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GROWTH PERFORMANCE OF RABBIT BROILERS HYLA

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INTRODUCTION

The profitability of large scale rabbit broiler farms is strictly connected with high growth performance and quality of meat. The fattening performance is determined by quality of hybrids and could be often enhanced using feed additives to moderate the growth or health status of animals. For food safety is recommended to use natural products as feed additives.

OBJECTIVE

The aim of this trial is to evaluate growth performance and meat production of two genotypes of rabbit broilers HYLA under the influence of natural feed additives.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

❑Fattening trials were carried out with hybrid genotype HYLA
❖**genotype 1** (122 heads): ♂line AB REG 8000 x ♀line CD REG 3070
❖**genotype 2** (110 heads): ♂line AB REG 3160 x ♀line CD REG 3070
at the Experimental station of Department of Animal Science and Ethology (CULS Prague) in conditions respecting welfare of rabbit broilers.

❑Two experimental groups fattened two times were fed ad libitum using standard mixture with content of coccidiostatics and probiotic.

Additives used:
❖**EMANOX** – herbal coccidiostaticum (France origin)
❖**PROBIOSTAN** – probioticum (Czech origin)
Standard feed mixture was supplied by
PROBIOSTAN (0.2%) + EMANOX (500g in 1000 kg).

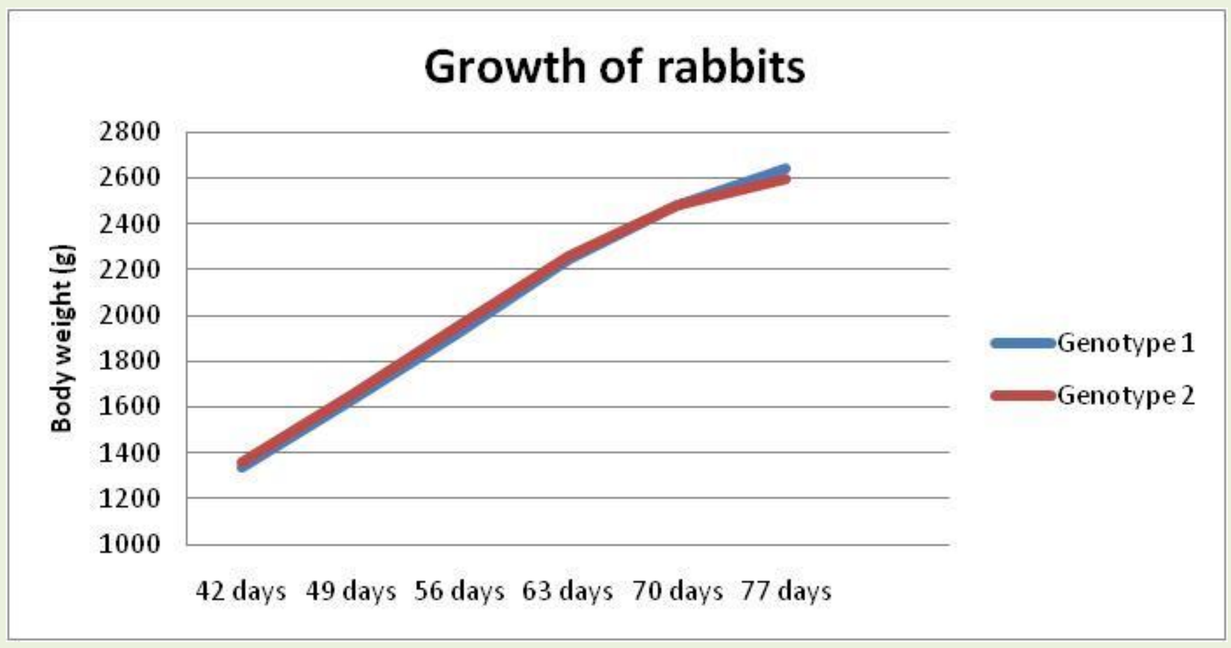
❑The fattening period started at 42 days of age - starting weight (SW), rabbits were killed at the live weight 2 600 g, the utmost age was 84 days, the average age at slaughter (AAS) was calculated.

❑The body weight (BW) and individual feed consumption was measured weekly.

❑The average daily gain (ADG), total gain (TG), average daily feed consumption (ADF) and feed conversion (FC) and total feed consumption (TFC) was calculated for every experimental week and the whole fattening period.

❑The fattening performance is measured by live body weight before killing (BWk), dressing percentage (DP) and weight of carcass (CW).

RESULTS



	SW (g)	ADF (g)	ADG (g)	TG (g)	TFC (g/g)	FC(g)	AAS (g)	BWk (%)	DP (g)	CW (g)
GEN 1	**1340.10**	**150.00**	**44.64**	**1338.80**	**4599.50**	**3.43**	**72.91**	**2662.20**	**58.72**	**1554.80**
	147.30	9.20	6.60	154.80	914.40	0.53	6.10	176.30	5.77	65.20
	10.99	*6.13*	*17.78*	*11.56*	*19.88*	*15.45*	*8.36*	*6.62*	*6.73*	*4.19*
GEN 2	**1357.50**	**144.60**	**44.00**	**1319.60**	**4428.10**	**3.36**	**72.74**	**2680.60**	**58.25**	**1561.20**
	146.50	17.10	7.60	168.20	901.60	0.64	6.10	82.16	1.90	62.20
	10.79	*11.8*	*17.27*	*12.74*	*20.36*	*19.04*	*8.38*	*3.06*	*3.26*	*3.98*

Mean values – 1st row of each group (bold)
Standard deviations – 2nd row of each group
Coefficients of variation (%)– 3rd row of each group (italics)

CONCLUSION

➢The trial showed positive influence of probioticum PROBIOSTAN and herbal anticoccidiostaticum EMANOX on health status and growth perfomance of rabbits (the mortality rate was 2.85% for genotype 1 and 6.15% for genotype 2 resp.)

➢The differences in growth parameters between both genotypes tested are negligible - the statistical significance was reached for ADT, TFC and FC ($P_{0.05}$) only.

➢The differences in meat performance parameters between both genotypes tested did not reached the statistical significance at all.

➢Further fattening experiments with rabbit broilers of different genotypes are carried out to investigate the optimal production combination of genotype and environment.

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