

The effects of feed and Napiergrass intake on growth performance and carcass characteristics of Lanyu pigs

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The aim of this study was to investigate the effect of Napiergrass (*Pennisetum purpureum*) intake on growth performance, feed efficiency (F/G) and carcass characteristics of Lanyu pigs. A total of 24 Lanyu pigs were allocated into 4 groups which were daily provided 0.4 (L-0.4), 0.7 (L-0.7), 1.0 kg (L-1.0) feed and fed *ad libitum* (L-Ad). Besides, 4 LYD hybrid pigs were fed *ad libitum* as control. The first 3 groups were also provided with fresh Napiergrass (Taishiu No. 2) *ad libitum*. Experiments were started when body weights (BW) for Lanyu pigs were 30 kg and 50 kg for LYD pigs, and slaughtered when Lanyu pigs' BW reached 50 kg and 100 kg for LYD. Results showed that there was no difference in average daily gain (ADG) and feed conversion (F/G) between L-1.0 and L-Ad. The ADG significantly ($P < 0.05$) decreased in L-0.4 and L-0.7. The feed intake in L-Ad was increased for 0.3 kg/d than the L-1.0 and the backfat thickness was larger and intramuscular fat was reduced. The L values of meat color in L-1.0 and L-Ad were larger than other groups. The crude fat of loin in L-1.0 was significantly ($P < 0.05$) higher than the other groups. In conclusion, daily provision of 1.0 kg of feed and Napiergrass fed on *ad libitum* basis to Lanyu pigs could obtain better growth and carcass performance.

Key words: Lanyu pig, napiergrass, growth performance, carcass characteristics.