

## Supplementary material

**Table S1.** Prevalence (number and percentage of units that are contaminated, i.e. count >1 Log CFU/g) at day 0 (48 h post mortem) and during day 3 and 8 of storage for *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Enterobacteriaceae*, *E. coli*, and total coliforms. C = control diet; BC-2.5 = diet supplemented with 2.5% of bovine colostrum; BC-5 = diet supplemented with 5% of bovine colostrum.

Microorganism (Log CFU/g)	Group	Day 0	Day 3	Day 8
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	C	0 <sub>a</sub> (0.0%)	4 <sub>a</sub> (30.8%)	5 <sub>a</sub> (38.5%)
	BC-2.5	0 <sub>a</sub> (0.0%)	0 <sub>b</sub> (0.0%)	4 <sub>a</sub> (30.8%)
	BC-5	0 <sub>a</sub> (0.0%)	2 <sub>a,b</sub> (15.4%)	3 <sub>a</sub> (23.1%)
	<i>P value</i>	-	0.094	0.697
<i>Enterobacteriaceae</i>	C	4 <sub>a</sub> (30.8%)	6 <sub>a</sub> (46.2%)	9 <sub>a</sub> (69.2%)
	BC-2.5	5 <sub>a</sub> (38.5%)	7 <sub>a</sub> (53.8%)	8 <sub>a</sub> (61.5%)
	BC-5	6 <sub>a</sub> (46.2%)	8 <sub>a</sub> (61.5%)	9 <sub>a</sub> (69.2%)
	<i>P value</i>	0.723	0.734	0.891
<i>E. coli</i>	C	0 <sub>a</sub> (0.0%)	0 <sub>a</sub> (0.0%)	1 <sub>a</sub> (7.7%)
	BC-2.5	0 <sub>a</sub> (0.0%)	0 <sub>a</sub> (0.0%)	1 <sub>a</sub> (7.7%)
	BC-5	0 <sub>a</sub> (0.0%)	0 <sub>a</sub> (0.0%)	1 <sub>a</sub> (7.7%)
	<i>P value</i>	-	-	1.000
Total coliforms	C	4 <sub>a</sub> (30.8%)	8 <sub>a</sub> (61.5%)	9 <sub>a</sub> (69.2%)
	BC-2.5	3 <sub>a</sub> (23.1%)	6 <sub>a</sub> (46.2%)	6 <sub>a</sub> (46.2%)
	BC-5	2 <sub>a</sub> (15.4%)	8 <sub>a</sub> (61.5%)	8 <sub>a</sub> (61.5%)
	<i>P value</i>	0.648	0.659	0.476

For each sub-table, values followed by the same letter in each column do not differ significantly ( $P < 0.05$ ).

**Table S2.** Numbers and percentages of unacceptable samples for each group at 48 h post mortem (Day 0), and during day 3, and 8 of storage. The following microbiological limits were set: *Staphylococcus aureus* < 4 Log CFU/g, *E. coli* ≤ 4 Log CFU/g, *Enterobacteriaceae* < 4 Log CFU/g and total coliforms ≤ 4 Log CFU/g. C = control diet; BC-2.5 = diet supplemented with 2.5% of bovine colostrum; BC-5 = diet supplemented with 5% of bovine colostrum.

Microorganism (Log CFU/g)	Group	Day 0	Day 3	Day 8
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	C	0 <sub>a</sub> (0.0%)	0 <sub>a</sub> (0.0%)	0 <sub>a</sub> (0.0%)
	BC-2.5	0 <sub>a</sub> (0.0%)	0 <sub>a</sub> (0.0%)	0 <sub>a</sub> (0.0%)
	BC-5	0 <sub>a</sub> (0.0%)	0 <sub>a</sub> (0.0%)	0 <sub>a</sub> (0.0%)
	<i>P value</i>	-	-	-
<i>Enterobacteriaceae</i>	C	0 <sub>a</sub> (0.0%)	2 <sub>a</sub> (15.4%)	4 <sub>a</sub> (30.8%)
	BC-2.5	2 <sub>a</sub> (15.4%)	2 <sub>a</sub> (15.4%)	5 <sub>a</sub> (38.5%)
	BC-5	0 <sub>a</sub> (0.0%)	5 <sub>a</sub> (38.5%)	7 <sub>a</sub> (53.8%)
	<i>P value</i>	0.316	0.438	0.606
<i>E. coli</i>	C	0 <sub>a</sub> (0.0%)	0 <sub>a</sub> (0.0%)	0 <sub>a</sub> (0.0%)
	BC-2.5	0 <sub>a</sub> (0.0%)	0 <sub>a</sub> (0.0%)	0 <sub>a</sub> (0.0%)
	BC-5	0 <sub>a</sub> (0.0%)	0 <sub>a</sub> (0.0%)	0 <sub>a</sub> (0.0%)
	<i>P value</i>	-	-	-
Total coliforms	C	0 <sub>a</sub> (0.0%)	4 <sub>a</sub> (30.8%)	6 <sub>a</sub> (46.2%)
	BC-2.5	0 <sub>a</sub> (0.0%)	3 <sub>a</sub> (23.1%)	3 <sub>a</sub> (23.1%)
	BC-5	0 <sub>a</sub> (0.0%)	2 <sub>a</sub> (15.4%)	4 <sub>a</sub> (30.8%)
	<i>P value</i>	-	0.890	0.582

a: value followed by the same letter in each row do not differ significantly ( $P < 0.05$ ).