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# Dried Poultry Waste as a Nonprotein Nitrogen Source for Ruminants

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**Table 4. Performance of steers fed meat and bone meal<sup>a</sup>, Trial 2.**

Supplement <sup>b</sup>	Daily gain, lb	Daily feed, % body weight	Gain/feed
Urea	.39 <sup>c</sup>	1.84	.034 <sup>c</sup>
MBM	.85 <sup>d</sup>	1.84	.073 <sup>d</sup>
Treated MBM	.98 <sup>d</sup>	1.84	.084 <sup>d</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Averaged across protein levels.

<sup>b</sup>Meat and bone meal, and treated meat and bone meal.

<sup>c,d</sup>Values in the same column with different superscripts differ ( $P < .05$ ).

in steers consuming MBM (1.62 vs .86), indicating that methionine is the first limiting amino acid in MBM. Based on protein and amino acid composition of live weight gain, the 2.2 grams of metabolizable methionine supplied at the highest level of protein supplementation is adequate for .50 lb of gain, while the difference in gain was only .23 lb. This would suggest that once the requirement for methionine was met, another amino acid likely limited the potential for growth. Tryptophan, because of its reported low concentration in MBM, may have become limiting.

#### Trial 2

Steers that received the untreated and treated MBM supplements gained .85 and .98 lb/day, respectively, which were greater ( $P < .05$ ) than the .39 lb/day gained by the urea control steers (Table 4). The increase in gain was due to additional metabolizable protein (MP) supplied by these MBM supplements. Feed efficiency was also greater ( $P < .05$ ) for these treatments (Table 4) due to the increase in gain since daily feed intake was equal for all treatments.

Protein efficiency was numerically greater for treated MBM than untreated MBM (2.55 vs 1.58, respectively), however this difference was not statistically significant due to a large standard error. The trend, however, would suggest a greater escape protein value for treated MBM which is consistent with measured escape protein values, determined by ammonia release, of 49.5% and 71.4% for untreated MBM and treated MBM, respectively.

The greater protein efficiency and escape protein values for the treated MBM used in trial 2 relative to trial 1 would suggest the more extensive processing was beneficial. Likewise, the greater protein efficiency of the untreated MBM used in trial 2 relative to trial 1, despite its lower escape protein value, could be due to the addition of both rumen protected methionine and tryptophan.

Results of this research indicate treatment of MBM by non-enzymatic browning with sulfite liquor is a feasible means of increasing escape protein value and protein efficiency in growing calves. The added response to protected methionine suggests methionine is the first limiting amino acid in MBM. It is not possible to determine from this research if tryptophan is the second limiting amino acid.

To make the best use of treated MBM, adequate supplies of methionine or sulfur containing amino acids (SAA) should be assured. Corn protein is a good source of methionine so corn gluten meal or distillers grains would complement treated MBM. Obviously high corn diets would also have good supplies of methionine. Feather meal is a good source of SAA but much is in the form of cystine rather than methionine. Feather meal should complement treated MBM but it is not clear just how effectively cystine can replace the methionine requirement. Finally, protected methionine is an effective means of supplementing treated MBM to assure adequate methionine supplies.

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# Dried Poultry Waste as a Nonprotein Nitrogen Source for Ruminants

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Dan Herold<sup>1</sup>

## Summary

*Two trials were conducted to evaluate the use of dried poultry waste as a source of degradable intake protein in growing and finishing ruminant diets. Trial 1 utilized eighty-eight crossbred lambs (62 lb) in a 60-day growing period and subsequent 60-day finishing period. In the growing period, lambs were fed seven levels of degradable intake protein, 5.6 to 7.7% of diet DM (7.6 to 9.7% CP) from either urea or dried poultry waste. In the finishing period, lambs (71 lb) were fed a control diet containing no added N, 5.1% degradable intake protein (9.6% CP) or six levels of degradable intake protein, 5.7 to 8.5% (10.1 to 12.6% CP) from either urea or dried poultry waste. In the growing phase, no response to level of degradable intake protein was observed. Feed efficiencies for urea and dried poultry waste were equal. In the finishing phase, dried poultry waste was equal to urea as a source of degradable intake protein. In Trial 2, four ruminally-fistulated*

*(Continued on next page)*

*crossbred yearling steers (642 lb) were used to evaluate rumen ammonia concentration from feeding dried poultry waste or urea. Steers were ruminally dosed with .08 lb of nitrogen from either urea or dried poultry waste. Steers dosed with urea had greater ammonia concentrations at two and four hours compared to those dosed with dried poultry waste. Dried poultry waste was utilized as efficiently as urea in growing and finishing lamb trials and concentration of ammonia in the rumen was less for dried poultry waste.*

## Introduction

Waste management is a concern of the livestock and poultry industries and feeding waste products to animals is a management tool that can be used. Research has shown that consumption of poultry waste by ruminants results in a higher recovery of nutrients than use as fertilizer. Dried poultry waste (DPW) contains an average of 28% CP, of which 54% is true protein with the remainder mostly in the form of rumen degradable uric acid.

