THE INFLUENCE OF THE CALCIUM-ZEOLIT PRODUCT WITHIN WEANED RABBITS

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SUMMARY

Zeolitic deposits formed as a consequence of the deposits of volcanic ash in the alkaline lakes and of the interaction between the volcanic ash and the salts from these lakes, contain zeolits in different proportions, between 50-80%. The bibliographical data praise an increase of the average weekly output within the animal batches which receive in their ratio approximately 5% zeolitic deposit (85% zeolit) after five weeks since these zeolits were firstly given. The zeolit doses that are recommended to be added in the fodder vary from 0,5% to 3% [1].

The study aimed at following the administration of the product calcium-zeolit (4:1) combined 1% with the fodder, during 3 weeks, in the rabbits food after they had been weaned, at the age of 6-7 weeks and also aimed at monitoring the death rates due to the digestive diseases characteristic for this period. The rabbits from both batches (a witness batch – M and an experimental batch – E) had the clinical signs of a chronic enteritis and during the research they were under medical treatment with the product Enrofloxacin 10% oral solution. The bacteriological examination of the combined fodder before the addiction of the calcium-zeolit product showed the presence of the negative Gram cocobacilli, a polymorphic load represented by *Penicillium spp.* and *Mucor spp.* was traced on the basis of the cultural characters and the presence of the aflatoxin was not praised by means of the chromatography in thin layer.

The bacteriological exam performed on the assays taken from the rabbit corpses led to the identification of the coliform germs (*E. coli*) within 12 corpses (8 from batch M and 4 from batch E) and of the clostridis (*C. perfringens*) within 10 corpses (5 from batch M and 5 from batch E) from the total of 34 corpses which were examined. The average weekly output and the average weekly weight did not register differences between the two batches because the investigation period was limited. The addiction of the zeolit under the form of calcium-zeolit in the food of the young rabbits reduced the mortality percentage after weaning from 15,3% at batch M (23 cases from the total of 150 animals/batch) to 7,3% (11 cases from the total of 150 animals) at batch E. The length of the administration period of the zeolits in the animal food is strictly depending on the animal species, the ratio structure, the economical parameters that are targeted and the quality of the zeolit.

BIBLIOGRAPHY