Dedication

To my dear and kind parents,

wife Budria,

daughters Khadiga, Alaa and Safaa,

brothers,

sisters and colleagues.

Acknowledgement

First, I thank my GOD ALLA who gave me the aptitude and patience to conduct and finish this study. I wish to express my sincere gratitude and appreciations to my supervisor Dr. Mohammed Tag Eldin Ibrahim for his advice assistance and encouragement throughout the study. My great thank and gratitude to my co-supervisor Dr. Muzzamil Atta for his help assistance and useful advises he gave me.

Sincere appreciations are also extended to Dr. Faisal Hassan Ibrahim the Minister of Agriculture, Animal resources and Irrigation and also to Dr. Abdalla Hassan the general manager of Khartoum Animal Resources Services and Exportation Company for their interest and encouragement. Their financial support is greatly acknowledged.

Thanks and gratitude goes to the staff of microbiology laboratory of the Veterinary Medicine and Animal Production, Sudan University Science and Technology. Thanks also go to Artificial Insemination Centre laboratory for allowing me to use their laboratory facilities. In addition, my thanks and gratitude extend to staff of Goat Improvement Project for the assistance and help they provided to me during the experiment. Further thanks goes to Mr. Fathel-Rahman Abdel-Galil for his much help and advises he gave during my research work. In addition, thanks are to my brother Dr. Hamadel-Nil El Garray for his advice and encouragement. Finally, I would like to thank my family and colleagues for the cooperation through my study and research.

List of Content

No.	Title	Page
	Dedication	i
	Acknowledgement	ii
	List of Content	iii
	List of Tables	vi
	List of Figures	vii
	Abstract	viii
	Arabic Abstract	xi
	Chapter One	
1	introduction	1
	Chapter Two	
2	Literature Review	3
2.1.	Goat in Sudan	3
2.1.1.	Nilotic goat	3
2.1.2.	Mountain goat	4
2.1.3.	Desert goat	4
2.1.4.	Sudanese Nubian goat	5
2.2.	Agro industrial by-product	6
2.2.1.	Wheat bran	6
2.2.2.	Groundnut hulls	6
2.2.3.	Molasses and animal feed	6
2.2.4.	Supplemental molasses	7
2.2.5.	Basal molasses	7
2.2.6.	Molasses toxicity	8

No.	Title	Page
2.2.7.	Prevention and control of molasses toxicity	8
2.3	Feedlot performance	9
2.3.1.	Nutrition	9
2.3.2.	Feed intake	10
2.3.3.	Factors affecting feed intake	11
2.3.4.	Energy intake	12
2.3.5.	Crude protein intake	14
2.3.6.	Growth and body weight gain	15
2.4.	Goat slaughtering characteristics	16
2.4.1.	Dressing out percentage	16
2.4.1.1.	Factor affecting the dressing percentage	17
2.4.2.	Wholesale cut yield	18
2.4.3.	Non-carcass components	19
2.5.	Microbiology of the rumen	20
2.5.1	Digestion in ruminants	20
2.5.2.	Rumen environment	20
2.5.3.	Factors affecting rumen microorganism	21
2.5.4.	The rumen protozoa	23
2.5.5.	Degradability of cell wall by microorganism	25
2.5.6.	Factors affecting protozoan count	26
2.5.7.	The rumen bacteria	26
2.6.	Degradability	27
2.6.1.	Effective degradability	30
	Chapter Three	31
3	Material and Methods	31

No.	Title	Page
3.1.	Feeds	31
3.1.1.	Feeding trial	31
3.2.	Slaughter Trial	31
3.3.	Degradability trial	35
3.3.1.	Rumen pH reading	36
3.3.2.	Ruminal Microbes Count	36
3.4.	statistical analysis	37
	Chapter Four	38
4	Results	38
	Chapter Five	61
5	Discussion	61
5.1.	Feedlot performance	61
5.2.	Slaughtering trails	62
5.3.	Degradability and rumen environment	62
	Conclusion and Recommendation	67
	Chapter Six	68
6	References	68

