

The use of by-products of the agri-food industry in the feeding of slaughter lambs

Summary

The growing interest in lamb meat and varied consumer preferences create the need to reduce production costs while maintaining high quality standards, which can be ensured by adequate animal nutrition. The article suggests the possibility of using by-products of the agri-food industry as inexpensive feedstuffs. Many studies have confirmed that the use of cheap by-products from the production of oil, biofuel, alcohol products or milling products in the diet of slaughter lambs does not reduce their growth rate or meat quality. The paper presents preliminary results of research on the use of cheap on-farm fodder and by-products of the milling industry for fattening of lambs. The use of on-farm feeds in the diet of lambs fattened to a body weight of 40 kg, including by-products in the form of damaged cereal grains, resulted in satisfactory fattening results and carcass traits. The lambs fed milling by-products had less carcass fat and meat with better physical features, with no negative effect on its health properties.

KEY WORDS: sheep, by-products, slaughter value, meat quality