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Effect *Lactobacilli* probiotic supplementation during late pregnancy and early lactation on dairy goats

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Recently prebiotics and probiotics have gain attention for their role in controlling infectious diseases and improvement animal production.



Probiotic bacteria are “living microorganisms that, upon ingestion in certain numbers, exert health benefits beyond inherent basic nutrition” being *Lactobacilli* the bacteria most commonly used as probiotics in animal feeds and human foods



Prebiotics are “selective non-digestible carbohydrate food sources that promote the proliferation of bifidobacteria and lactobacilli” (Gibson and Roberfroid 1995)

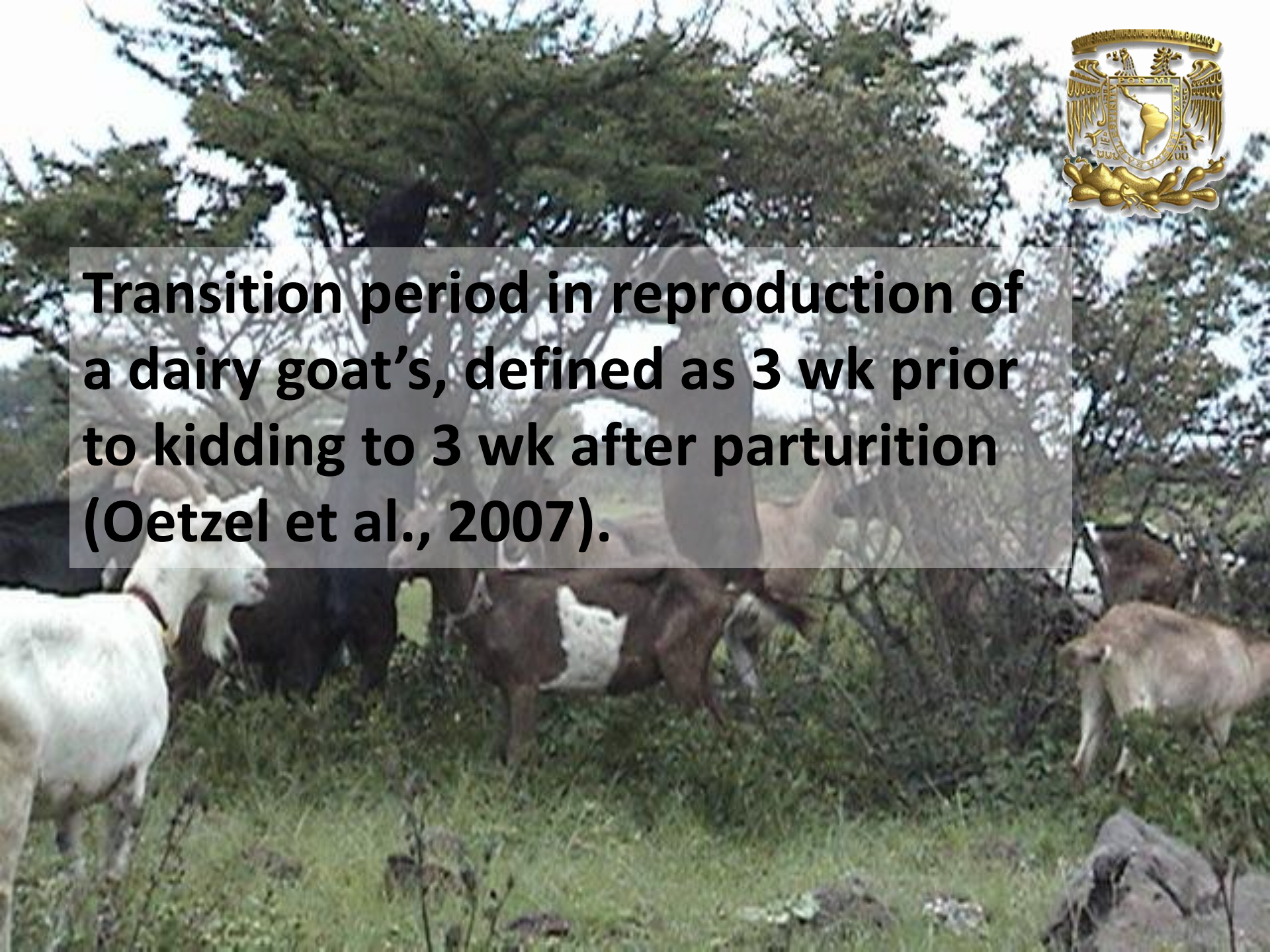


More recently the symbiotic effect of probiotic and prebiotic association has been demonstrated (Yasuda et al., 2007)





Transition period in reproduction of a dairy goat's, defined as 3 wk prior to kidding to 3 wk after parturition (Oetzel et al., 2007).





