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## Net energy levels on the lipid profile of pork

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**ABSTRACT**: This study was conducted to evaluate the effects of net energy levels on the lipid profile of adipose tissue and muscle of swines. A total of 90 animals, with initial weight of  $71.94\pm4.43$ kg, were used, and distributed in a randomized block design in five net energy levels (2,300, 2,425, 2,550, 2,675, and 2,800Kcal kg¹ feed), with nine replicates and two animals per experimental unit. Lipid profiles of adipose tissue and muscle were analyzed using gas chromatography. Increasing the levels of net energy using soybean oil, improved the lipid profile of adipose tissue and muscle, increased linearly (P<0.05) the concentrations of polyunsaturated fatty acids, especially linoleic and  $\alpha$ -linolenic acid, reduced linearly (P<0.05) the monounsaturated and saturated fatty acids and omega  $\alpha$ :  $\alpha$ :  $\alpha$  in adipose tissue was observed linear reduction ( $\alpha$ ) of atherogenic and thrombogenic indexes. In conclusion, increasing the level of net energy of the diet using soybean oil improved the lipid profile of adipose tissue and muscle.

**Key words**: atherogenic index, fatty acids, omega 3, omega 6, thrombogenic index.

## Níveis de energia líquida no perfil lipídico da carne suína

**RESUMO**: Este estudo foi conduzido com o objetivo de avaliar o efeito dos níveis de energia líquida no perfil lipídico da gordura e carne suína. Foram utilizados 90 animais, com peso inicial de 71,94 $\pm$ 4,43kg, distribuídos em delineamento de blocos ao acaso em cinco níveis de energia líquida (2.300, 2.425, 2.550, 2.675 e 2.800Kcal kg¹ de ração), com nove repetições e dois animais por unidade experimental. Foram analisados os perfis lipídicos da gordura subcutânea e da carne por cromatografia gasosa. O aumento do nível de energia líquida usando óleo de soja melhorou o perfil lipídico da gordura subcutânea e da carne, aumentando linearmente (P<0,05) a concentração dos ácidos graxos poli-insaturados, especialmente ácido linoleico e  $\alpha$ -linolênico, reduzindo linearmente (P<0,05) os ácidos graxos monoinsaturados e saturados e ômega 6: ômega 3. No tecido adiposo foi observado redução linear (P<0,05) dos índices aterogênico e trombogênico. Em conclusão, o aumento do nível de energia líquida da dieta, com a utilização do óleo de soja, melhora o perfil lipídico da gordura subcutânea e da carne

Palavras-chave: ácidos graxos, índice aterogênico, índice trombogênico, ômega 3, ômega 6.

## INTRODUCTION

Fatty acid profile of pig carcasses can be modified by diet manipulation (DURAN-MONTGÉ et al., 2010). Thus, it is possible to manipulate the diets in order to improve the profile of fatty acids deposited in animal tissues, to obtain meat products better for consumer health (JAKOBSEN et al., 2009).

Lipid sources can be used to modify the energy value of feed, with the aim to achieve adequate net energy (NE) supply, which is the most accurate way of considering energy for formulation (NOBLET, 2007). Additionally, these sources can modify the lipid profile of deposited fat in pork, depending on the different concentrations of fatty acids.

The addition of oils in swine diet has been associated with a reduction of saturated fatty acids and an increase in polyunsaturated fatty acids in the deposited fat (KIM et al., 2014). The reduction of the saturated fatty acids, in particular lauric acid, myristic acid and palmitic acid is important, considering that they are involved in some pathologies (ULBRICHT & SOUTHGATE, 1991), whereas the increase of polyunsaturated fatty acids are related to healthier products (JAKOBSEN et al., 2009).

However, this effect of oils will also depend on the source used, how long the diet is supplemented with oils and the concentration. Although, it is known that soybean oil increases C18:2n6 in fat (AVERETTE-GATLIN et al., 2002), the effect of different levels of

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net energy using soybean oil on the lipid profile of adipose tissue and muscle remain unclear.

Therefore, this study was carried out with the aim to evaluate the effects of net energy levels using soybean oil on the lipid profile and assessing the atherogenic and thrombogenic indexes, as well as the omega 6:omega 3 ratio in adipose tissue and *Longissimus dorsi* muscle of pigs.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

A total of 90 genetically similar barrows, with an initial weight of  $71.94\pm4.43$ kg and final weight of  $96.94\pm6.30$ kg, were used. Animals were distributed in a randomized block design according to their initial weight, in five net energy levels (2,300, 2,425, 2,550, 2,675, and 2,800Kcal kg¹ feed), with nine replications, where each experimental unit consisted of two animals.

