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# Dietary soybean oil and choice white grease improve apparent ileal digestibility of amino acids in swine diets containing corn, soybean meal, and distillers dried grains with solubles<sup>a</sup>

Óleo de soja e gordura branca para melhorar a digestibilidade ileal aparente de aminoácidos em dietas de suínos que contem milho, farelo de soja e grãos secos de destilaria com solúveis

El aceite de soya y la grasa blanca mejoran la digestibilidad ileal aparente de los aminoácidos en dietas para cerdos que contienen maíz, soya y granos secos de destilería con solubles (DDGS)

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# Summary

The objective of this experiment was to measure the effects of soybean oil (SBO) and choice white grease (CWG) on apparent ileal digestibility (AID) of amino acids (AA) in corn-soybean meal-distillers dried grains with solubles-based diets fed to growing pigs. Three diets were prepared. The control diet contained corn, soybean meal, distillers dried grains with solubles (DDGS), cornstarch, and no additional fat. Two additional diets were formulated by adding 5% SBO or 5% CWG to the control diet at the expense of cornstarch. Twelve growing barrows with initial body weight of 37.6 kg (standard deviation = 3.22) were equipped with a T-cannula at the end of the ileum and they were allotted to one of three dietary treatments during six experimental periods. The AID of indispensable AA (e.g., arginine, histidine, isoleucine, leucine, phenylalanine, and valine) and dispensable AA (e.g., alanine, aspartic acid, cysteine, and proline) was improved (p<0.10) by the addition of 5% SBO or 5% CWG in the diets. The addition of SBO or CWG improved the AID of AA in a commercial-type diet containing corn, soybean meal, and distillers dried grains with solubles, and the extent of improvement in the AID of AA was comparable between the two sources of dietary fat.

Key words: amino acids, apparent ileal digestibility, choice white grease, soybean oil, swine.

## Resumen

El objetivo de este experimento fue medir el efecto del aceite de soya (SBO) y la grasa blanca (grasa de cerdo, CWG) sobre la digestibilidad ileal aparente (DIA) de aminoácidos (AA) en dietas maíz-soya

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adicionadas con derivados solubles de destilería para cerdos en crecimiento. Tres dietas fueron preparadas. La dieta control contenía maíz, harina de soya, granos secos de destilería con solubles (DDGS), almidón de maíz, y sin grasa adicionada. Dos dietas adicionales fueron formuladas adicionando 5% de SBO o de GTC a la dieta control, a expensas de la fécula de maíz. Doce cerdos machos castrados, con peso inicial de 37.6 kg (desviación estándar =3.22), fueron equipados con una cánula en T en el extremo del íleo y fueron asignados a uno de los tres tratamientos dietarios durante seis periodos experimentales. La DIA de AA esenciales (por ejemplo, arginina, histidina, isoleucina, leucina, fenilalanina y valina) y no esenciales (por ejemplo, alanina, ácido aspártico, cisteína y prolina) se mejoró (p<0.10) mediante la adición de 5% SBO o de 5% de CWG. La adición de SBO o CWG mejoró la DIA de AA en la dieta, y su nivel de mejoría fue similar entre las dos fuentes de grasa.

Palabras clave: aceite de soya, aminoácidos, cerdos, digestibilidad ileal aparente, grasa blanca de cerdo.

#### Resumo

O objectivo deste experimento foi avaliar o efeito do óleo de soja (SBO) e gordura branca (de suino, CWG) sobre a digestibilidade ileal aparente (AID) de aminoácidos (AA) em dietas com adição de derivados de milho-soja solúvel de destilaria para suínos em crescimento. Três dietas foram preparadas. A dieta controle continha milho, farelo de soja, grãos secos de destilaria com solúveis (DDGS), amido de milho, e não tinha gordura adicionada. As outras duas dietas tinham uma adição de 5% SBO e a outra com 5% de GTC à custa de amido de milho. Doze suínos machos castrados, com peso inicial de 37.6 kg (DP = 3.22) foram equipados com uma cânula T no final do íleo. O núcleo do AA (por exemplo, arginina, histidina, isoleucina, leucina, fenilalanina e valina) e não-essenciais (por exemplo, alanina, ácido aspártico, cisteína e prolina) foi melhorada (p<0.10) pela adição de 5% SBO CWG ou 5%. A adição de SBO ou CWG melhorou de AA na dieta e o nível de melhora foi semelhante entre as duas fontes de gordura.