List of Tables

Tables	Title	page
Table (1)	Ingredients Percentage In The experimental diet (on fed	
	basis)	33
Table (2)	Chemical composition of experimental diet (on DM	
	basis)	34
Table (3)	Feedlot performance of the male kids fed the	
	experimental diets.	40
Table (4)	Correlation coefficient matrix of feedlot performance	
	parameters.	41
Table (5)	Carcass quality analysis (slaughtering trials).	42
Table (6)	Visceral organs percentage of the empty body weight.	44
Table (7)	Percentage of wholesale cuts of the kids fed the	
	experimental diets:	47
Table (8)	Dry matter loss (%) at different degradation period:	49
Table (9)	The effective degradability of the experimental diet.	50
Table (10)	pH values at different degradation period:	51
Table (11)	Bacteria count at different degradation period.	52
Table (12)	Protozoa count at different degradation period.	55
Table (13)	The matrix correlation coefficient between dry matter	
	loss, rumen pH and bacteria and protozoa count.	56

List of Figures

Figures	Title	Page
Figure (1)	Regression of hot carcass weight on slaughter weight	43
Figure (2)	Regression of dry matter loss on type of incubation	
Figure (3)	Dry matter loss and bacteria count during the	
	incubation time	57
Figure (4)	Dry matter loss and protozoa count during the	
	incubation time	58
Figure (5) Bacteria count and pH of the rumen environment		
	during the incubation time	59
Figure (6)	Protozoa count and the rumen environment pH during	
	the incubation time	60

Abstract

This study was conducted at the goat improvement project pens (Hillat Kuku) to investigate the effect of gradual replacement of molasses of diet by groundnut hulls on ruminal environment and microbial activity, feedlot performance and carcass characteristics of the Nubian × Saanin male kids.

27 animals were randomly selected and used in the feedlot trial, 6 of them were slaughtered and used for carcass analysis, another 3 fistulated male kids were used in the degradability trial (for the 3 diets) 3 iso-coloric and iso-nitrogenous diet were formulated. The 3 experimental diet differ in the level of molasses and groundnut hulls used (50% and 10%, 40% and 20% and 30% for treatment 1, treatment 2 and treatment 3 respectively.

For the feedlot trails, the kids fed adlibitum on the three experimental diets for 2 weeks adaptation period followed by 8 weeks experimental period. Data on intakes of D.M., M.E. and C.P., body weight gain and F.C.R. were calculated. At the end of the experiment two males' kids from each diet group were randomly selected and slaughtered to obtain the carcass data such as dressing percentage shrinkage non-carcass percentage as well as the wholesale cuts. For the degradability trials one diet was offered to the three fistulated goats for three days as adaptation period followed by four days experimental periods during which six nylon bags were incubated in the rumen of each goats to be removed after 6, 12, 24, 48, 72 and 96 hours of incubation (one bag at a time from each goat). Samples for the rumen liquor were also taken at the end of each incubation period from the three goats. The rumen pH was recorded and the rest of the samples was kept for

bacterial and protozoan count. This method was done for three experimental diets respectively. Data such as D.M. loss% bacterial and protozoan count per ml were calculated. All the data obtained were analyzed by one-way analysis of variance.

The feedlot performance was not affected by the dietary treatment however; parameters such as final weight, body gain and intakes tended to increase by the increase of molasses and decrease of groundnut hulls. Food conversion ration values showed the opposite trend. The D.M. intake as percentage of body weight of these male kids ranged between 4.11 and 4.5% with no effect due to diet treatment. The diet treatment has no significant effect on the slaughter and empty body weight, gut fill, dressing percentage, shrinkage and non-carcass component, they showed significance in external offal's percentage of the non-carcass component where treatment 1 and treatment 2 were similar and the two were significantly higher than treatment 3. The dressing percentage on slaughter weight basis ranged between 38.5 and 43.7% where that on empty body weight ranged between 46.4 and 52.3%.

The different levels of molasses in the diet affected significantly D.M. loss, rumen pH, bacterial and protozoan count. When molasses level decreased the D.M. loss percentage, rumen pH and protozoan count increased and bacterial counts decreased.

When the D.M. loss percentage regressed on time of incubation according the formula:

$$Y = a + b \left(1 - \exp^{-ct} \right)$$

Showed the coefficient of determination and the calculated degradability ranged between 20.6 and 30.2 at 0.02 particles per hour flow rate, 16.74 and 26.27 at 0.05 particles per hour flow rate and 40.56 and

24.75% at 0.008 particles per hour flow rate with no significant effect due to diet treatment however it tend to decease with the increase of molasses level in the diet and also decrease with the increase of the flow rate.

