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Control of acariosis by feeding

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ABSTRACT (upto 300 words)

The stability of the microbiota is very important as it participates in their welfare, but it is not stable as a consequence of different factors such as the age of the snail, environmental conditions and feeding. One of the most important and severe pathologies suffered by snails is caused by the parasite *Riccardoella limacum* (Schrank, 1776). This pathogen acts as an ectoparasite that feeds on the blood of the host's respiratory tissue causing a decrease in growth and activity rates which eventually leads to the death of the animal. It is also known to be easily transmitted between animals, between the environment and the animals, and indirectly through clothing and utensils.

The aim of the study was to evaluate the effects of environmentally friendly compounds to combat acariosis and to check that they do not affect the viability of a probiotic that is added to the feed to improve the health status of the animals. The products selected were oxalic acid and thymol. Different concentrations of these products were tested to determine the optimal concentration to remove from the feed. We also studied whether the addition of these compounds causes a change in the organoleptic characteristics of the feed that affects the intake of the feed by the animals.

To see if the addition of the products affects the probiotic concentration, the colony-forming units of a feed containing probiotic and a feed containing oxalic acid and thymol in addition to probiotic were counted.

The results showed that the addition of 0.04% of thymol and 0.3% of oxalic acid allows to fight against acariosis and does not affect the viability of the probiotic and the organoleptic characteristics of the feed.

BIOGRAPHY (upto 200 words)

Aida Yuste studied biology and then specialised in microbiology through a master's degree. She did her internship for both studies at the Department of Animal Health and Anatomy where she is currently doing her PhD. She has published several articles related to probiotics.

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