

01-05.09.2024

Use of apple pomace in pigs diet

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Progressing inflation and the increase in prices of animal feed give breeders an incentive to look for various ways to reduce production costs. Poland is the largest apple producer in Europe, and approximately 20-40% of the total apple production is processed. By-products include, among others: pomace, peel and seeds, which constitute from 10 to 35% of the weight of the raw material, and their disposal constitutes a significant burden for the food industry.

Numerous studies indicate the possibility of using fruit pomace in various industries, including the feed industry, which is consistent with the idea of sustainable agriculture. Due to its chemical composition, apple pomace may be a valuable source of fiber, minerals, vitamins, lipids, antioxidants and pectins, and their use in feed for fattening pigs may have a beneficial effect on animal performance, the development of the digestive tract and the quality of pork.

The aim of the study was to assess the effects of introducing dried apple pomace into the diet on the production parameters of fattening pigs and on post-slaughter indicators of carcasses. Based on preliminary research, it was noticed that the addition of apple pomace to feed for fattening pigs reduces the growth of pigs and their slaughter weight. There was no deterioration in the feed conversion rate. The addition of apple pomace in pigs' diets will have a positive effect on the post-slaughter parameters of the carcass and the slaughter efficiency.

Research financed by the EU – Horizon 2020 "mEATquality" project no. 101000344.