The result of this study showed that the high groundnut hulls diet increase the dry matter loss and protozoan counts than the higher molasses diet. It also produced body gain and carcass weight similar to that of high molasses diet which was expensive as in term of feed cost per gram of gain. The result also concluded that the potential for meat production of Nubian × saanin kids is poor when compared to other types of goat reviewed.

خلاصة البحث

تمت هذه التجربة في حظائر مشروع تحسين الماعز بحلة كوكو وذلك لمعرفة أثر إحلال المولاس بقشرة الفول على أداء الحيوان عند التسمين وكذلك على الكائنات الدقيقة في كرش الحيوان مثل البكتيريا ووحيدات الخلية وعلى درجة حموضة الكرش.

تم اختيار عدد (٢٧) جدي صغير (هجين سعانين × نوبي) عشوائياً وتقسيمها إلى (٩) مجموعات ثم تقسيمها إلى ثلاثة مجموعات علقية كل مجموعة تتغذى على نوع واحد من العلائق.

تم تجهيز هذه العلائق على النحو التالي: (٥٠% قشرة فول و١٠% مولاس – ٤٠% قشرة فول و٢٠% مولاس) مع إضافة ٢٠% قشرة فول و٣٠% مولاس) مع إضافة ٢٠% امباز فول و ٢٠% ردة قمح و 1% ملح طعام للعلائق الثلاثة، تعطى العليقة لكل مجموعة غذائية بعد وزنه لفترة كافية ثم يجمع متبقي العلف ووزنه لمعرفة الكمية التي أكلها الحيوان، تسجيل الكمية التي أكلها الحيوان يومياً وذلك بطرح كمية العلف المتبقي من الكمية المقدمة للحيوان.

يتم وزن الحيوان أسبوعيا لمعرفة الزيادة النوعية في الوزن، بعد ذلك يتم حساب نسبة التحول الغذائي لكل عليقة، تم اختيار عدد (٦) جدي عشوائياً بعد وزنها للذبيح لدراسة تحليل النتيجة. تم وزن الدم والجلد والأرجل والرأس وجميع الأعضاء الداخلية ومقارنتها بوزن الذبيحة، تم تفريغ محتويات الأحشاء ووزنها ومقارنة هذا الوزن بوزن الحيوان، تم حساب نسبة الجفاف ونسبة التصافي.

ولحساب نسبة تكسير المادة الجافة تم إحضار عدد (٣) أغنام وعمل فتحة في الكرش لإدخال أكياس نايلون، وإعطاء هذه الأغنام العليقة رقم (١) لمدة ثلاثة يوم للتأقلم ثم بعد ذلك لمدة ٤ أيام، توضع خلالها الأكياس، تكرر هذه العملية ثلاثة مرات، يتم في كل مرة وزن المادة الجافة وضعها في هذه الأكياس، ثم إدخالها في الكرش لفترات مختلفة (٢، ١٢، ٢٤، ٤٨، ٧٢، ٩٦) بعد كل فترة يتم إخراج الأكياس ونظافتها وتجفيفها ثم بعد ذلك توزن لمعرفة الفرق في الوزن وبعد ذلك يتم حساب نسبة تكسير المادة الجافة، تكرر هذه العملية ثلاثة مرات كل مرة تستعمل عليقة واحدة.

تم سحب كمية من محتويات الكرش مع كل فترة زمنية يتم فيها سحب الكيس وذلك لقياس درجة الحموضة وحساب عدد البكتيريا ووحيدات الخلية، تم تجميع هذه المعلومات وتحليلها إحصائيا.

من نتائج هذه التجارب أتضح أن أداء الحيوان لم يتأثر بتغيير نسبة المولاس إلا في حالة الوزن النهائي والوزن المكتسب وأما في حالة كمية الأعلاف المستهلكة فإنها تزيد بزيادة نسبة المولاس في العليقة وذلك خلافاً لنسبة التحول الغذائي التي تتناسب عكسياً مع النسبة المولاس في العليقة.

من الملاحظ في هذه التجربة أن هذه الحيوانات (هجين) تستهلك حوالي (٤,٥ – ١٥ هذه) من وزنها دون التأثر بنوع مكونات العليقة.