Effects of feeding herbs on coccidial shedding and weight gain in lambs

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Introduction An additional feeding based on herbs was tested on lambs for its efficacy against shedding of *Eimeria spp.* (fecal coccidial count (fcc) and weight gain (wg) in weaning and in fattening lambs.

Material and methods

TRIAL 1: weaning lambs

	We	aning with 8	ife	Weaning with 12 weeks of life				
Week of life	Control, n=21		Herbs P, n=25		Control, n=7		Herbs P, n=7	
	To do	Feeding	To do	Feeding	To do	Feeding	To do	Feeding
		week 0-8		week 0-8		week 0-12		week 0-12
4	Wg, Fcc	6000	Wg, Fcc	4 kg/t	Wg, Fcc	conc.	Wg, Fcc	4 kg/t conc.
8	Wg, Fcc	conc.	Wg, Fcc	conc.				
12	Wg, Fcc		Wg, Fcc		Wg, Fcc		Wg, Fcc	COTIC.
16					Wg, Fcc		Wg, Fcc	

TRIAL 2: fattening lambs

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Week of life	To do	Control, n=6	Herbs P, n=6	Herbs V, n=6	Herbs A, n=6			
17	Wg, Fcc							
18	Wg, Fcc		8 g/day/anim.	10 g/day/anim.	20 ml/day/anim.			
19	Wg, Fcc		8 g/day/anim.					
21	Wg, Fcc		8 g/day/anim.					
22	Wg, Fcc			10 g/day/anim.	20 ml/day/anim.			
23	Wg, Fcc							
24	Wg, Fcc							

Mixtures of herbs

Herbs P (powdry)							
Garlic	Allium sativum						
Turmeric	Curcuma longa						
Himalayan cedar	Cedrus deodara						
Ginger	Zingiber officinale						
Long pepper	Piper longum						
Herbs V (pelleted)							
Garlic	Allium sativum						
Slippery elm	Ulma fulva						
Peppermint	Mentha piperita						
Thyme	Thymus vulgaris						
Cleavers	Galium aparine						
Cinnamon	Cinnamomum zeylan.						
Common nettle	Urtica dioica						
Quassia root	Picrasma excelsa						
Herbs A (herbal extract)							
Garlic	Allium sativum						
Mugwort	Artemis vulgaris						
Walnut	Juglans regia						
Clove	Syzygium aromat.						

