Effects of replacing soybean meal with dried distillers grains with solubles in Boer-type goat diets

J. R. DeFisher, A. R. Crane, J. M. Lattimer, C. K. Jones

Department of Animal Sciences and Industry, Kansas State University, Manhattan

Introduction

- Goat growers typically feed soybean meal (SBM) as the main protein source in grower diets
- Dried distillers grains with solubles (DDGS) offer a cheaper alternative to SBM
- Little research has been done on the effects of feeding DDGS to goats, even though it is a common feed ingredient for other livestock

Objective

- To evaluate the effects of feeding increasing levels of DDGS at the expense of SBM on growth performance and carcass traits of Boer-type goats

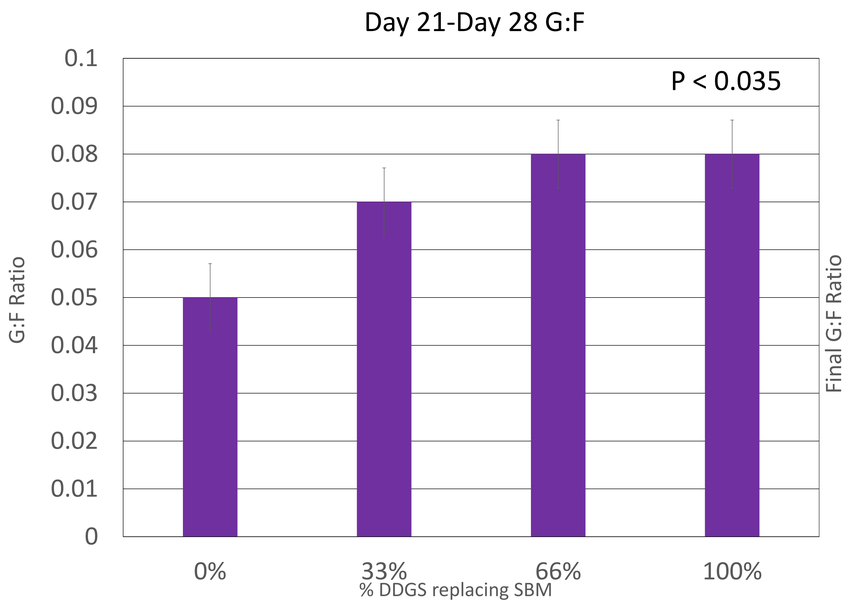
Experimental Procedures

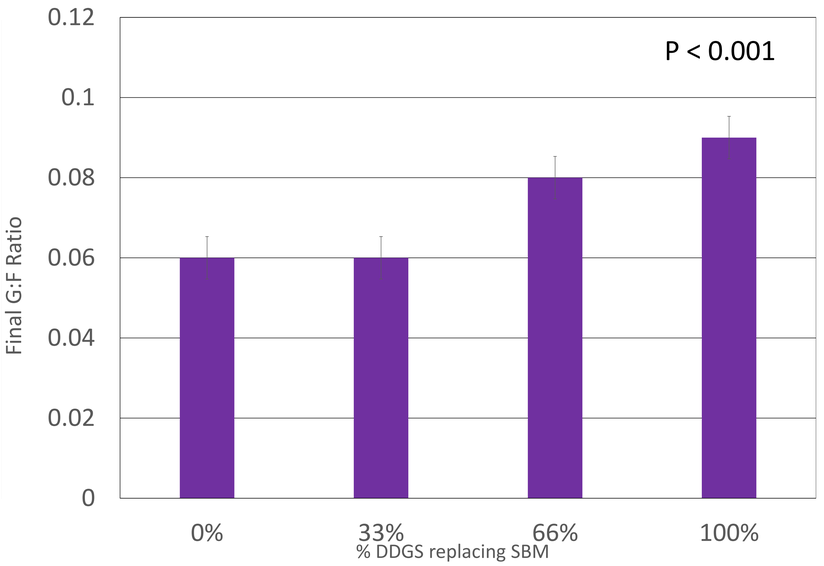
- 48 Boer-type goats (avg. starting weight 28.25 kg) were randomly assorted into pens of 3 goats each, 4 pens/treatment
- Goats were fed one of 4 treatments based on the amount of SBM replaced by DDGS (0%, 33%, 66%, 100%) for 46 days
- Feeders and goats were weighed every 7 days and on the final two days of the experiment
- Once final feeder and goat weights were obtained, 2 randomly-selected goats from each pen were slaughtered
- Carcass traits measured included hot carcass weight, carcass yield, loin eye depth and area, backfat depth, and body wall thickness

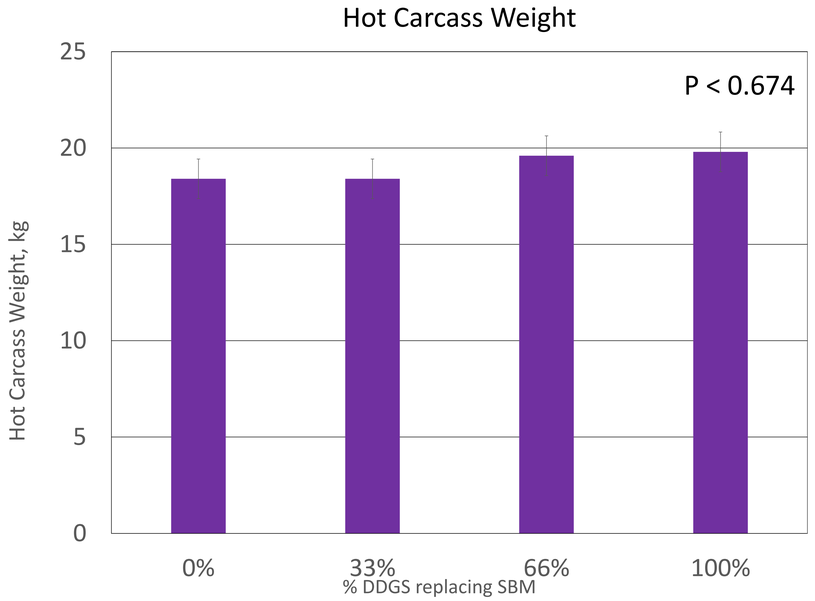
Funding

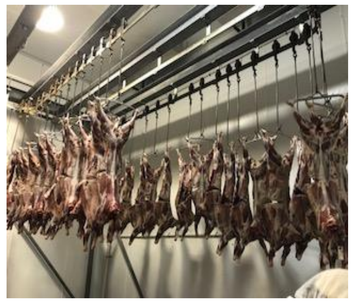
Research was funded by donations from the Kansas Corn Commission

Results









Summary and Conclusions

- Most data indicates no significant differences in growth performance of goats fed no DDGS vs. goats fed any amount of DDGS replacing SBM
- A slight increase in final feed conversion ratio was noted, increasing with the amount of SBM replaced by DDGS
- DDGS may be used as a cheaper protein source to either partially or completely replace SBM in Boer-type goat grower diets