Distillers feeds from various grains as protein sources for pigs

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> Abstract. The nutrient digestibility and protein utilization of distillery feeds derived from dehulled barley, rye and wheat were studied with growing pigs receiving one of eleven diets in which the protein sources were BDDGS, RDDGS, WDDGS, BDDG, BDS or SBM. In a second trial BDDGS and BDDG were compared with the same feeds treated prior to cooking with cellulase enzyme. The diets, consisting of barley and distillers feed, were fortified with L-lysine and DL-methionine to achieve levels of 13.0 % DCP, 0.80 % lysine and 0.56 % S amino acids. The distillery by-products contained crude protein 24.8-41.5 %, crude fat 6.3-9.5 %, crude fibre 7.1-10.3 %, ADF 18.2-22.9 %, NDF 33.3-43.7 % and ADL 8.7-11.3 % on a dry basis. Their lysine content was 0.43-1.36 % of DM and their S amino acid content 0.58-1.36 %. The digestibilities of organic matter and crude protein were 56-83 and 56-79 %. DDGS from rye had low digestibilities and barley distillers solubles high. The cellulase treatment decreased the OM and CP digestibilities by 6.4-10.4 and 15.3-15.4 % units, respectively. FU/kg DM varied from 0.63 to 0.84 and DCP from 177 to 405 g/FU. The N retention of the BDDGS, RDDGS, WDDGS, BDDG, BDS and SBM diets was, respectively, 21.7, 21.1, 24.2, 23.0, 17.7 and 24.6 g/d (P < 0.01) and the biological values were 55, 60, 59, 56, 55 and 66. The daily gains varied from 700 to 762 g. The data indicated that distillery by-products could replace soybean meal quite satisfactorily as a protein source in amino acid-fortified diets.

Index words: Distillery by-products, distillers dried grain with solubles, protein source, pig nutrition

Introduction

The desire to increase the domestic protein supply for animal feeding in Finland has prompted a search for alternatives to imported protein. The distillery by-products left after the alcohol process are rich in protein. When used for pigs, however, distillery feeds from the traditional ethanol process have been found to have a relatively low nutritive value (ALAVIUHKOLA 1978, SALO 1978, NASI 1984 c), due to their denatured protein and high fibre content.

A new ethanol plant due to start operating

soon will use barley as raw material and employ an integrated ethanol-starch process. In this process different grain fractions are obtained and they can be combined in different ways and subjected to different treatments (LEHMUSSAARI 1984). The increased supply of distillery feed fractions expected in the next few years suggested the present study to evaluate these products, especially those derived from barley, since little information is available regarding utilization of this protein source in pig diets.

Materials and methods

Dehulled barley derived distillers feedstuffs and corresponding material derived from rye and wheat were obtained from the Koskenkorva factory of ALKO Ltd. In the second trial barley distillers feed treated with cellulase prior to cooking was compared with untreated material. The ethanol process was traditional one, comprising cooking, saccharification, fermentation and distillation. The products used in the present trial were dehydrated in a drum dryer except the solubles which were in semisolid form. The experimental diets were formulated to contain 13 % DCP, 0.80 % lysine and 0.56 % sulphur amino acids from barley meal and respective distillery feed by fortifying the diets with Llysine HCl and DL-methionine. The control diets were barley soybean meal mixture and barley fortified with lysine and methionine. The protein digestibility coefficients used in formulating the diets were 0.78 for barley, 0.65 for the various distillery feeds and 0.90 for soybean meal.

The distillery feeds used in the present study were (abbreviations in parentheses):

Barley distillers dried grains with solubles (BDDGS) Rye distillers dried grains with solubles (RDDGS) Wheat distillers dried grains with solubles (WDDGS) Barley distillers dried grains (BDDG)

Barley distillers solubles (BDS)

BDDGS coming from the process using cellulase (BDDGSC)

The diets used in the digestibility trials were as follows (in percentages):

Experiment 1.

		DDG/S	Barley	L-lys	DL-meth
Diet	1 BDDGS	40.0	60.0	0.20	0.01
Diet	2 RDDGS	39.5	60.5	0.38	0.0
Diet	3 WDDGS	27.7	72.3	0.39	0.0
Diet	4 BDDG	28.3	71.7	0.11	0.0
Diet	5 BDS	61.0	39.0	0.21	0.0
Diet	6 SBM	14.4	85.6	-	-
Diet	7 0CONT		100.0	0.36	0.13
Expe	eriment 2.				
Diet	8 BDDGS	38.8	61.2	0.20	0.01
Diet	9 BDDG	27.5	67.5	0.12	0.0
Diet	10 BDDGSC	36.9	63.1	0.34	0.01
Diet	11 BDDGC	32.4	67.6	0.21	0.0

Eleven digestibility and balance trials were conducted using 6-day adaptation periods and 6-day collection periods in a 6×6 Latin square design in trial 1 and 4×4 in trial 2. The pigs were kept in metal metabolism units equipped with collection trays for separate total collection of faeces and urine. The details of the procedures and analyses are the same as described by NASI (1984 a, c).

