Effect of a *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* Fermentation Product on Milk Production of Dairy Goats

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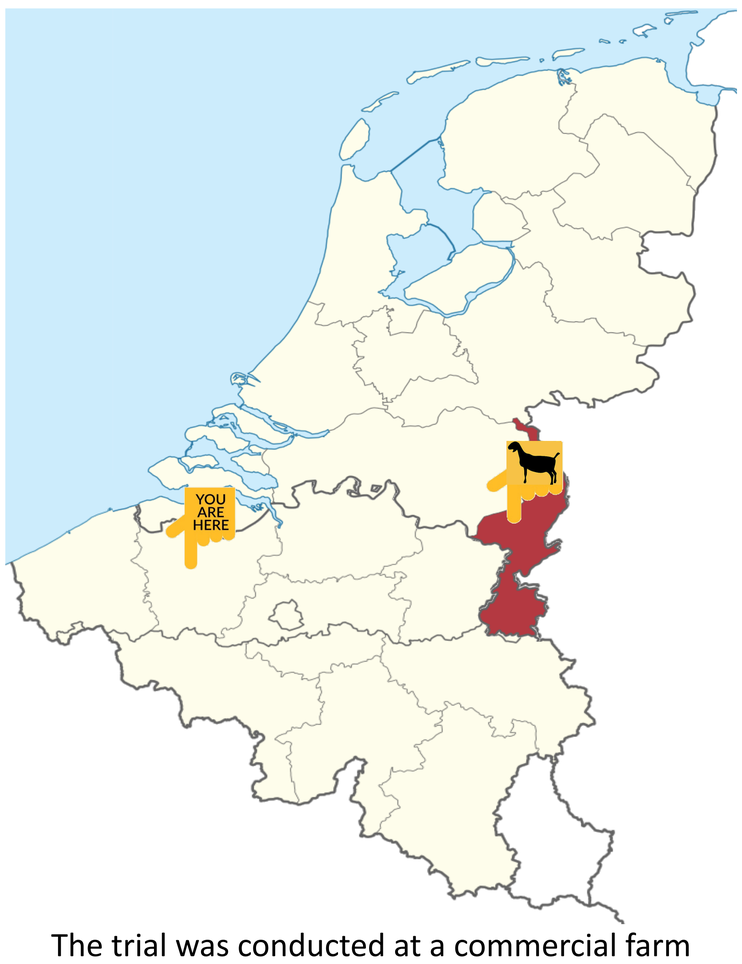
The effects of this *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* fermentation product (**SCFP**) on health, digestion and performance of dairy cattle is amply documented[1].

Limited information exists about the use of XPCLS in milking goats[1].



The trial was conducted at a commercial farm in the Dutch province of Limburg (April-July 2016), selecting 403 mostly Saanen crossbred, non-pregnant goats (>365 DIM), blocked by lactation, DIM, milk yield and components and randomly assigned to either:

Control (basal diet) or
SCFP (basal diet + 3.5 g/d of XPCLS)

Goats were housed in a naturally ventilated barn with *ad libitum* access to water and straw.

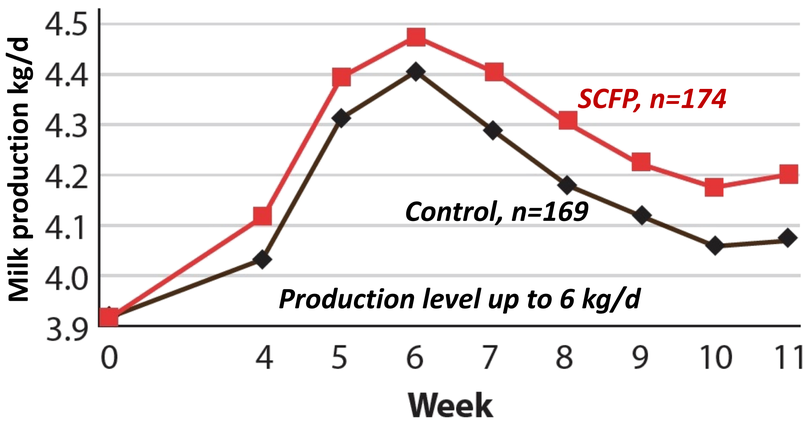
Grass silage was offered at a daily rate of 350 g of dry matter per head.