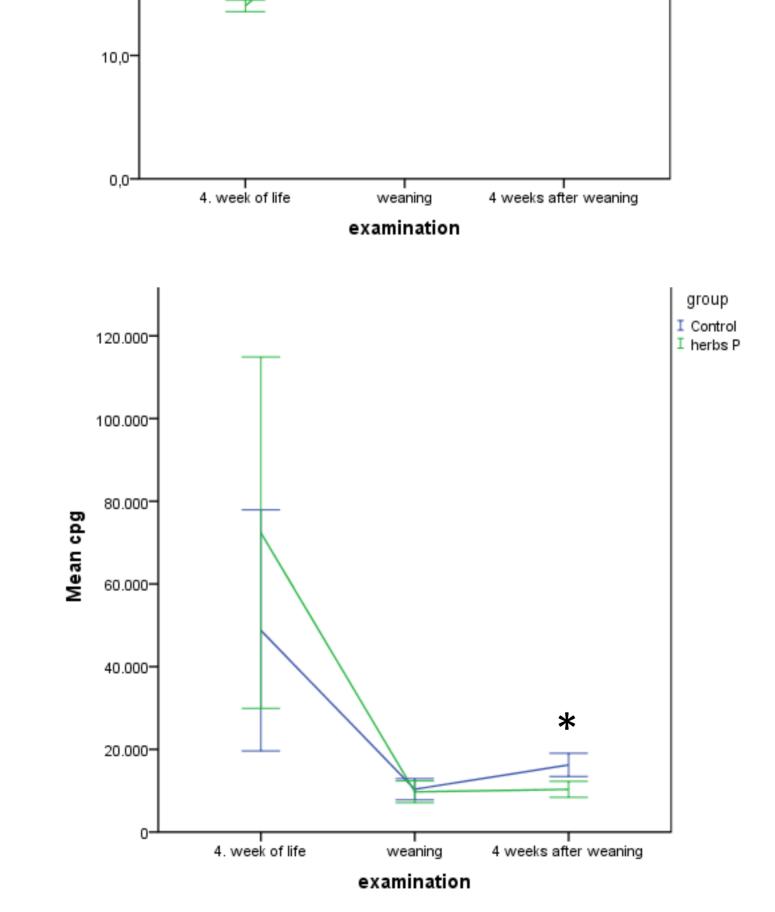
Results

Weaning lambs

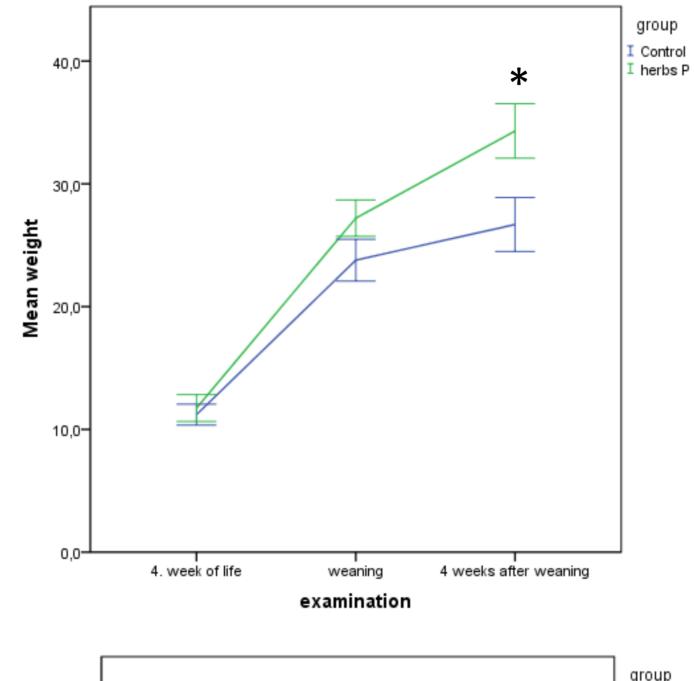
I Control

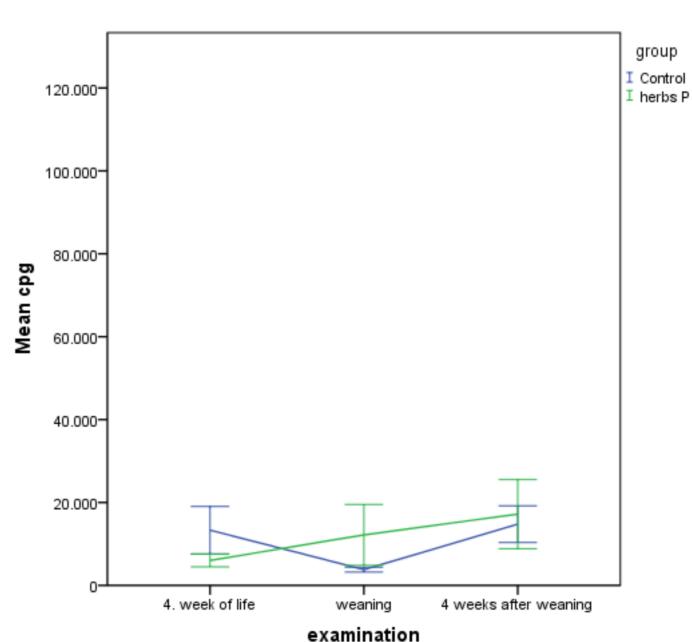
herbs P

Weaning with 8 weeks

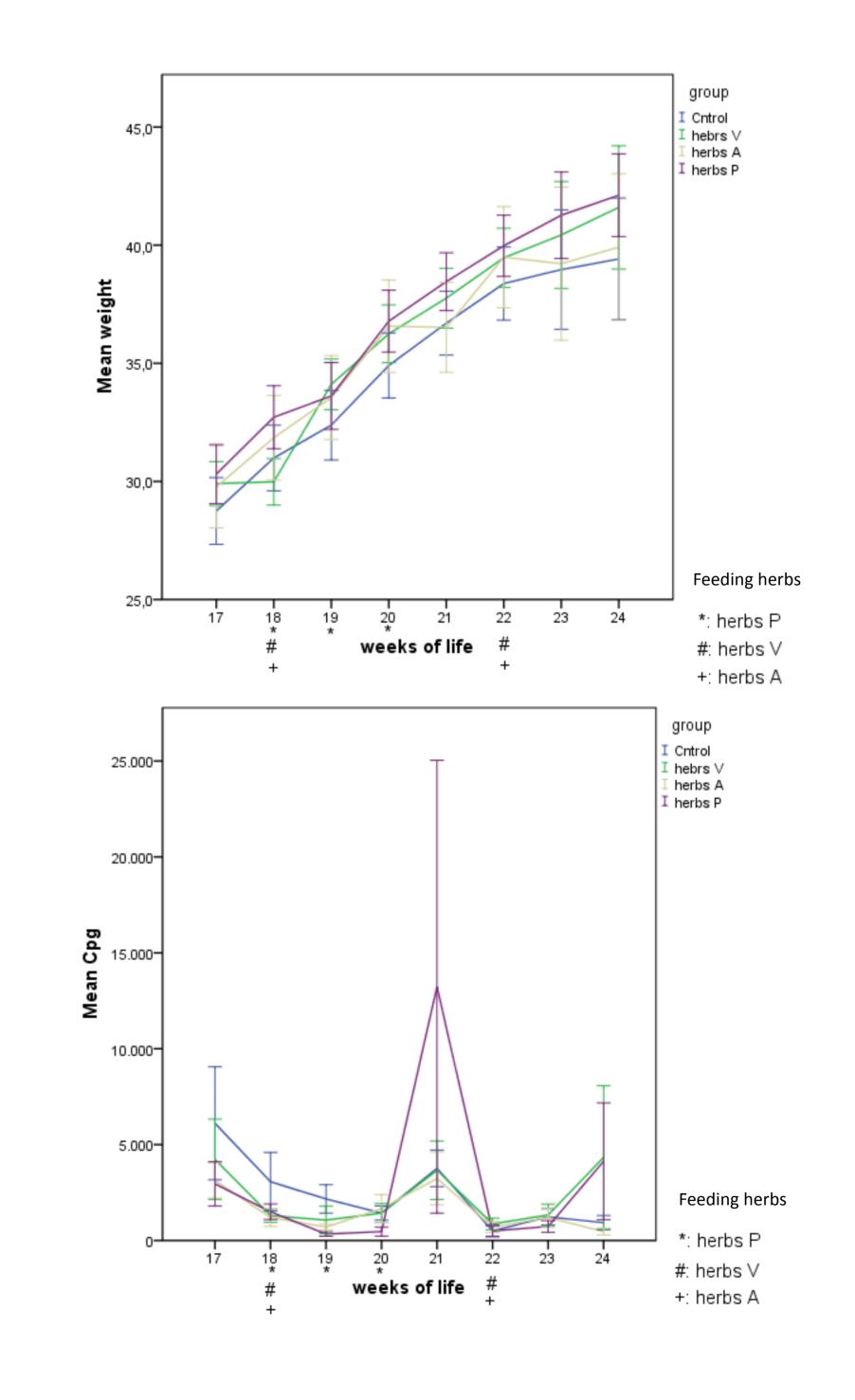


Weaning with 12 weeks





Fattening lambs



Conclusion and discussion

Feeding herbs over a longer period of time had positive effects on production parameters. More information about duration of additional feeding and time of application during special events (parturition, weaning, etc.) would be usefull.







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