Results and discussion

During the ethanol process, the starch is fermented and the other grain components concentrated. The dehydrated distillery products had a crude protein content of 33.6 to 41.5 %, the protein content of the condensed solubles being lower, 24.8 % of DM (Table 1). The distillers feed had a crude fat content of 6.3–9.5 % of DM. The fibre contents of the BDDGS and BDDG were only two-thirds of that of distillers products from whole barley (Näsi 1984 b). Dehulling of the barley is desirable from the nutritional point of view. since the highly lignified fibre of the hulls (SALO and KOTILAINEN 1970) decreases the feed value of distillers feed, and the dehulled material is easier to process (LEHMUSSAARI 1984). The acid detergent lignin content was high in the present distillery feeds as well, 9-11 %, possibly being partly composed of products of the Maillard reaction.

BDDG coming from the process using cellulase (BDDGC)

	BDDGS	RDDGS	WDDGS	BDDG	BDS	BDDGSC	BDDGC	SBM	Barley
Chemical composition, % in DM									
Dry matter	89.9	92.6	93.6	95.8	55.4	96.1	97.4	88.7	88.3
Ash	5.5	6.2	3.8	3.3	13.9	7.7	5.2	6.2	2.8
Crude protein	34.4	33.6	41.5	40.0	24.8	33.2	35.4	50.9	12.3
True protein	29.0	26.0	34.7	34.6	14.9	25.5	29.0	45.9	9.9
Ether extract	8.4	6.7	6.3	7.5	6.5	9.4	9.5	1.6	2.4
Crude fibre	7.8	8.4	9.9	10.2	1.4	7.1	10.3	6.9	6.0
NFE	43.9	45.1	38.5	39.1	53.5	42.7	39.6	34.5	76.5
Sugars	2.4	1.2	2.8	0.6	2.0	1.6	0.9	-	_
Neutral deterg, fibre	38.0	37.3	40.9	47.6	_	33.3	43.7	11.9	25.2
Acid detergent fibre	22.0	18.5	18.2	22.2	_	21.4	22.9	8.0	6.7
Acid detergent lignin	9.6	10.6	8.7	8.9	_	11.3	9.1	0.8	1.3
Pepsin-HCl solubility of crude protein, %	74.0	69.5	80.0	80.0	84.2	65.3	68.2	92.9	90.6
Amino agide a/ka									
Alanina	14.3	12.5	14.7	17.7	63	13.2	14.8	21.4	5.0
Arainine	12.0	10.5	12.2	18.1	4.3	11.2	15.1	27.0	5.0
Arginine Asportio poid	20.9	10.5	20.5	26.2	7.0	10.5	20.6	54.6	7.1
Aspartic acid	20.0	5.5	6.8	7.4	2.0	5.5	6.0	54.0	2.7
Clutamia acid	60 4	60.7	0.0	87.9	28.1	60.5	81.0	88.0	24.5
Chusing	12.7	12.7	12.0	15 4	6.5	12.9	13 4	20.6	4.5
Uistiding	5.9	5 1	6.7	7.6	2.5	5.4	6.4	12.4	2.4
Isolausing	11.0	10.5	12.2	16.0	2.5	11.5	14.0	21.0	2.4
Isoleucine	22.6	20.2	26.2	22.1	5.7	22.2	27.0	27.4	9.1
Leucine	23.0	20.2	20.3	12.0	2.0	23.2	27.9	37.4	0.1
Lysine	2.0	4.0	2.9	15.0	3.0	3.4	9.0	4.2	4.5
Dhamlalaning	3.0	12.0	17.2	22.0	1.2	2.1	4.1	4.2	1.5
Phenylalanine	10.1	13.9	17.3	22.0	4.0	15.0	19.5	24.0	5.2
Proline	34.3	28.6	30.8	47.0	11.2	33.8	43.2	26.1	11.6
Serine	14.8	14.1	18.0	18.5	6.0	14.1	16.1	26.3	5.1
Threonine	12.0	11.0	12.0	14.9	4.8	11.8	12.8	19.5	4.2
Tyrosine	9.5	7.9	10.9	13.0	4.1	9.2	10.6	16.2	3.4
Valine	16.9	14.4	16.5	22.1	5.5	14.4	17.5	21.5	5.5
Available lysine	6.4	1.3	3.4	10.8	2.3	2.6	0.0	28.3	4.1
Mineral composition									
Ca g/kg DM	1.23	1.47	1.16	0.92	1.62	1.06	0.78	2.14	0.55
P g/kg DM	7.04	7.63	6.73	4.27	15.59	9.58	6.62	6.71	4.20
Mg g/kg DM	2.19	2.29	2.10	1.02	5.40	2.89	1.85	2.63	1.08
K g/kg DM	8.87	9.17	7.94	3.93	25.18	13.16	8.28	22.56	6.28
Na g/kg DM	7.42	10.29	2.79	4.30	23.77	11.91	6.57	0.26	0
Fe mg/kg DM	111	116	92	80	149	84	78	127	79
Cu mg/kg DM	18.4	13.7	11.0	21.6	11.1	16.7	19.5	16.4	7.6
Zn mg/kg DM	115	60	73	83	81	58	48	49	58
Mn mg/kg DM	56	61	66	25	69	39	27	41	21