Dried poultry waste can be used in supplements for both growing and finishing diets. The value of DPW in ruminant feeding programs has not been critically evaluated. The objective of this experiment was to determine if DPW is a viable source of degradable intake protein for growing and finishing diets.

## Procedure

### *Trial 1 — Growing-Finishing*

Thirty-four ewes and fifty-four crossbred wethers (62 lb  $\pm$  1.9) were randomly assigned to one of 14 treatments for a 60-day growing period. Treatments consisted of seven levels of degradable intake protein (DIP) from either urea or DPW, 5.6% to 7.7% DIP (7.6 to 9.7% CP). Diets were a 50:50 mixture of ensiled corncobs and corn silage that made up 89% of the diet DM, the remainder of the diet was dry rolled corn and min-

eral supplement. Diets were balanced to be isocaloric and contain a minimum .7% calcium and .35% phosphorus. For the different treatment levels, urea and DPW supplied 40 to 60% of total dietary N (DM basis). The diets for low and high treatment levels were mixed once weekly and appropriate amounts of each diet were mixed for each lamb in order to obtain the proper treatment level. The amount of DIP consumed by each lamb was calculated based on amount of degradable protein from DPW or urea, ensiled corncobs, and corn silage. The lambs were weighed on three consecutive days at beginning and end of 60-day period. Three days before the final weights, lambs were fed 2.1% (DM basis) of BW to reduce differences in gut fill.

The same eighty-eight lambs (71 lb  $\pm$  2.6) were used in 60-day finishing period. Lambs were randomly assigned to 13 treatments, which included a diet containing no supplemental N, 5.1% DIP (9.6% CP) or six levels of DIP from either urea or DPW, 5.7 to 8.6% DIP (10.1 to 12.6% CP). Diets were based on dry rolled corn, alfalfa, ensiled corncobs, molasses, and mineral supplement and balanced to be isocaloric and contain a minimum of .7% calcium and .35% phosphorus. Urea and DPW supplied 0 to 34% of total dietary N (DM basis). The control and highest treatment level diets were mixed once weekly. Appropriate amounts of each diet were mixed for each lamb to obtain the proper treatment level. The amount of DIP consumed by each lamb was calculated based on amount of degradable protein from DPW or urea, corn, corn silage, and alfalfa consumed by each lamb. Lambs were weighed on three consecutive days at the beginning and end of the period. Beginning weights were the ending weights from the growing period.

Degradable intake protein efficiency was assessed using the slope ratio technique and determined by regression of feed efficiency on DIP. Individual slopes of DPW and urea protein efficiencies were analyzed statistically with a two tailed t-test.

### *Trial 2 — Metabolism*

Four ruminally-fistulated crossbred yearling steers (642 lb) were used. The steers were assigned to treatments according to a 4 x 4 Latin square design. Dietary treatments were: two growing rations balanced for 7.0% DIP (9.0% CP) supplemented with either DPW or urea; two finishing rations balanced for 9.7% DIP (12% CP) supplemented with either DPW or urea. The growing rations consisted of 44% corn silage, 44% ensiled corncobs, 9% dry rolled corn, and 3% supplement. The finishing rations consisted of 79% dry rolled corn, 5% corn silage, 5% alfalfa hay, 8% molasses, and 3% supplement. All diets were balanced to contain a minimum of .70% calcium, and .30% phosphorus. The growing diet included 25 g/ton Rumensin and the finishing ration included 25 g/ton Rumensin and 10 g/ton Tylan. Each steer had a 10-day adaptation period to diets containing either urea or DPW when the percentage of body weight each steer would consume was determined. After 10 days, steers were fed, at their determined percentage of body weight, a diet that contained no urea or DPW for 36 hours before sample collection. The diet was fed at 2-hour intervals throughout the sample collection period.

After the 36-hour period, 40 grams of N (quantity of urea consumed if fed the urea supplemented diet) from urea or DPW were intraruminally dosed into each steer. Rumen fluid was collected at 0, 2, 4, 6, 8, 12, and 16 hours after dosing. Ruminal pH was measured immediately after collection.

Ammonia concentrations were statistically analyzed using the GLM procedures of SAS as repeated measures. Each steer was an experimental unit with period, steer, and treatment as sources of variation and time as the repeated measure.

## Results

Treatments were formulated to contain increasing increments of DIP, therefore the calculated intakes of

degradable protein were different ( $P < .05$ ) among treatment levels for both urea and DPW treatments in the growing period. Dry matter intake was not significantly different among treatments. Data analyzed as nonlinear regression showed no response to level of DIP. Average gain/feed (.08) of the lambs consuming DPW and urea were equal.

To observe a protein response, DIP must be fed below the lamb's requirement. The 5.6% DIP treatment was apparently not below the lambs requirement when consuming this growing diet. The DIP requirement for the lambs was estimated before the trial using TDN of the diet times the efficiency of rumen microbes to convert energy to microbial crude protein (MCP). It has been estimated that the efficiency of rumen microbes to convert energy into MCP is 13%. The diet in this trial contained 61% TDN so the estimated DIP requirement was 7.9%. However, we did not observe a response to the 5.6% DIP level, indicating a lower efficiency should have been utilized or recycling of N to the rumen is greater than predicted.

