

CONSTRUINDO SABERES, FORMANDO PESSOAS E TRANSFORMANDO A PRODUÇÃO ANIMAL

## INCLUSION OF EGG IN POWDER FOR LACAUNE LAMBS IN BREASTFEEDING

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Dairy sheep breeding in Brazil is expanding, and when considering the dairy sheep production system, artificial breastfeeding and early weaning of lambs is a necessary practice. However, the performance indexes of lambs in this production system are far from ideal. With this, it is necessary the study of foods that provide good body development. The objective of this study was to evaluate the average daily gain of lambs supplemented with powdered egg during the breastfeeding. Twenty lambs of the Lacaune breed were used in four treatments: inclusion of 0% egg powder; inclusion of 5% egg powder; inclusion of 10% egg powder and inclusion of 15% egg powder in lambs. In the first hours of life colostrum was supplied and until the tenth day of life the lambs received 400 ml of sheep milk a day. From the 10th day onwards the gradual adaptation with egg powder was started, supplied twice daily until the end of the second week of age. After this period, the animals received a milk replacer compound + bovine milk + egg powder, twice daily, up to 45 days of age. In the second week of life, the lambs received concentrated feed and hay in feeders to stimulate rumen development. For performance evaluation, lambs were weighed weekly, and daily feed and leftovers were also checked. From a regression analysis of mean daily gain data, we can observe a quadratic behavior of the gain curve, demonstrating that lambs supplemented with 15% powdered egg obtained a weight gain superior to the other treatments ( $P < 0.05$ ). In the evaluation of the feed efficiency index after the regression analysis, the same quadratic curve behavior was observed, but without difference ( $P > 0.05$ ) between egg powder inclusion levels. From these results it is possible to infer that the inclusion of powdered egg in the lambs feeding favors greater weight gain. New studies should be performed with higher levels of egg powder inclusion in lactating Lacaune lambs.

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