Table 1. Chemical composition of various distillers by-products and soybean meal and barley used in digestibility experiments with pigs.

The lysine content (0.4-1.3 %) of the products and its availability (0.33-0.83) were higher than in previous experiments with distillers feeds from whole barley (NASI 1983 c) or with those from wheat (SALO 1978). With BDDG the values for lysine, S amino acids and threonine were 3.4, 3.4 and 3.9 g/16 g N,

respectively, and the availability of lysine was 0.83, values only slightly lower than those for the raw material, barley. Wheat, corn and barley DDG have been found to have amino acid profiles fairly similar to those of the original grains (SATTERLEE et al. 1976, NEWMAN and GRAS 1983), but in distillers feed from rye

Table 2.	Digestibility coefficients of	nutrients of barley	diets containing	distillery	products and	soybean	meal	as
	protein sources.							

Experiment 1												
Diet no Prot. source	1 BDDGS	2 RDDGS	3 WDDGS	4 BDDG	5 BDS	6 SBM	7 Barley					
Dry matter	74.9 ^{bf}	71.2cg	76.1 ^{bf}	75.8 ^{bf}	81.5ae	81.9ae	81.7					
Ash	51.9cfg	53.7bfg	50.4cfg	49.1cg	70.4ae	53.9 ^{bf}	49.6					
Organic matter	76.4 ^{bf}	72.4cg	77.5 ^{bf}	77.3 ^{bf}	83.0ae	83.6ae	83.4					
Crude protein	72.0 ^{fg}	63.6 ^{ch}	75.2 ^{bf}	76.9bef	66.0cgh	82.3cg	78.4					
Ether extract	85.0ae	74.6bcfg	79.8abfg	80.9abef	82.1ac	72.0cg	71.3					
Crude fibre	24.4 ^{bf}	27.0 ^{bf}	26.9 ^{bf}	26.1 ^{bf}	35.4ac	29.0bef	25.9					
NFE	82.7cg	80.1 ^{dh}	83.6 ^{cg}	82.9 ^{cg}	91.0ae	88.9 ^{bf}	89.0					

Means with different letters were significantly different: a-d (P<0.05), e-h (P<0.01).

Experiment 2	Experiment 2											
Diet no Prot. source	8 BDDGS	9 BDDG	10 BDDGSC	11 BDDGC								
Dry matter	76.5 ^{cf}	77.4cf	74.2be	73.1ae								
Ash	50.5 ^{bf}	46.1ae	53.8cg	46.3ae								
Organic matter	78.0 ^{bf}	78.9 ^{bf}	75.7be	74.6ae								
Crude protein	74.1cfg	78.8dg	64.5ae	69.5bef								
Ether extract	87.4 ^b	84.4ª	86.7ab	86.2 ^{ab}								
Crude fibre	29.4bef	31.7 ^{bf}	22.6ae	23.6aef								
NFE	83.6 ^{bf}	83.7 ^{bf}	83.7 ^{bf}	81.2 ^{ac}								

Means with different letters were significantly different: a-d (P<0.05), e-g (P<0.01).