The animals were housed in pens provided with semiautomatic feeders and bell drinkers, in a masonry shed, covered with ceramic tiles.

The experimental diets (Table 1) were prepared based on corn and soybean meal to meet the nutritional requirements of barrows with high genetic potential, as established by ROSTAGNO et al. (2011), except for the levels of metabolizable energy. Different levels of NE were obtained by the addition of soybean oil, replaced by kaolin in the original diet. The feed and water were provided *ad libitum* throughout the experimental period, which lasted 30 days.

At the end of the experimental period, the animals were subjected to eight hours of fasting and were then transported to the abattoir. At the end of the slaughter line and before carcass cooling, samples were taken from the *Longissimus dorsi* 

Table 1 - Nutritional and centesimal composition of experimental diets.

Ingredient	Net energy (Kcal kg <sup>-1</sup> )						
	2,300	2,425	2,550	2,675	2,800		
Corn	70.150	70.150	70.150	70.150	70.150		
Soybean meal (45%)	20.444	20.444	20.444	20.444	20.444		
Soybean oil	0.000	1.697	3.394	5.091	6.790		
Inert matter (kaolin)	6.900	5.203	3.506	1.809	0.110		
Dicalcium phosphate	0.832	0.832	0.832	0.832	0.832		
Limestone	0.445	0.445	0.445	0.445	0.445		
Vit. and min. supplement <sup>1</sup>	0.100	0.100	0.100	0.100	0.100		
Sodium chloride	0.305	0.305	0.305	0.305	0.305		
L-Lysine HCl	0.451	0.451	0.451	0.451	0.451		
DL-Methionine	0.159	0.159	0.159	0.159	0.159		
L-Threonine	0.177	0.177	0.177	0.177	0.177		
L-Tryptophan	0.037	0.037	0.037	0.037	0.037		
	Calculated nutritional c	composition					
Crude protein (%)	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00		
NE (Kcal kg <sup>-1</sup> )	2,300	2,425	2,550	2,675	2,800		
ME (Kcal kg <sup>-1</sup> )	3,045	3,186	3,327	3,468	3,608		
Ether extract	2.906	4.596	6.286	7.977	9.669		
Digestible lysine (%)	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000		
Digestible met. + cyst. (%)	0.617	0.617	0.617	0.617	0.617		
Digestible threonine (%)	0.667	0.667	0.667	0.667	0.667		
Digestible tryptophan (%)	0.187	0.187	0.187	0.187	0.187		
Digestible valine (%)	0.638	0.638	0.638	0.638	0.638		
Calcium (%)	0.484	0.484	0.484	0.484	0.484		
Available phosphorus (%)	0.248	0.248	0.248	0.248	0.248		
Sodium (%)	0.160	0.160	0.160	0.160	0.160		

 $<sup>^1</sup>$ Quantity per kilogram of diet: vitamin A - 1,250IU; vitamin  $D_3 - 250$ IU; vitamin E - 6.25IU; vitamin  $K_3 - 0.75$ mg; vitamin  $B_1 - 0.375$ mg; vitamin  $B_2 - 1$ mg; vitamin  $B_6 - 0.375$ mg; vitamin  $B_{12} - 4.5$ mcg; niacina - 4.5mg; pantothenic acid - 2.3mg; folic acid - 0.0125mg; iron - 25g; copper - 3.75mg; manganese - 12.5mg; zinc - 31.25mg; iodine - 0.25mg; selenium - 0.075mg; excipient q.s.p. - 1000g.

muscle, with adipose tissue at the point P2 (region of insertion of the last thoracic vertebra with the first lumbar, at six centimeters from the dorsal line). Samples were obtained from animals of the study from GONÇALVES et al. (2015), identified, packaged and frozen for subsequent analysis.

The technique used for extracting lipids and methylation of fatty acids was adapted from methods published by HARA & RADIN (1978). After thawing, 5g of muscle tissue sample or 1.5g of adipose tissue was added to test tubes. Then, a mixture of isopropanol/hexane was added to the test tube to extract the fatty acids from the samples, and a mixture of extracted and dried lipids was obtained from the process. Approximately 40mg of sample was then used to methylate these fatty acids. The weighed samples were placed in a test tube to which the solvents (methyl acetate, sodium methoxide–30% methanol) and anhydrous oxalic acid solution were added.

