

Nujira Taksinanan 2010: Effect of Feeding Cassava Pulp Diet on Pelleting Process, Nutrient Availability and Growth Performance in Weaning Pigs. Master of Science (Animal Nutrition and Feed Technology), Major Field: Animal Nutrition and Feed Technology, Department of Animal Science. Thesis Advisor: Assistant Professor Seksom Attamangkune, Ph.D.  
63 pages.

The objective of this study was to elucidate the effect of pelletized diet containing cassava pulp to weaning pigs. The study divided to 3 experiments. In each experiment, control diet (no cassava pulp) and treatment diet (10% cassava pulp) were compared on pelleting characteristic, nutrient availability and growth performance of weaning pigs.

Experiment 1. Diet containing 10 percents of cassava pulp had lower moisture content during stream conditioning than control diet (11.23 % VS 12.31%). Consequently, the increase in energy consumption for pelleting process was observed in the 10 % cassava pulp diet (16.1 kWh/t) compared that of control diet (11.3 kWh/t). However, both experimental diets were not different ( $P>0.05$ ) in pellet quality.

Experiment 2. Twenty-four, 5 wks old, weaned pigs were randomly subjected to two pelletized diets (no cassava pulp and 10% cassava pulp diets) with 12 pigs per treatment. All pigs were reared in metabolic cages and total fecal collection method was applied to determine the nutrient availability of both diets. No significant differences ( $P> 0.05$ ) on the availability of dry matter, protein and gross energy between both diets were observed.

Experiment 3. One hundred and twenty-eight, 5 wks old, weaned pigs were divided into 2 dietary treatments (8 pens per treatment and 8 pigs per pen). Pigs fed pelletized cassava pulp diet demonstrated poor average daily gain and feed conversion ratio ( $P<0.05$ ) compared to those fed pelletized control diet despite no significant in average daily feed intake in both group was found.

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Thesis Advisor's signature