(RDDGS) the lysine content and availability were low. The protein quality and its deterioration are evidently closely connected with the drying method and conditions. The pepsin-HCl solubility of the protein varied from 65 to 84 % in the samples, indicating no serious denaturation in drying (Table 1). The use of cellulase in the process decreased the availability of lysine (10–27 %) and the protein solubility (9–12 % units).

The organic matter and NFE digestibilities of BDS exceeded those of the other products (P < 0.01), 83 vs. 63-65 % for OM and 93 vs. 54-66 for NFE, but RDDGS had lower digestibilities (P < 0.01). In BDS and RDDGS the crude protein was less digestible (P < 0.01) than in the other distillers byproducts (Table 3).

The crude protein digestibilities of BDDG and WDDGS (73-76 %) are quite promising and close to the value of barley protein (78 %). ERIXON and PETTERSSON (1982) concluded from a digestibility trial with piglets that in wheat DDG organic matter was 10 % less digestible than in barley, but CP digestibility was of the same magnitude as in barley and removing the bran from DDGS increased the digestibility of both OM and CP.

The cellulase treatment in the ethanol process decreased organic matter digestibility by 6-10 % units and that of crude protein by 15 % units. This was evidently due to the cellulase increasing the content of reducing sugars, which reacted with amino acids and in the drying process formed Maillard reaction products, which are in largely unavailable.

The digestibilities and calculated feed values were considerably higher than those of whole barley distillers feeds (NASI 1984 c). The FU values of 0.75–0.79 per kg DM (Table 3) are sufficiently high for inclusion in pig feed formulas at the level of 10–20 %. However, an evaluation should also be made with produc-

Table 3.	Digestibility	coefficients of	nutrients	of	distillery	by-products	and	their	calculated	feed	values
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	BDDGS	RDDGS	WDDGS	BDDG	BDS	SBM	Barley			
Digestibilities, %										
Dry matter	64.4 ^f	55.2 ^f	61.8 ^f	61.7 ^f	81.4e	83.1°	81.7			
Ash	55.8°	59.9°	53.2 ^f	46.4 ^f	77.6°	76.9°	49.6			
Organic matter	65.7 ^r	55.78	62.9 ^{fg}	63.0fg	82.8°	84.6°	83.4			
Crude protein	68.7 ^{fg}	55.6 ^h	72.8 ^{fg}	75.9 ^f	62.6gh	87.5°	78.4			
Ether extract	90.7ª	76.3ª	87.6ª	87.9ª	84.3ª	78.3ª	71.3			
Crude fibre	22.7 ^f	28.1 ^r	28.3 ^r	26.4 ^r	58.7°	44.8ef	25.9			
NFE	66.3 ^r	57.9 ⁸	57.1s	54.3 ^g	92.6°	87.9°	89.0			
Feed values										
FU/kg DM	0.795	0.652	0.745	0.763	0.877	1.041	1.120			
kg/FU	1.401	1.656	1.435	1.368	2.062	1.083	1.018			
DCP in DM, %	23.6	18.7	30.2	30.3	15.5	44.5	9.2			
DCP/FU, g	297	286	405	397	177	428	82			
ME, MJ/kg DM (Just)	13.25	10.81	12.81	13.10	14.04	15.71	14.65			
NE, MJ/kg DM »	8.06	6.23	7.73	7.95	8.65	9.90	9.11			
NE, FU/kg DM »	1.044	0.807	1.001	1.030	1.120	1.282	1.180			
ME, MJ/kg DM (Axelss.)	12.46	10.19	11.92	12.18	13.51	14.66	14.36			

able 5. Digestionity coefficients of nutrients of distincty by-products and their calculated feed valu

Expariment 1

Means with different letters were significantly different: a-d (P<0.05), e-h (P<0.01).

Experiment 2										
	BDDGS	BDDG	BDDGSC	BDDGC						
Digestibilities, %										
Dry matter	68.1cg	66.7cfg	62.3 ^{bf}	56.4ae						
Ash	51.9bef	32.7ae	58.6cf	39.8abef						
Organic matter	69.3cg	67.9cg	62.9 ^{bf}	57.5ae						
Crude protein	71.8cfg	79.0 ^{dg}	56.4ae	63.7bef						
Ether extract	94.5ª	94.6ª	92.8ª	93.3ª						
Crude fibre	33.5bef	39.9cf	18.2ac	21.1abef						
NFE	68.9cf	58.5be	68.8 ^{cf}	52.8ae						
Feed values										
FU/kg DM	0.837	0.823	0.765	0.725						
kg/FU	1.330	1.267	1.361	1.416						
DCP in DM, %	24.7	31.6	18.7	22.5						
DCP/FU, g	295	383	244	311						
ME, MJ/kg DM (Just)	13.95	14.08	12.57	12.71						
NE, MJ/kg DM »	8.58	8.68	7.55	7.25						
NE, FU/kg DM »	1.111	1.124	0.978	0.939						
ME, MJ/kg DM (Axelss.)	13.10	13.08	11.86	11.34						

