), erythrocyte sedimentation rate (ESR).

Biochemical examination: Blood sera biochemical parameters SGOT and SGPT were detected from the goat's serum by the use of specific test kit and analyze in a diagnostic centre.

Statistical analysis

Data obtained from the experiment were calculated and expressed as Mean \pm SE on body weight and hematological parameters (e.g. TEC, Hb concentration, PCV and ESR) and biochemical parameters (e.g. AST and ALT) were analyzed statistically using students paired T-test.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Effects of UMB feeding on body weight of goats

The changes observed in the body weight of goats after UMB feeding are presented in Table 2. The goats treated with (UMB) showed increased body weight. Significantly ($P < 0.05$) higher weight gain was recorded in group B on day 21 and significantly ($P < 0.01$) higher weight gain was recorded in group B on day 28 consecutively up to day 42. The increased body weight was highest (14.39Kg) in experimental group B on day 42; on the other hand it was only 13.58kg in controlled group A on the same day.

Table 2 - Effects of UMB on body weight (kg) in goats

Groups	Treated with	Body weight (kg)						
		0 day	7 day	14 day	21 day	28 day	35 day	42 day
A	Controlled (normal grazing)	12.87 \pm 0.04	12.95 \pm 0.02	13.13 \pm 0.02	13.38 \pm 0.07	13.49 \pm 0.06	13.56 \pm 0.02	13.58 \pm 0.04
B	UMB normal grazing	12.61 \pm 0.02	12.91 \pm 0.03	13.30 \pm 0.04	13.61* \pm 0.03	13.91** \pm 0.02	13.72 \pm 0.49*	14.39 \pm 0.01**

The values are expressed as the Mean \pm SE of 6 animals in each group; * = Significant at ($P < 0.05$), ** = Significant at ($P < 0.01$).

Effects of UMB feeding on haematological parameters of goats

The observed effects of UMB feeding on hematological parameters are presented in Table 3. TEC was higher in significantly at ($P < 0.05$) in UMB supplemented group compared to the control group. The hemoglobin concentration increased significantly at ($P < 0.01$) and PCV were also increased significantly at ($P < 0.05$) due to UMB supplementation and there was no change in ESR value.

Table 3 - Hematological parameters of different groups of goats and comparison by Dunnett's test

Hematological parameters	Mean \pm SE in the different treatment groups	
	Group-A (control)	Group-B (experimental)
TEC (million/mm ³)	12.59 \pm 0.02	13.08 \pm 0.01*
Hb (gm%)	8.49 \pm 0.01	10.46 \pm 0.01**
PCV (%)	25.75 \pm 0.85	27.25 \pm 0.48**
ESR (mm in 1 st hr)	0	0

The values represent the mean \pm SE of 6 animals in each group; * = Significant at $p < 0.05$, ** = Significant at ($p < 0.01$).

Effects on biochemical parameters

The effect of urea molasses block (UMB) on biochemical parameters was presented in Table 4. From the table, it could be depicted that serum glutamic oxaloacetic transaminase (SGOT) and serum glutamic pyruvic transaminase (SGPT) values increased significantly ($P > 0.01$) in the UMB supplemented goats, compared with those of controlled.

Table 4 - Biochemical parameters of different groups of goats and comparison by Dunnett's test

Biochemical parameters	Mean \pm SE in the different treatment groups	
	Group-A (control)	Group-B (experimental)
SGOT/AST IU/L	112.51 \pm 0.91	136.47 \pm 0.89**
SGPT/ALT IU/L	52.91 \pm 0.90	65.75 \pm 0.86**

The values represent the Mean \pm SE of 6 animals in each group, ** = Significant at ($P < 0.01$).

DISCUSSION

UMB supplementation in Black Bengal goats revealed highest body weight gain average (14.39Kg) as compared to untreated goats (13.58 kg) at the end of experiment of 42 days and this findings are very corroborated with Saddul and Boodoo (2001), where they reported better response in terms of daily live weight gain (56gm) in weaned kids feeding UMB with a daily concentrate (42gm/day) in combination with cotton seed cake showed. The present results also concur with the findings of Vatta et al., (2007); Ali (1992) in goat, who observed an increased body weight by urea feeding. This increased body weight may be related with the improved intake and digestibility of roughages. Leng (1990), Singh et al. (1999) and Kawas et al. (1999) also reported body weight gain improvement in their experiment on goats.

Increase of haematological parameters in present findings resemble to that of Drowdy and Matrone (1968) in sheep who reported that haematological values increased significantly by using urea supplement. Wenzlaf and Erhardt (1991), who reported the increased hemoglobin concentration in lambs treatment with urea. Mburu et al. (1994) reported the increase of hemoglobin by administration of urea in East African goat. Martson et al. (1998), Ali (1992) also reported that the TEC, Hb% and PCV were increased which was similar with the present study.

Increase of hematological parameters in present findings resemble also with that of Tiwari et al. (2010) in goat kids who reported that SGOT and SGPT values increased significantly by using urea molasses mineral block supplement. Significant increase in serum SGOT activity in UMMB treated goats suggests an increased respiratory burst and mitochondrial involvement, as SGOT is chiefly a mitochondrial enzyme resulting from acute and chronic liver injury (Hassanein, 2004). Since SGPT is one of the specific assayable liver enzymes, its elevated level in the study may indicate hepatic damage caused by oral administration of UMB (Sharma, 1996; Tennant, 1997). Although it is difficult to point the damage to any particular organ by UMMB, but increased levels of aminotransferases in buffaloes may be attributed to liver damage (Sihag et al., 2009) as it is the primary organ of biotransformation of UMMB.

Except slight toxicity (resulting increased SGOT and SGPT), use of urea was useful in improving the general health condition of goat if they are supplemented in proper rate and ratio. To minimize the toxicity and get comprehensive result the duration of the experiment should be prolonged more than 6 weeks. Further study should be carried out including more parameters.

CONCLUSION

Urea molasses block (UMB) supplementation in Black Bengal goats in Bangladesh will be the key feeding system for the development of sustainable goat production scheme in Bangladesh during scarce period of feeds. As UMB supplementation enhances the body weight and hematobiochemical Physiology of Black Bengal goats, so it can be advised to the farmers through the proper authority.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The author representing high gratitude to technicians of Supreme Diagnostic Centre, Dhaka-1207, Bangladesh to permit him to conduct all the hematobiochemical tests of this research.

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