A large deficit in energy intake in relation to energy requirements during the late pregnancy and early lactation periods (transition period) means that high-producing goats needed energy dense rations to be able to yield high performances (Morand-Feher, 2007)



Lactic Bacteria (LAB) used as a prebiotic/probiotic mixture have been shown to augment production before and after parturition in dairy cows (Galina et al., 2009) and growing kids (Galina et al., 2009).



The objective of this study was to evaluate the effect of LAB/SIUS supplementation (probiotic/prebiotic) during the pre and post partum period on transition performance of dairy goats.

Material and Methods:

80 Alpine goats were selected by previous lactation into two treatments from 3 weeks pre partum throughout 10 weeks postpartum.

The treatment groups consisted of two pregnancy diets (with and without SIUS/LAB) offered to two groups of 40 dairy goats each, feed a Pregnancy diet (PD), beginning at 21 d pre partum distributed randomly





**From the first treatment: 80 Dairy
Alpine goats were subdivided un 4
groups postpartum:**
T1 LAB/SIUS before and after kidding
T2 LAB/SIUS only postpartum
T3 LAB/SIUS only prepartum
T4 Without LAB/SIUS

Pre partum diets offered last month of gestation

*SIUS/LAB substitutes cotton seed

| | Pre partum diet | Pre partum diet with SIUS/LAB |
|-------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| Ingredients | DM % | DM % |
| | | |
| SIUS/LAB | | 10.40 |
| Cotton seed | 10.40* | |
| Corn ground | 35.40 | 35.40 |
| Soya meal | 11.40 | 11.40 |
| Alfalfa hay | 42.00 | 42.00 |
| Minerals | 0.80 | 0.80 |
| CP % | 19.9 | 21.1 |
| DIP % of CP | 69.0 | 72.0 |
| NDF % | 33.4 | 31.4 |
| Ca % | 1.28 | 1.21 |
| P % | 0.52 | 0.57 |
| Mg % | 0.38 | 0.40 |

Postpartum diets offered last month of gestation

*SIUS/LAB substitutes cotton seed

| | Post Partum Diet | Post Partum Diet with SIUS/LAB |
|-------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Ingredient | % DM basis | % DM basis |
| SIUS + LAB Probiotic | | 9.04 |
| Cotton seed | 9.04* | |
| Ground shell corn | 23.11 | 23.11 |
| Soya meal | 14.51 | 14.51 |
| Alfalfa hay | 52.10 | 52.10 |
| Minerals | 1.24 | 1.24 |
| CP % | 20.2 | 21.2 |
| UIP % of CP | 43.4 | 45.4 |
| NE _t Mcal/kf | 1.89 | 1.94 |
| ADF % | 17.4 | 16.2 |
| NDF % | 30.2 | 31.5 |
| NFC % | 40.5 | 41.5 |
| Fat % | 4.3 | 4.4 |
| Ca % | 1.5 | 1.7 |
| P % | 0.5 | 0.6 |
| Mg % | 0.4 | 0.5 |



LAB Probiotic supplementation contained approximately 4×10^7 cfu of lactic bacteria composed with:

4×10^6 cfu of *Lactobacilli, plantarum*;

10×10^6 cfu of *Lactobacilli delbrueckii*;

8×10^6 cfu *L. helvaticus*;

10×10^6 cfu *Lactococcus lactis*;

10×10^6 cfu *Leuconostoc mesenteroides*;

5×10^4 cfu of *Bifidus spp.*

spread on a liquid supplement mixture of 35% molasses, and 65% cheese whey, 150 g supplement/goat per day in both pre partum and post partum period were spread into the feed.