Means with different letters were significantly different: a-d (P<0.05), e-g (P<0.01).

tion trials. In growing pig diets, SBM was replaced by BDDG up to 10 % and by WDDGS up to 9 % without any effect on the daily gain (ERIXON and PETTERSSON 1982, NEWMAN and GRAS 1983). The feed values are in agreement with those presented by SALO (1978) and SALO et al. (1982), but ERIXON and PETTERS-SON (1982) found higher values for wheat DDGS. The BDDG and WDDGS diets fortified with amino acids gave N retentions similar to that of the SBM diet (P > 0.05), but the BDDGS, RDDGS and BDS diets gave poorer results (P < 0.01). Although this was intended, the absorbed nitrogen intake was not exactly the same, because the pigs did not eat all the ration and the protein digestibility coefficient 0.65 was not valid in every case. The

Table 4.	Nitrogen balance and	protein	utilization of	diets	containing	distillery	by-products	and	soybean	meal	as
	protein sources.										

Experiment 1								
Diet no Prot. source	1 BDDGS	2 RDDGS	3 WDDGS	4 BDDG	5 BDS	6 SBM	7 Barley	
Nitrogen intake, g/d	62.9ac	63.4ae	62.5abe	61.5abe	58.3be	51.4cf	37.9	
N excreted in faeces	17.3 ^{fg}	22.7°	15.4 ^{fg}	13.9 ^{gh}	20.0ef	8.9 ^h	7.8	
N absorbed, g/d	45.6ef	40.7 ^{gh}	47.1°	47.6°	38.3 ^h	42.5 ^{fg}	30.0	
Apparent N digest. %	72.0 ^{fg}	63.6 ^{ch}	75.2 ^{bf}	76.9bef	66.0cgh	82.3cg	78.4	
N excreted in urine	23.9ª	19.6 ^a	22.9ª	24.6ª	20.6ª	17.9 ^a	11.2	
N retained, g/d	21.7 ^{fg}	21.18	24.2ef	23.0efg	17.7 ^h	24.6e	18.8	
— % of intake	34.3 ^{fgh}	33.1 ^{gh}	38.8 ^r	37.4 ^{fg}	30.5 ^h	47.9°	49.2	
- % of absorption	47.8 ^{fe}	52.0 ^r	51.7 ^f	48.7fe	46.2°	58.3°	62.7	
— g/kg W ^{0.75}	1.01 ^{fg}	0.99 ^{hg}	1.14ef	1.08 ^{cfg}	0.84 ^h	1.16 ^c	0.80	
Urea excreted g/d	47.6°	32.5 ^{fg}	44.0 ^{ef}	43.5 ^{cf}	28.0s	31.6 ^{fg}	14.5	
— g/kg W ^{0.75}	2.18 ^e	1.50 ^{fg}	2.02 ^{ef}	2.00 ^{ef}	1.318	1.448	0.57	
Biological value	55.1 ^g	60.0 ^f	58.6 ^{fg}	55.7 ^{fg}	54.78	65.5°	73.0	
Daily gain, g/d	742 ^a	741ª	700 ^a	732ª	700 ^a	762 ^a	542	

Means with different letters were significantly different: a-d (P<0.05), e-h (P<0.01).

Experiment 2					
Diet no Prot. source	8 BDDGS	9 BDDG	10 BDDGSC	11 BDDGC	
Nitrogen intake, g/d	84.3°	82.4 ^f	84.7 ^d	82.1 ^g	
N excreted in faeces	21.8de	17.4°	30.1 ^f	25.1 ^d	
N absorbed, g/d	62.5°	65.0°	54.6 ^d	57.0 ^d	
Apparent N digest. %	74.1cfg	78.8 ^{dg}	64.5ac	69.5bef	
N excreted in urine	37.2ab	38.2 ^b	28.6°	31.6 ^{bc}	
N retained, g/d	25.3ª	26.8ª	26.0ª	25.4ª	
- % of intake	30.0 ^a	32.7ª	30.8ª	30.9ª	
- % of absorption	40.5ª	41.6 ^a	48.0ª	44.5ª	
— g/kg W ^{0.75}	0.79ª	0.84ª	0.81ª	0.82 ^a	
Urea excreted g/d	66.1d	63.9df	45.5°	54.5de	
Biological value	48.6ª	49.5ª	56.8ª	52.9ª	

Means with different letters were significantly different: a-c (P<0.05), d-g (P<0.01).

urea excretion on the RDDGS and BDS diets was low and at the same level as on the SBM diet, but the other diets had significantly higher values (P < 0.01). The biological values of the diets including distillery products were significantly lower than those of the SBM-barley diet (P < 0.01) (Table 4).