Fatty acids were separated and identified by gas chromatography using gas-liquid chromatograph VarianCP-3800 with flame ionization detector(FID) and a "split/splitless" injector, in fused silica capillary column 30m in length, 0.25mm diameter with BPX-70 (70% Cyanopropylpolysilphenyl-siloxane).

The operating parameters were fixed at 250°C in the detector and 200°C in the injector. The initial column temperature was 80°C (2min), raising gradually to 220°C (10min) at 4°C min<sup>-1</sup>. The carrier gas used was helium with a column flow of 1.0ml min<sup>-1</sup>; synthetic air and hydrogen were used as a gas for the detector, and nitrogen as "makeup" gas. For injection, 1µL was used. Identification and quantification of fatty acids were performed by means of retention time, comparison of the retention time (rt), and coinjection of methyl esters of fatty acids from samples and defaults (FAME mix, 100mg - 37 components). Quantification was achieved by expressing the values as percentage of total fatty acids identified.

The quality of the fatty acids of adipose tissue and muscle were assessed following the equation suggested by ULBRICHT & SOUTHGATE (1991) for AI and TI: AI = C12:0 + (4 x C14:0) + C16:0/ (Omega 6) + (Omega 3) + MUFA; TI = C14:0 + C16:0 + C18:0/  $(0.5 \times C18:1) + (0.5 \times MUFA) + (0.5 \times Omega 6) + (3 \times Omega 3) + (Omega 3: Omega 6).$ 

The data obtained were submitted to an analysis of variance with the GLM procedure in the statistical software SAS (Statistical Analysis System University Edition). The following model was used:  $Y_{ij} = \mu + E_i + B_j + e_{ij}$ , where,  $Y_{ij} =$  estimate of the average of the study variables,  $\mu =$  overall average,  $E_i =$  effect of the  $i^{th}$  level of NE,  $B_i =$  effect of the  $j^{th}$  block, and  $e_{ij}$ 

= random error associated with observation  $Y_{ij}$ . When a significant difference was observed, the analysis of linear and quadratic regression was carried out. The significance level adopted was of 5%.

#### RESULTS

Net energy levels influenced (P<0.05) the lipid profile of adipose tissue, where a linear reduction of fatty acids myristic, palmitic, palmitoleic, stearic, oleic and  $\gamma$ -linolenic acid was observed, with increased levels of NE in the diet (Table 2). Conversely, a linear increase of polyunsaturated fatty acids (PUFA) linoleic,  $\alpha$ -linolenic, and eicosatrienoic acid, was observed with an increase of NE levels in the diet.

Lipid profile of muscle was altered by NE levels, where there was a linear decrease (P<0.05) of the fatty acids palmitoleic, stearic, oleic and  $\gamma$ -linolenic acid with increasing levels of NE. The PUFA linoleic,  $\alpha$ -linolenic and arachidonic acid increased (P<0.05) as NE levels in the diet increased.

The NE of the diet changed the concentration of total fatty acids in the adipose tissue and muscle, where the increase in the level of NE resulted in a reduction (P<0.05) of saturated fatty acids (SFA) and monounsaturated fatty acids (MUFA). Consequently, the unsaturated fatty acids (UFA) and PUFA increased (P<0.05), as also the omega 6: omega 3 (P<0.05). The AI and TI of the adipose tissue decreased (P<0.05), following the increase in the level of NE in the diet. Regression equations obtained for the variables analyzed in the adipose tissue and muscle, with regard to the levels of NE, are shown in table 3.

## DISCUSSION

In the previous trial (GONÇALVES et al., 2015) from which the performance of the animals was assessed and subsequently the samples were collected for the present study, the increase of net energy levels reduced daily feed intake and improved feed:gain ratio; and albeit, no effect on daily net energy intake was observed, the range of soybean oil concentrations from the diets were enough to alter lipid profile.

Ingestion of linoleic acid is linearly related to the amount of this fatty acid reported in carcass fat (AVERETTE-GATLIN et al., 2002). This leads us to infer that the fatty acid profile of pork fat is affected by diet composition, an observation corroborated by other researchers (KOUBA & MOUROT, 2011; KIM et al., 2014). In this study, the increase of PUFA, especially

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Table 2 - Lipid profile (%), atherogenic and thrombogenic indexes and omega 6: omega 3 ratio of adipose tissue and *Longissimus dorsi* muscle from pigs fed with different net energy levels.