SIUS composition was:

- 17% corn,
- 17% molasses,
- 16% poultry litter,
- 14% rice polishing,
- 8% cottonseed meal,
- 5% animal lard,
- 4% fish meal,
- 4% salt,
- 4% urea,
- 3.2% calcium carbonate,
- 3% orthophosphate,
- 2.2% ammonium sulfate,
- 1.6% cement kiln dust,
- 1% mineral salt





























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Results



Dry matter intake, plasma concentration of BHBA and NEFA of goats, prepartum supplemented with probiotics.

| | Days Prepartum | | | | | |
|----------------|--------------------------|--------------------|-------|--------------------|--------------------|-------|
| | <i>21 throughout 8 d</i> | | | Last 7 d | | |
| Parameter | Control | LAB/SIUS | SEM | Control | LAB/SIUS | SEM |
| DMI kg/d | 880 g ^b | 1120g ^a | 0.7 | 810g ^c | 920g ^c | 0.8 |
| BHBA μ M/L | 0.480 ^b | 0.478 ^b | 0.214 | 0.568 ^a | 0.666 ^a | 0.017 |
| NEFA μ M/L | 315 ^b | 328 ^b | 14 | 396 ^a | 432 ^a | 27 |

^{a,b} Effect of period values in the same row with different superscripts are different (P<0.05)

Table 4 Ruminal pH, VFA and NH₃ with different post partum times for goats supplemented with or without SIUS and LAB

| | | Days Prepartum | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|------|
| Treatment | | 14 to 10 d | 5,4,3 d | 2 d | 1 d | SEM |
| Ruminal pH | | | | | | |
| Control | | 6.3 ^a | 6.2 ^a | 6.2 ^a | 6.2 ^a | 0.07 |
| LAB/SIUS | | 6.3 ^a | 6.4 ^b | 6.4 ^b | 6.6 ^b | 0.03 |
| Rumen VFA proportions (mM/l) Control | | | | | | |
| Acetate | | 79.2 ^a | 75.2 ^a | 74.8 ^a | 73.2 ^a | 2.3 |
| Propionate | | 13.4 ^b | 16.8 ^a | 18.2 ^a | 17.9 ^{ab} | 1.2 |
| Butyrate | | 5.3 ^a | 6.2 ^a | 6.4 ^a | 6.4 ^a | 0.5 |
| Total | | 97.9 ^b | 98.2 ^c | 99.4 ^a | 98.5 ^{ab} | 1.2 |
| Rumen VFA proportions (mM/l) LAB/SIUS | | | | | | |
| Acetate | | 77.3 ^a | 73.4 ^a | 72.3 ^a | 74.5 ^a | 2.3 |
| Propionate | | 15.7 ^a | 18.1 ^b | 19.7 ^b | 18.3 ^b | 1.2 |
| Butyrate | | 5.1 ^a | 5.9 ^a | 5.9 ^a | 6.1 ^a | 0.5 |
| Total | | 98.1 ^a | 97.4 ^b | 97.9 ^a | 98.9 ^c | 1.2 |
| Rumen NH ₃ (mg/100ml) | | | | | | |
| Control | | 14.7 ^b | 14.5 ^b | 15.7 ^b | 15.9 ^b | 1.7 |
| LAB/ SIUS Probiotic | | 14.9 ^a | 17.4 ^a | 18.2 ^a | 18.3 ^a | 2.2 |

a,b Means in the same row with different superscript are significantly different(P<0.05)

a,b Means in the same column for ph and NH₃ values with different superscript are significantly different (P<0.05)

Dry matter intake and production parameters for Dairy Goats with or without LAB/SIUS as a probiotic post partum

a

| | Lactation | | | | |
|----------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|------|
| Variable | T1 | T2 | T3 | T4 | SEM |
| DMI g/d | | | | | |
| 1-7 d | 1210 ^a | 1200 ^a | 1110 ^b | 1000 ^b | 0.9 |
| 8 – 21 d | 1930 ^a | 1600 ^a | 1340 ^b | 1200 ^b | 1.1 |
| 22 -70 d | 2420 ^a | 1900 ^a | 1780 ^b | 1750 ^b | 0.8 |
| Milk, kg/d | | | | | |
| 1-7 d | 1.690 ^a | 1.600 ^a | 1.590 ^b | 1.500 ^b | 0.4 |
| 8 – 21 d | 2.450 ^a | 2.150 ^a | 2.120 ^a | 1.800 ^b | 0.6 |
| 22 -70 d | 2.980 ^a | 2.400 ^b | 2.340 ^b | 1.950 ^c | 0.5 |
| Milk fat % | | | | | |
| 1-7 d | 4.64 ^a | 4.55 ^a | 4.44 ^a | 4.35 ^a | 0.02 |
| 8 – 21 d | 4.87 ^a | 4.77 ^a | 4.44 ^b | 4.40 ^b | 0.03 |
| 22 -70 d | 4.95 ^a | 4.85 ^a | 4.42 ^b | 4.48 ^b | 0.06 |
| Milk protein % | | | | | |
| 1-7 d | 4.24 ^a | 4.14 ^a | 3.92 ^a | 3.90 ^a | 0.01 |
| 8 – 21 d | 4.36 ^a | 4.26 ^a | 3.33 ^b | 3.70 ^b | 0.05 |
| 22 -70 d | 4.28 ^a | 4.22 ^a | 3.12 ^b | 3.25 ^b | 0.10 |