Palavras-chave: aminoácidos, digestibilidade ileal aparente, gordura branca de suíno, óleo de soja, suínos.

# Introduction

Dietary fat is a valuable ingredient for swine diets because of its high energy value and palatability. Moreover, it has been documented that dietary fat addition improves the apparent ileal digestibility (AID) of amino acids (AA) in soybean meal (Li and Sauer, 1994; Cervantes-Pahm and Stein, 2008), canola meal (Imbeah and Sauer, 1991), and rapeseed meal (Valaja and Siljander-Rasi, 2001) when fed to pigs. However, these experiments have measured the AID of AA in semi-purified diets containing one protein ingredient as a single AA source. To our knowledge, no data pertaining to the effects of dietary fat on the AID of AA in a commercial-type swine diet that was formulated with corn, soybean meal, and distillers dried grains with solubles (DDGS) have been reported. Moreover, most of the previous experiments have used plant oils such as soybean oil (SBO) as additional fat source although animal fat such as choice white grease (CWG) is more frequently added to swine diets than plant oils. Thus, little is known about the effects of animal fat on the AID of AA in the diet compared with those of plant oils. The objective of this experiment, therefore, was to measure the effects of dietary SBO and CWG on the AID of AA in the diet containing corn, soybean meal, and DDGS by growing pigs.

# Materials and methods

Animals and housing

Twelve growing barrows with initial body weight of 37.6 kg (standard deviation = 3.22) were used in this experiment. All pigs used in this experiment were offspring of line 337 boars mated to C22 females (Pig Improvement Company, Hendersonville, TN). A T-cannula was surgically installed in the distal ileum of each pig (Stein *et al.*, 1998). Pigs were housed in individual pens (1.2 x 1.5 m) in an environmentally controlled room. Pens were equipped with a feeder, a nipple drinker, and a fully-slatted concrete floor. The

animal protocol for this experiment was approved by the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee at the University of Illinois.

# Diets and experimental design

Three diets were prepared (Table 1). The control diet contained corn, soybean meal, DDGS, cornstarch, and no additional fat. Two additional diets were formulated by adding 5% SBO or 5% CWG to the control diet at the expense of cornstarch. All diets contained the quantities of metabolizable energy (ME), AA, vitamins, and minerals that were expected to meet or exceed the current requirement estimates (NRC, 1998) (Table 2). Chromic oxide (0.40%) was

Table 1. Composition of experimental diets, as-fed basis.

Ingradianta (9/)	Dietary treatment <sup>1</sup>			
Ingredients (%)	Control	5% SBO	5% CWG	
Ground corn	52.55 52.55		52.55	
Soybean meal, 48%	19.50	19.50	19.50	
DDGS <sup>2</sup>	20.00	20.00	20.00	
Cornstarch	5.05	0.05	0.05	
Soybean oil	-	5.00	-	
Choice white grease	-			
L-Lysine·HCI	0.20	0.20	0.20	
Monocalcium phosphate	0.45	0.45	0.45	
Ground limestone	1.10	1.10	1.10	
Chromic oxide	0.40	0.40	0.40	
Salt	0.45	0.45	0.45	
Vitamin-mineral premix <sup>3</sup>	0.30	0.30 0.30		
Total	100.00	100.00 100.00		

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Dietary treatment: Control = corn-soybean meal-DDGS-based diet with no additional fat; 5% SBO = diet containing 5% soybean oil; 5% CWG = diet containing 5% choice white grease.

included in all diets as an indigestible index. Each pig was provided in quantities equal to three times the estimated daily maintenance requirement for energy (i.e., 106 kcal ME kg-0.75; NRC, 1998) in two equal meals at 0900 and 1700. Water was available at all times. There were six experimental periods. Within each period, six of 12 pigs were assigned to one of three dietary treatments. However, all pigs were fed three diets only at one time during the entire experiment (i.e., n=12 for each dietary treatment). The potential carryover effects were balanced by the procedure of Kim and Stein (2009). The initial 5 d of each 7 d period was considered an adaptation period to the diet. Ileal digesta were collected continuously for 8 h on days 6 and 7. Collected samples were stored at -20 °C until further chemical analysis.