During the finishing period lambs were fed a DIP level below the requirement, resulting in a numerical increase in efficiency due to level of DIP. Numerically less DIP was required from DPW to reach maximum efficiency compared to urea (Figure 1). The efficiency with which lambs utilized the N in DPW and urea are indicated by slopes of .043 and .031, respectively. These slopes were not different ( $P > .10$ ).

The DIP requirement for finishing lambs was calculated as previously described. However, a lower rumen microbial efficiency to convert energy to MCP was used. The DIP required for lambs on the finishing diets was calculated as 85% TDN times 8.03% microbial efficiency compared to a forage diet. An efficiency of 8.03% was used because a high concentrate diet has a lower rumen pH and reduced microbial efficiency compared to a forage diet. Therefore, the DIP requirement for lambs consuming the finishing diets was 7%. The results from this trial indicate DIP requirements were 6% for

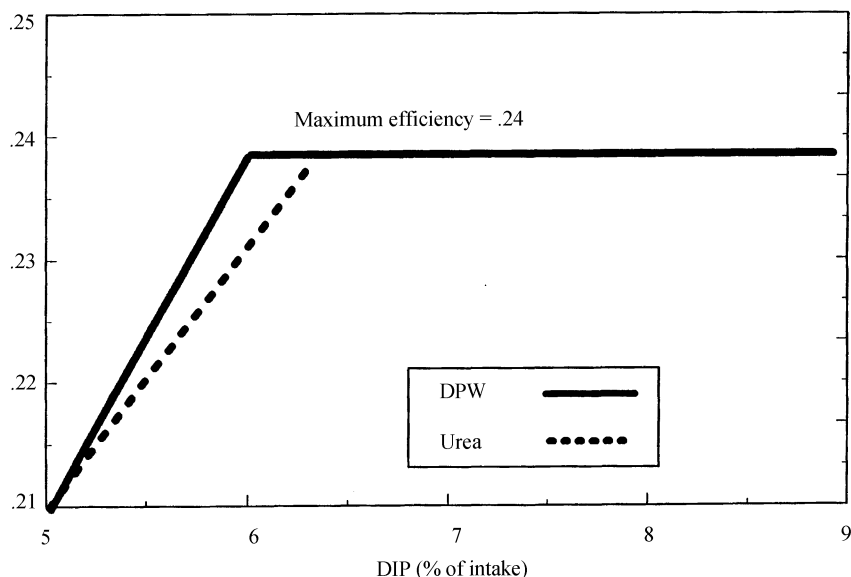


Figure 1. Nonlinear regression of feed efficiency on degradable intake protein for finishing period.

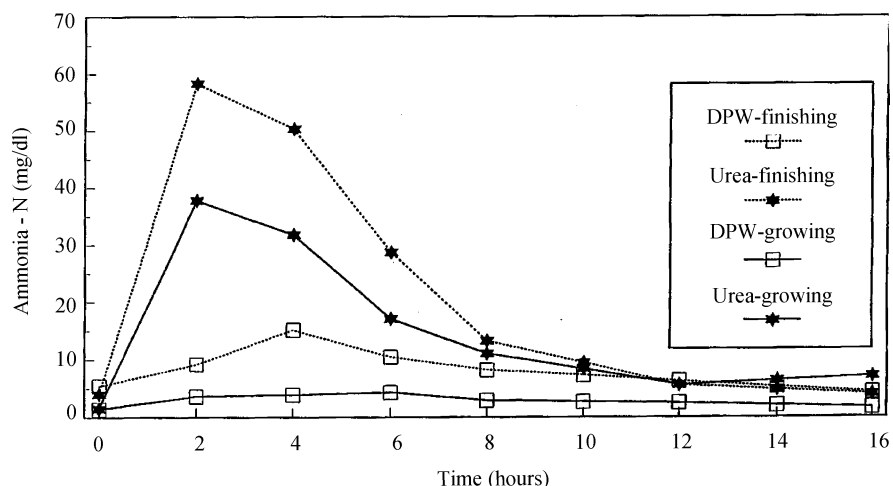


Figure 2. Ruminal ammonia concentration from dosing DPW or urea when feeding growing or finishing diets.

DPW and 6.3% for urea.

The feed efficiencies for lambs receiving finishing diets supplemented with DPW or urea above the DIP requirement were equal, (.24) as were daily gains (.69 lb/day). Dry matter intakes were not different among treatments.

In the metabolism trial, steers dosed with urea had higher ammonia concentrations ( $P < .03$ ) and ruminal pH ( $P < .10$ ) 2 and 4 hours after dosing than steers dosed with DPW (Figure 2). Thus urea provided a greater concentration of ammonia for the rumen microbes quickly, while DPW provided

ammonia at a low concentration over time.

Results from these trials indicate that DPW is an acceptable source of rumen degradable protein for ruminants. The two trials indicate that DPW is efficiently utilized by rumen microbes in both growing and finishing diets, and can be used to meet the animals' degradable intake protein requirement.

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