The results of NEWMAN and GRAS (1983) indicated that apparent nitrogen retention was not affected when BDDG replaced SBM, composing up to 20 % of the diet. THONG et al. (1978) measured nitrogen retention in gilts and found no differences between diets in which DDGS and SBM were used as protein supplements. NASI (1984 c), however, found that nitrogen retention on a WDS diet was similar to that on the control diet, but was reduced on the diets with BDDGS or BDS, due to the lower amount of protein absorbed and especially the lower lysine intake. With WDDGS diets SALO (1978) recorded low nitrogen retention (10—12 g/d), when DDGS was used as sole protein supplement. Here, the daily gains of 700—742 g for the pigs on barley-distillery product diets were satisfactory compared with the value of 762 g/d for the pigs fed on SBM-barley, and higher than for the pigs on the barley amino acid supplemented diet, 542 g.

The present experiment performed to assess

the nutritive value of barley distillers byproducts indicated that the products obtained from dehulled barley are similar in feed value to products derived from the wheat. According to the N-balance results, distillers byproducts fortified with lysine and sulphur amino acids could replace SBM quite satisfactorily, but further production experiments are needed. In a feeding trial with laying hens in which SBM was replaced with BDDGS and WDDGS at level of 10—20 % in diet fortified with lysine ans sulphur amino acids the performance of the birds on the test diets was similar to that of the controls (NASI 1985). Although it has many technical advantages, the cellulase treatment in the ethanol process decreases the nutritive value of distillers feeds, at least in the process in which distillers solubles are dried with distillers grains. It would thus be desirable to investigate alternative processing methods. This study gives some data that deserve consideration in planning the integrated starch-ethanol process. The many feed fractions yielded by the process can be treated and combined in different ways to provide suitable feeds for domestic animals, including monogastrics.

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SELOSTUS

Eri viljoista saadut rankkirehut lihasikojen ruokinnassa

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Sulavuus- ja tasekokeissa tutkittiin kuoritusta ohrasta saatujen rankkirehujen sekä venhä- ja ruisrankin rehuarvoa ja valkuaisen hyväksikäyttöä kasvavilla lihasioilla sekä prosessiteknisistä syistä lisätyn sellulaasientsyymin vaikutusta ohrarankkirehuihin. Kuivattujen rankkien raakavalkuaispitoisuus oli 34–42 % ja ohrarankkiuutteen 25 %: ka:ssa. Ohrarankkien kuitupitoisuudet olivat puolta pienempiä kuin koko-ohrarankeissa. Lysiinipitoisuudet olivat korkeampia kuin aikaisemmin saadut tulokset. Eri rankkirehut olivat yksinomaisena valkuaistäydennyksenä aminohappotasapainotetuissa dieeteissä, joissa srvpitoisuus oli 13 %, lysiiniä 0.80 % ja rikkipitoisia aminohappoja 0.56 %. Eri rankkien orgaaninen aine suli 56–83 % ja raakavalkuainen 56–76 %. Energia-arvoksi saatiin 0.65–0.88 ry/kg ka eri rankkirehuille ja srv oli 177–405 g/ry. Ruisrankki oli muita rankkirehuja huonommin sulavaa. Sellulaasikäsittely alensi ohrarankkirehun sulavuutta ja rehuarvoa. Typen pidättyminen aminohapoilla täydennetyillä ohra- ja vehnärankkidieteillä oli samanlaista kuin soijadieetillä, 23–24 vs. 24.6 g/d. Valkuaisen hyväksikäyttö rankkirehuja sisältävillä dieteillä oli alempi kuin soijadieetillä. Kuoritusta ohrasta saadut rankkirehut olivat vehnärankin kanssa samanarvoisia. Aminohapoilla täydennettyjä rankkirehuja voitaisiin tasekokeen tulosten perusteella käyttää sikojen rehuna, joskin kasvatuskokeissa on selvitettävä näiden rehujen tuotantovaikutus.