**Table 2.** Analyzed energy and nutrient composition of experimental diets, as-fed basis.

Item <sup>2</sup>	Dietary treatment <sup>1</sup>				
item²	Control	5% SBO	5% CWG		
ME, (Mcalkg <sup>-1</sup> )	3.35	3.58	3.58		
DM (%)	87.55	88.79	88.05		
CP (%)	19.69	19.09	19.29		
Acid-hydrolyzed ether extract (%)	6.32	12.94	11.37		
Calcium (%)	0.62	0.62	0.62		
Available phosphorus (%)	0.23	0.23	0.23		
Indispensable AA (%)					
Arginine	1.11	1.05	1.05		
Histidine	0.53	0.51	0.52		
Isoleucine	0.72	0.68	0.70		
Leucine	1.72	1.63	1.64		
Lysine	1.07	1.02	1.02		
Methionine	0.31	0.30	0.30		
Phenylalanine	0.88	0.84	0.84		
Threonine	0.67	0.63	0.62		
Tryptophan	0.22	0.18	0.20		
Valine	0.88	0.84	0.87		
Total	8.11	7.68	7.76		
Dispensable AA (%)					
Alanine	1.06	1.00	1.00		
Aspartic acid	1.59	1.51	1.53		
Cysteine	0.31	0.30	0.29		
Glutamic acid	3.00	2.80	2.82		
Glycine	0.79	0.73	0.74		
Proline	1.18	1.13	1.12		
Serine	0.78	0.73	0.69		
Tyrosine	0.61	0.57 0.56			
Total	9.32	8.77 8.75			

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Dietary treatment: Control = corn-soybean meal-distillers dried grains with solubles-based diet with no additional fat; 5% SBO = diet containing 5% soybean oil; 5% CWG = diet containing 5% choice white grease.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> DDGS = distillers dried grains with solubles.

 $<sup>^3</sup>$  Provided the following quantities of vitamins and micro minerals per kilogram of complete diet: vitamin A, 11.128 IU; vitamin D $_3$ , 2.204 IU; vitamin E, 66 IU; vitamin K, 1.42 mg; thiamin, 0.24 mg; riboflavin, 6.58 mg; pyridoxine, 0.24 mg; vitamin B $_{12}$ , 0.03 mg; D-pantothenic acid, 23.5 mg; niacin, 44 mg; folic acid, 1.58 mg; biotin, 0.44 mg; Cu, 10 mg as copper sulfate; Fe, 125 mg as iron sulfate; I, 1.26 mg as potassium iodate; Mn, 60 mg as manganese sulfate; Se, 0.3mg as sodium selenite; and Zn, 100 mg as zinc oxide.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Values for ME, calcium, and available phosphorus were calculated from NRC (1998); other values were analyzed.

# Chemical analysis

At the end of the experiment, the frozen ileal digesta samples were thawed and mixed within animal and diet, and then an aliquot of subsample was collected for chemical analysis. The subsamples were lyophilized and finely ground before chemical analysis. All samples were analyzed for DM (method 930.15; AOAC, 2005) and CP (method 990.03; AOAC, 2005). Amino acids were analyzed on a Hitachi Amino Acid Analyzer (Model L8800, Hitachi High Technologies America Inc., Pleasanton, CA) using ninhydrin for postcolumn derivatization and norleucine as the internal standard. All samples were hydrolyzed by 6 N HCl for 24 h at 110 °C prior to analysis (method 982.30 E; AOAC, 2005). Methionine and Cysteine were analyzed as methionine sulfone and cysteic acid after cold performic acid oxidation overnight before hydrolysis. Tryptophan was analyzed after NaOH hydrolysis for 22 h at 110 °C. The concentrations of Cr in diets and ileal samples were determined by an inductive coupled plasma atomic emission spectrometric method (method 990.08; AOAC, 2005) after nitric acid-perchloric acid wet ash sample preparation (method 968, 088 D; AOAC, 2005).