All goats were provided individually with a concentrated feed through an automated carousel.

Starting milk yield in both groups got leveled for statistical analysis after removing outliers averaging above 6 kg/d.

Target dosage of XPCLS in the SCFP group was achieved by week 4 of the feeding period.

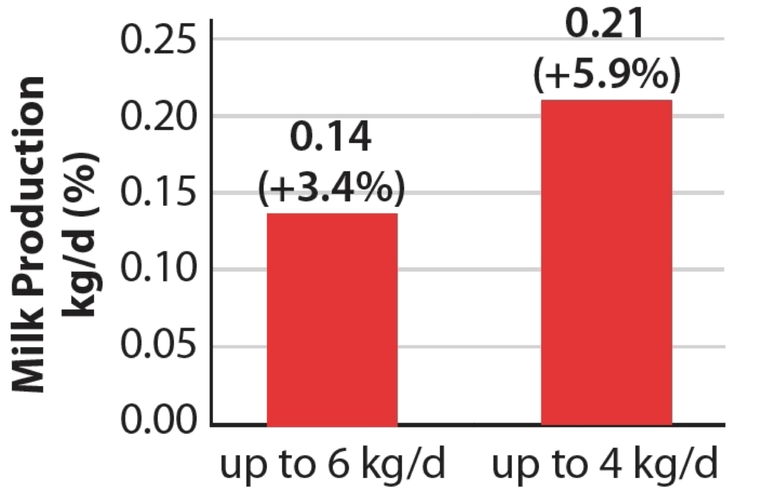
No differences were found between groups for average body condition score[2], daily average concentrate intake, faecal consistency and color[3], or milk quality[4].



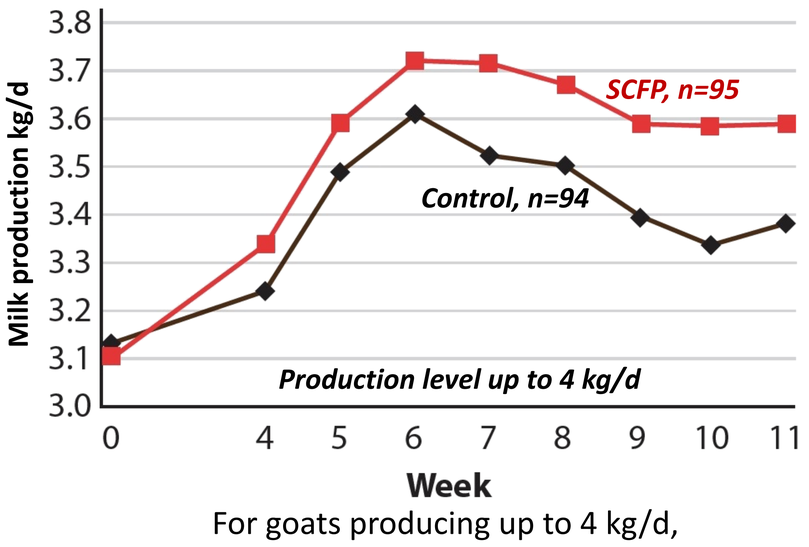
For all goats analyzed, SCFP effect was noticed from week 7, being 2.7% to 3.4% numerically above Control through week 11 of the trial.

Supplementation of XPCLS increased goat milk production between 2 and 7% without affecting components and intake. Response to supplementation was greater for goats producing up to 4 kg/d.

Results suggest that XPCLS can be an effective tool for maximizing profitability of dairy goat operations.



SCFP goats averaged 0.14 and 0.21 kg/d of milk yield numerically above Control by the end of week 11 for production levels of up to 6 and 4 kg/d, respectively.



For goats producing up to 4 kg/d, milk yield difference increased over time; SCFP produced 5.7%, (p=0.11), 7.2% (p=0.05) and 5.9% (p=0.10) more milk than Control at weeks 9, 10 and 11 of the trial.

[1] References available upon request (*fysunza@diamondv.com*)
[2] Scored on days -5, 38 and 80 in all goats.
[3] Assessed by standardized scoring on days -5, 38 and 80 from a subset of 10 goats per group.
[4] Components and SCC determined on days 7, 36 and 78 from a subset of 50 goats per group.