

# Underutilized Resources As Animal Feedstuffs

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### Animal Wastes

#### INTRODUCTION

Excreta contain several nutrients that are capable of being utilized when the material is recycled by feeding. Nitrogen, which is present in both protein and nonprotein forms, is a major constituent, and others are calcium and phosphorus. Certain vitamins are synthesized in the intestine and appear in the excreta. The excreta also has energy value.

Coprophyagy was recognized as a normal physiological phenomenon in rabbits (Madsen, 1939), and is natural in many wild and domestic species (Bjornhag and Sjoblom, 1977). The first documented evidence of the importance of intestinal bacterial synthesis in nutrition was probably the work of Osborne and Mendel (1914), demonstrating that feeding 1 percent feces from normally fed rats to rats on a purified diet prevented death.

Bohstedt et al. (1943) found that cow manure had nutritional value for pigs, in addition to the grain it contained. Fuller (1956) reported that hydrolyzed poultry litter was as effective as fish meal in achieving growth from commercial type broiler diets.

Utilization of animal wastes as feedstuffs is not a new phenomenon. In 1925 Evvard and Henness reported that on the average one pig following 1.9 steers recovered the equivalent of 142 kg of corn during the 120-day feeding period. There have been a number of previous reviews on feeding animal waste (Anthony, 1971; Bhattacharya and Taylor, 1975; Blair and Knight, 1973; Fontenot and Jurubescu, 1980; Smith and Wheeler, 1979).

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