#### Calculation and statistical analysis

Values for the AID of AA in three diets were calculated as the following equation (Stein *et al.*, 2007):

AID, % = 
$$[1 - (AA_{digesta} \div AA_{diet}) \times (Index_{diet} \div Index_{digesta})] \times 100,$$

Where AA<sub>digesta</sub> and AA<sub>diet</sub> represent the concentrations of AA (g/kg DM) in digesta and diet, respectively, whereas Index<sub>diet</sub> and Index<sub>digesta</sub> represent the concentrations of index (i.e., Cr, g/kg DM) in diet and digesta, respectively. Data were analyzed by ANOVA using the PROC MIXED procedure of SAS (SAS Institute Inc., Cary, NC).

Diet was the fixed effect, whereas pig and period were random effects in the model. LSMEANS procedure was used to calculate least squares mean values for all dietary treatments. When treatment effect was significant (p<0.05), least squares means were compared using the probability of differences (PDIFF) procedure of SAS. The pig was the experimental unit for all analyzes. A probability of p<0.05 was considered statistically significant and 0.05<p<0.10 was accepted as a tendency.

#### Results

The analyzed nutrient composition of all diets was comparable to calculated values (Table 2). All pigs remained healthy and readily consumed their daily allowances throughout the experiment. No problems were experienced with the cannulas and ileal digesta collection for all pigs.

The results of this experiment showed that the AID of DM and CP was not affected by dietary treatment. The AID of arginine and valine in the diet containing 5% SBO (87.3% and 78.0%, respectively) or 5% CWG (87.4 and 77.9%, respectively) was greater (p<0.05) than in the control diet (85.8% and 74.6%, respectively). The value for the AID of leucine was greater (p<0.05) for the diet containing 5% SBO (84.0%) than for the control diet (81.5%). The value for the diet containing 5% CWG (83.5%) was comparable to the value for the diet containing 5% SBO although it was not significantly different from the values for the control diet. There was a tendency for an increase (p<0.10) in the AID of three indispensable AA (histidine, isoleucine, and phenylalanine) and four dispensable AA (alanine, aspartic acid, cysteine, and proline) when 5% SBO or 5% CWG was added to the control diet. The AID of total indispensable AA tended to be greater (p<0.10) in the diet containing 5% SBO or 5% CWG than in the control diet. The AID of total dispensable AA was not different among dietary treatments (Table 3).

**Table 3.** Apparent ileal digestibility (%) of dry matter (DM), crude protein (CP), and amino acids (AA) in experimental diets.<sup>1</sup>

	Dietary treatment <sup>2</sup>				
Item	Control	5% SBO	5% CWG	SEM <sup>3</sup>	p-values
DM	69.0	71.7	71.0	1.10	0.156
CP	85.5	84.3	83.7	0.86	0.199
Indispensable AA					
Arginine	85.8ª	87.3 <sup>b</sup>	87.4 <sup>b</sup>	0.59	0.038
Histidine	81.0×	83.2 <sup>xy</sup>	83.5 <sup>y</sup>	0.83	0.074
Isoleucine	77.2×	79.7 <sup>y</sup>	79.5 <sup>xy</sup>	0.97	0.073
Leucine	81.5ª	84.0 <sup>b</sup>	83.5 <sup>ab</sup>	0.85	0.045
Lysine	77.0	79.7	79.0	1.25	0.107
Methionine	82.7	84.7	84.3	0.88	0.104
Phenylalanine	80.1×	82.6 <sup>y</sup>	82.0 <sup>xy</sup>	0.84	0.052
Threonine	69.2	71.3	70.2	1.30	0.390
Tryptophan	81.6	81.9	83.0	1.20	0.571
Valine	74.6°	78.0 <sup>b</sup>	77.9 <sup>b</sup>	1.14	0.038
Total	79.2×	81.6 <sup>y</sup>	81.2×y	0.90	0.075
Dispensable AA					
Alanine	75.0×	78.2 <sup>y</sup>	77.4×y	1.37	0.091
Aspartic acid	73.3×	76.0×y	76.3 <sup>y</sup>	1.07	0.090
Cysteine	69.4×	74.1 <sup>y</sup>	73.2 <sup>xy</sup>	1.77	0.097
Glutamic acid	80.5	83.3	83.4	1.11	0.111
Glycine	57.6	62.1	62.1	2.27	0.193
Proline	67.9×	73.3 <sup>y</sup>	71.3 <sup>xy</sup>	4.41	0.086
Serine	76.6	78.4	76.8	1.03	0.307
Tyrosine	80.7	82.1	81.5	0.79	0.379
Total	74.4	77.6	77.1	1.37	0.105

