

Swine

The Value of Soaking Whole Sorghum Grain for Finishing Fall Pigs in Drylot (Project 110).

C. E. Aubel

Two lots of pigs were self-fed, free choice, whole sorghum grain and a mixed protein supplement. Each lot contained 10 pigs. In one lot, the whole sorghum grain was fed dry; in the other, it was automatically fed into water warmed enough to prevent freezing.

The protein supplement fed both lots consisted of 4 parts tankage, 4 parts soybean meal, 1 part cottonseed meal, and 1 part alfalfa meal. To each ton of supplement was added 27 pounds of antibiotic Aureofac¹ (Aureomycin) and one half pound of zinc oxide.

The results are listed in Table 26.

Table 26

Feeding whole sorghum grain dry and soaked for finishing fall pigs in drylot.¹

December 17, 1960, to March 18, 1961—91 days.

Item	Soaked whole grain sorghum	Whole dry sorghum grain
Lot number	1	2
Number pigs in lot	10	10
Av. initial wt. per pig, lbs.	48.50	49.70
Av. final wt. per pig, lbs.	178.60	178.90
Av. total gain per pig, lbs.	130.10	129.20
Av. daily gain per pig, lbs.	1.42	1.41
Av. daily ration per pig, lbs.:		
Sorghum grain	4.84	4.75
Protein supplement75	.71
Lbs. feed per cwt. gain per pig:		
Sorghum grain	339.20	334.75
Protein supplement	53.03	50.69

1. Both lots received the same protein supplement.

Observations

From these results it is concluded there was no advantage in soaking sorghum grain for pigs. Gains and feed efficiency were very much the same.

The Effect of Various Milling Processes on Sorghum Grain When Used for Finishing Fall Pigs in Drylot (Project 110-2).

C. E. Aubel

Grain sorghums are being grown extensively in many parts of the High Plains. Sorghum grain previously has given excellent results compared with corn in feeding tests with swine at this station.

New ways of processing grain may improve the efficiency of the grains for feeding and thus provide more profit in hog raising.

1. Registered trademark American Cyanamid Company for Aureomycin.

Table 27

The comparative value of sorghum grain prepared by different milling processes for finishing fall pigs in drylot.¹
December 17, 1960, to March 18, 1961—91 days.

Item	RATION FED					
	Sorghum grain					
	Whole	Steam rolled	Fine ground	Fine ground, pelleted	Dry rolled	Steam rolled, delayed crimp
Lot number	1	2	3	4	5	6
Number pigs per lot	10	10	10	9	10	10
Av. initial wt. per pig, lbs.	49.70	47.30	48.30	49.30	48.70	48.10
Av. final wt. per pig, lbs.	178.90	185.50	184.50	171.11	164.50	183.50
Av. total gain per pig, lbs.	129.20	138.20	136.20	121.81	115.80	135.40
Av. daily gain per pig, lbs.	1.41	1.51	1.49	1.33	1.26	1.48
Av. daily ration per pig, lbs.:						
Sorghum grain	4.75	4.63	4.41	3.52	3.84	4.74*
Protein supplement71	.75	.73	.71	.74	.79
Lbs. feed per cwt. gain per pig:						
Sorghum grain	334.75	305.35	295.15	292.80	301.38	319.05
Protein supplement	50.69	49.92	39.19	59.29	58.72	53.17

1. All lots received the same protein mix supplement.

* In addition to the figures given, the pigs in lot 2 rooted out of their feeder and wasted an estimated 300 pounds of steam rolled sorghum grain. The pigs in lot 6 rooted out an estimated 2,300 pounds of steam rolled, delayed crimp sorghum grain.