Lipid Profile	Net energy (Kcal kg <sup>-1</sup> )					SEM*	P-value <sup>1</sup>
	2,300	2,425	2,550	2,675	2,800	SEWI	r-value
C12.0 (Iii-I)			0.00	0.00	0.00	<0.01	0.200
C12:0 (Lauric acid)	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08	<0,01	0.390
C14:0 (Myristic acid)	1.36	1.32	1.33	1.26	1.23	0.04	0.006
C16:0 (Palmitic acid)	24.42	23.31	24.10	22.70	21.66	0.40	0.001
C18:0 (Cararia asid)	2.19	2.05	1.91	1.86	1.75	0.09	0.001
C18:10 (Stearic acid)	10.92	10.49	11.23	10.15	9.72	0.33	0.001
C18:1n9 (Oleic acid)	41.45	40.53	38.58	38.91	37.63	0.58	0.001
C18:2n6 (Linoleic acid)	14.81	17.39	18.13	19.78	22.60	0.76	0.001
C18:3n6(γ-Linolenic acid)	0.16	0.15	0.13	0.13	0.13	< 0.01	0.010
C18:3n3 (α-Linolenic acid)	0.61	0.82	0.92	1.12	1.32	0.05	0.001
C20:3n6(Dihomo-γ-Linolenic acid)	0.10	0.11	0.10	0.11	0.11	< 0.01	0.347
C20:4n6 (Arachidonic acid)	0.24	0.26	0.24	0.25	0.28	0.01	0.151
C20:3n3 (Eicosatrienoic acid)	0.10	0.12	0.12	0.14	0.14	< 0.01	0.001
C20:5n3 (Eicosapentaenoic acid)	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.02	< 0.01	0.372
C22:6n3 (Docosahexaenoic acid)	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	< 0.01	0.354
Saturated fatty acids	38.59	37.03	38.29	36.13	34.44	0.52	0.001
Unsaturated fatty acids	61.41	62.97	61.71	63.87	65.56	0.60	0.001
Monounsaturated fatty acids	45.13	44.02	41.77	42.08	40.58	0.63	0.001
Polyunsaturated fatty acids	16.28	18.95	19.73	21.79	24.97	0.84	0.001
Atherogenic index	0.49	0.46	0.48	0.44	0.41	0.01	0.001
Thrombogenic index	1.20	1.12	1.18	1.07	1.00	0.03	0.001
Omega 6: omega 3	21.13	18.62	17.58	15.99	15.86	0.43	0.001
G12.0 (f			0.10	0.00	0.10	-0.01	0.072
C12:0 (Lauric acid)	0.09	0.09	0.10	0.09	0.10	< 0.01	0.073
C14:0 (Myristic acid)	1.42	1.41	1.50	1.43	1.49	0.04	0.353
C16:0 (Palmitic acid)	26.09	25.43	25.32	25.65	25.20	0.42	0.539
C16:1 (Palmitoleic acid)	3.32	3.16	3.11	3.04	2.78	0.12	0.033
C18:0 (Stearic acid)	12.20	11.95	11.60	11.31	10.90	0.29	0.018
C18:1n9 (Oleic acid)	44.14	43.08	43.58	43.97	41.56	0.58	0.011
C18:2n6 (Linoleic acid)	9.82	11.54	11.12	11.18	14.11	0.71	0.001
C18:3n6(γ-Linolenic acid)	0.14	0.14	0.13	0.11	0.11	0.01	0.027
C18:3n3 (α-Linolenic acid)	0.32	0.50	0.49	0.52	0.66	0.03	0.001
C20:3n6 (Dihomo-γ-Linolenic acid)	0.16	0.17	0.16	0.13	0.17	0.02	0.502
C20:4n6 (Arachidonic acid)	0.04	0.06	0.06	0.07	0.08	< 0.01	0.001
C20:3n3 (Eicosatrienoic acid)	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.02	< 0.01	0.201
C20:5n3 (Eicosapentaenoic acid)	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.03	< 0.01	0.882
C22:6n3 (Docosahexaenoic acid)	0.03	0.04	0.04	0.02	0.05	< 0.01	0.225
Saturated fatty acids	41.00	40.15	39.58	39.59	38.80	0.51	0.049
Unsaturated fatty acids	59.00	59.85	60.42	60.41	61.20	0.51	0.049
Monounsaturated fatty acids	48.25	47.25	48.15	48.23	45.57	0.70	0.021
Polyunsaturated fatty acids	10.80	12.59	12.15	12.18	15.33	0.76	0.001
Atherogenic index	0.54	0.52	0.52	0.52	0.51	0.01	0.601
Thrombogenic index	1.34	1.29	1.28	1.27	1.24	0.03	0.100
Omega 6: omega 3	25.05	23.54	20.88	20.18	19.62	0.81	0.001

<sup>\*</sup>Standard error mean. Linear effect (P<0.05).

linoleic acid, provided by diets with higher levels of NE, was due to the use of soybean oil, which has a

high concentration of linoleic fatty acids (ZAMBIAZI 1 et al., 2007). Increase in the proportion of linoleic acid 2

Table 3 - Regression equations of the effects of net energy levels in the adipose tissue (ADT) and Longissimus dorsi muscle (LDM).