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Means are least squares means based on 12 observations per treatment.

# Discussion

The increased AID of most AA by 5% SBO addition as observed in this experiment agrees with Cervantes-Pahm and Stein (2008) who reported that the addition of 7.6% SBO increased the AID of most AA by one to three percentage units in soybean meal. Likewise, increasing addition of canola oil has been reported to increase the AID of AA in soybean meal (Imbeah and Sauer, 1991;

Li and Sauer, 1994) and in canola meal (Imbeah and Sauer, 1991), which also supports the result of this experiment. However, our results further indicate that the addition of dietary fat increases the AID of AA in the mixed diets containing corn, soybean meal, and DDGS, which are close to a commercial-type swine diet in many countries. To our knowledge, this observation has never been reported previously. A similar improvement in the AID of most AA as a result of 5% CWG addition compared with 5% SBO addition in the diets also demonstrates that CWG has comparable efficacy to SBO as regards its promoting effects on digestion and absorption of AA.

The improvement in the AID of AA as a result of dietary fat addition has been related to slower gastric emptying (Low et al., 1985) and decreased passage rate of digesta (Valaja and Siljander-Rasi, 2001) due to unknown function of dietary fat in the gastrointestinal tract of pigs. Delayed transition of digesta flow is likely to increase the time for protein digestion and AA absorption (Li and Sauer, 1994) and to improve the digestibility of DM (Kim et al., 2007). This may be the reason for our observation that the addition of SBO as well as CWG increases the AID of most AA in the diets although gastric emptying and passage rate of digesta were not measured in this experiment. It is also speculated that similar improvement in the AID of most AA between SBO and CWG addition in the diets may be due to the fact that the effects of SBO on the gastrointestinal digesta flow resemble those of CWG. This assumption is supported by Valaja and Siljander-Rasi (2001) who observed that both tallow and rapeseed oil decreased to a similar extent the passage rate of digesta measured in the distal ileum of pigs. The extent of improvement in the AID of AA and the type of individual AA as affected by dietary fat addition varied among experiments. The reason for this variation is not clear; however, it may be associated with differences in animals, the level and source of fat and protein, and other dietary components among experiments.

In conclusion, the addition of SBO and CWG improves the AID of most AA in a commercial-type diet containing corn, soybean meal, and DDGS. The extent of improvement in the AID of AA by dietary

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Dietary treatment: Control = corn-soybean meal-distillers dried grains with solubles based diet with no additional fat; 5% SBO = diet containing 5% soybean oil; 5% CWG = diet containing 5% choice white grease.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>SEM: Standard effort of the mean.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a-b</sup>Values within a row lacking a common superscript letter differ (p<0.05).

<sup>\*\*</sup>Yalues within a row lacking a common superscript letter differ (0.05<p<0.10).

fat addition was comparable between the 2 sources of dietary fat. Therefore, if dietary fat originated from either plant oils or animal fat is added to swine diets, we may consider the reduced use of the additional AA. The limitation of this experiment, however, is to determine effects of dietary fat on the AID of AA instead of standardized ileal digestibility (SID) of AA. Future research pertaining to the effects of different sources of dietary fat on the SID of AA in swine diets is warranted.

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