^{ab} Means in the same row with different superscripts differ (P<0.05)

T1= LAB/SIUS pre and postpartum

T2= LAB/SIUS postpartum

T3= LAB/SIUS prepartum

T4= No LAB/SIUS

Blood parameters for goats supplemented with or without LAB/SIUS as a probiotic both pre and post partum

| | Prepartum | | | Postpartum | | | |
|----------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|------|
| Variable | Control | LAB/SIUS | T1 | T2 | T3 | T4 | SEM |
| Glucose mg/dl | | | | | | | |
| 1-7 d | 47.6 ^b | 51.6 ^a | 61.4 ^a | 58.3 ^a | 57.3 ^a | 52.5 ^b | 3.9 |
| 8 – 21 d | 50.6 ^b | 56.4 ^a | 64.3 ^a | 54.1 ^a | 52.1 ^a | 49.1 ^b | 2.1 |
| 22 -70 d | 51.3 ^b | 59.2 ^a | 63.2 ^a | 57.2 ^a | 56.4 ^a | 50.8 ^b | 2.8 |
| Insulin µIU/ml | | | | | | | |
| 1-7 d | 11.2 ^c | 14.1 ^a | 12.3 ^b | 11.7 ^b | 11.4 ^b | 11.8 ^c | 1.7 |
| 8 – 21 d | 11.4 ^c | 18.4 ^a | 22.2 ^b | 21.1 ^b | 21.0 ^b | 17.4 ^c | 2.2 |
| 22 -70 d | 18.2 ^c | 24.3 ^{ab} | 28.3 ^a | 27.3 ^a | 27.3 ^a | 24.5 ^b | 0.8 |
| BHBA µM/L | | | | | | | |
| 1-7 d | 0.63 ^b | 0.61 ^b | 0.60 ^b | 0.65 ^a | 0.62 ^a | 0.75 ^a | 0.04 |
| 8 – 21 d | 0.85 ^a | 0.75 ^b | 0.81 ^a | 0.78 ^a | 0.81 ^a | 0.88 ^a | 0.02 |
| 22 -70 d | 0.92 ^a | 0.77 ^b | 0.87 ^a | 0.82 ^{ab} | 0.85 ^{ab} | 0.92 ^{ab} | 0.06 |
| NEFA µM/L | | | | | | | |
| 1-7 d | 590 ^a | 501 ^c | 518 ^b | 516 ^b | 530 ^b | 533 ^a | 45 |
| 8 – 21 d | 615 ^a | 575 ^b | 561 ^b | 550 ^b | 600 ^a | 623 ^a | 43 |
| 22 -70 d | 658 ^a | 535 ^b | 590 ^b | 590 ^b | 610 ^a | 640 ^a | 48 |

^{ab} Means in the same row with different superscripts differ (P<0.05)
T1= LAB/SIUS pre and postpartum; T2= LAB/SIUS postpartum ,;T3= LAB/SIUS prepartum;T4= No LAB/SIUS



Feeding LAB/SIUS containing a probiotic/prebiotic in the diet ease the transitional period 21 d pre partum throughout 70 d of early lactation increased DMI, milk production, milk fat and milk protein percentage throughout early lactation.



Improved metabolic values in goats as reflected by glucose, insulin, NEFA and BHBA status. There were no effects of LAB/SIUS fed only pre partum on production performance. Dairy goats supplemented with LAB/SIUS beginning at parturition throughout 70 d improved performance on milk production and augmentation on DMI.



Including LAB/SIUS in the pre partum and post partum diets did improve quantity and quality of milk production, smoothing the transitional period, diminishing rumen acidosis, and optimizing rumen functions in the close-up transition period and early lactation to drive higher intake and energy in dairy goats.

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