	Equa	Equations		R <sup>2</sup>	
	Adipose tissue	Muscle	ADT	LDM	
C14:0 (Myristic acid)	1.9638 - 0.0003x	-	0.86	-	
C16:0 (Palmitic acid)	35.493 - 0.0047x	-	0.74	-	
C16:1 (Palmitoleic acid)	4.1443 - 0.0009x	5.467 - 0.0009x	0.98	0.88	
C18:0 (Stearic acid)	15.993 - 0.0021x	17.996 - 0.0025x	0.46	0.99	
C18:1n9 (Oleic acid)	57.616 - 0.0071x	52.326 - 0.0035x	0.91	0.46	
C18:2n6 (Linoleic acid)	-16.282 + 0.0137x	-3.9228 + 0.0061x	0.97	0.68	
C18:3n6(γ-Linolenic acid)	0.289 - 0.00006x	0.3242 - 0.00008x	0.84	0.91	
C18:3n3 (α-Linolenic acid)	-2.489 + 0.0013x	-0.9668 + 0.0006x	0.99	0.95	
C20:4n6 (Arachidonic acid)	-	-0.0981 + 0.00006x	-	0.92	
C20:3n3 (Eicosatrienoic acid)	-0.1146 + 0.00009x	-	0.93	-	
Saturated fatty acids	57.385 - 0.0081x	50.048 - 0.004x	0.79	0.90	
Unsaturated fatty acids	43.656 + 0.0076x	49.952 + 0.004x	0.72	0.90	
Monounsaturated fatty acids	64.445 - 0.0085x	55.965 - 0.0033x	0.92	0.34	
Polyunsaturated fatty acids	-19.727 + 0.0157x	-4.0022 + 0.0065x	0.97	0.67	
Atherogenic index	0.8194 - 0.00001x	-	0.74	-	
Thrombogenic index	2.0067 - 0.0003x	-	0.69	-	
Omega 6: omega 3	45.023 - 0.0106x	53.516 – 0.0124x	0.93	0.86	

deposition was similar in both tissues, with 53 and 44% for adipose tissue and muscle, respectively.

The fatty acid  $\alpha$ -linolenic acid also presented a change, with 117 and 105% increase in adipose tissue and muscle; respectively, due to the high concentration of this fatty acid in soybean oil. This fatty acid could adversely affect the organoleptic characteristics of meat when achieve at levels above 3%, owing to its strong odor, which influence negatively the taste of meat (WOOD et al., 2003). Maximum levels obtained for this fatty acid in this study were 1.31 and 0.66% for the adipose tissue and muscle respectively.

The other fatty acids evaluated, namely palmitic, stearic and oleic acid are reported in high concentrations in soybean oil (ZAMBIAZI et al., 2007). However, their concentrations were low in fatty acid profiles recorded in this study. It should be considered that fatty acids are deposited as a result of the novo synthesis of other substrates in diets free or with low level of soybean oil. These synthesized fatty acids are saturated and monounsaturated with double bond in position 9. Larger quantities of certain fatty acids are deposited from an exogenous origin (which comes from the diet) when compared to the endogenous origin (DURAN-MONTGÉ et al., 2010).

Furthermore, the inclusion of lipids in the diet reduces the "new" synthesis of fatty acids and the essential fatty acids deposition rate decreases as

the establishment of the diet increases (DURAN-MONTGÉ et al., 2010). In addition, high concentrations of linoleic acid in the diet may reduce the expression of stearoyl-CoA desaturase in the adipose tissue, reducing the formation and deposition of the fatty acid oleic (KOUBA et al., 2003). In turn, the other SFA and MUFA, which are not supplemented in the diet, had a reduced endogenous production in this study, which resulted in its decreased concentration in fat.

The consumption of the fatty acid palmitic have been associated with an increase in cardiovascular diseases (HUNTER et al., 2010). Reduction in the concentration of this fatty acid by 11.28 and 3.31% in adipose tissue and muscle; respectively, when increasing the NE from 2,300 to 2,800Kcal kg<sup>-1</sup> with the inclusion of soybean oil, results in improved quality of the final product for the consumer market.

