



Ruminant response to non-live probiotic microorganism extracts

Canterbury, 2002

Introduction

Donaghys RumenZyme Plus (RZP) is a non-live product from the fermentation of probiotic lactic acid bacteria and yeasts. It works by activating beneficial rumen microbes and promoting rumen development in order to improve microbial function and enhance digestion and feed conversion.

Materials and Methods

The trial was conducted as part of a Farming Beyond 2000 (FB 2000) project facilitated by AgResearch on commercial farms throughout New Zealand. 350 lambs were drenched with 3 ml of RZP and 350 were drenched with 3 ml water as a control. Both flocks were grazing on brassicas during the trial. Lambs were weighed at the beginning of the trial 42 days after application of the treatments.

Data was collated and sorted in Microsoft Excel. An analysis of covariance (ANCOVA) was unable to be performed due to the absence of individual lamb identification.

Results

Lambs treated with a single dose of RZP gained extra LW relative to control animals (Table 1).

Table 1: LWG of lambs.

	Control	RZP	Difference (RZP-Control)
LWG (g/day)	220	229	9

Conclusions

These results support the hypothesis that a single dose of RZP will increase LWG in lambs post-weaning.