There was an increase in all other PUFA, except for  $\gamma$ -linolenic, eicosapentaenoic and docosahexaenoic acid, in both adipose tissue and muscle. All these fatty acids can be derived from the diet, or in this case from the elongation and desaturation process from their substrates (linoleic and  $\alpha$ -linolenic acid). Therefore, as the amounts of these fatty acids increase in the diet, their concentrations in tissues are expected to increase (PÉREZ-PALACIOS et al., 2009). The reduction of  $\gamma$ -linolenic acid occurred possibly due to the competitive inhibition between the enzymes

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involved in the elongation and desaturation process of linoleic and  $\alpha$ -linolenic acid and formation of new fatty acids, affecting their production (RAES et al., 2004).

Increasing net energy in the diets (GONÇALVES et al., 2015) decreased daily feed intake and even though there was no increase in daily net energy intake, the increase of soybean oil inclusion was enough to raise the concentration of PUFA. The PUFA increased by 53 and 42% in adipose tissue and muscle, respectively. Linoleic acid has a greater impact on PUFA and presents the highest concentration in this category. In addition, α-linolenic acid showed a considerable increase in both tissues, following the increase in the NE in the diet by including soybean oil. The PUFA in adipose tissue went from 16.28 to 24.97%, from the lowest to the highest level of energy. The respective increases of 6.75 and 3.73% in UFA in adipose tissue and muscle were not higher, since there was a reduction of 10.07% (adipose tissue) and 5.56% (muscle) in the MUFA, which also corresponds to UFA.

Ingestion of SFA is associated with an increased risk of coronary heart disease (BHUPATHIRAJU & TUCKER, 2011). Replacement of SFA by PUFA could prevent the incidence of such diseases (JAKOBSEN et al., 2009). Therefore, a diet with high level of soybean oil that causes a reduction of SFA and MUFA, and increased PUFA, provides meat with better quality and healthier fat for the consumer. This is confirmed by the reduction in the atherogenic and thrombogenic indexes. The decrease in fatty acids increases such indexes, as seen for myristic, palmitic and stearic acid, which increases the UFA. This resulted in lower values than those established for foods intended for human consumption, as AI and TI values recorded for adipose tissue and muscle were, respectively, 0.41 and 1.00, and 0.51 and 1.24, while the mean values recorded in the literature were 0.60 and 1.37 (ULBRICHT & SOUTHGATE, 1991).

The total daily intake values of n6:n3 recommended for human consumption must be lower than 4.00 (SCOLLAN et al., 2006). In this study, these values in the fat of the animals were higher than 4.00, regardless of the diet they consumed. This ratio is probably high due to the lower α-linolenic acid values recorded in this study compared to the values of 1.32 and 0.66% of fat for adipose tissue and muscle reported in the literature (KOUBA et al., 2003). Despite these high values, adding soybean oil, that contains large amounts of linoleic acid, resulted in a decrease in the ratios from 21.13 to 15.86 and from 25.05 to 19.62 in adipose tissue and muscle, respectively. Including soybean oil in the diet improved the ratio and; therefore, this is considered an important factor to improve the quality

of meat used for human consumption. Although, the ratio is not within the optimal range, supplementation with other foods can be performed to achieve it.

Further, it is possible to observe that with increasing levels of energy due to the addition of soybean oil, there was a lower efficiency in incorporating dietary fatty acids in muscle, than in adipose tissue (Table 3). From the equations, it is possible to observe that the larger magnitude caused by an increased NE in variables for adipose tissue when compared to variables from muscle, with the exception of stearic acid and n6:n3. Such results may be positively related to the different composition among types of fat, as 90% of adipose tissue are triglycerides, while in the muscle, there is a proportion of phospholipids, these being polar lipids and cell membrane constituents that remains constant (WOOD et al., 2008).

### **CONCLUSION**

Increased level of net energy of the diet, using soybean oil, reduces the AI, TI, and n6:n3, while it increases the concentration of PUFA in the lipid profile of adipose tissue and muscle of pigs, with an increase of the fatty acids linoleic and  $\alpha$ -linolenic acid.

# BIOETHICS AND BIOSSECURITY COMMITTEE APPROVAL

All procedures involving animals were approved by the Ethics Committee for the Use of Animals of Universidade Federal do Mato Grosso do Sul, under protocol nº 429/2012.

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