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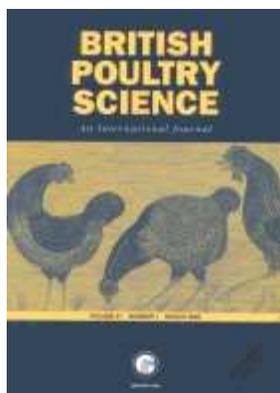
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**Standardized amino acids digestibility of wheat distillers
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6 2 **Standardised amino acid digestibility of wheat distillers' dried grains with solubles in**
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8 3 **force-fed cockerels**

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10 4 P. COZANNET, Y. PRIMOT², C. GADY³, J.P. MÉTAYER¹, M. LESSIRE⁴, F. SKIBA¹
11
12 AND J. NOBLET

13
14 6 *INRA, UMR1079 SENAH, F-35590 Saint Gilles, France, ¹ARVALIS, Institut du Végétal,*
15
16 7 *Montardon, France, ²Ajinomoto Eurolysine S.A.S., Paris, France, ³Adisseo France SAS,*
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18 8 *Antony, France and ⁴INRA, Nouzilly, France*
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23
24 10 **Running title: Distillers' dried grains AA digestibility**
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22 **Correspondence to:** Dr Jean Noblet, INRA, UMR SENAH, Domaine de la Prise, 35590
23 Saint Gilles, France.
24 Email address: Jean.Noblet@rennes.inra.fr

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4 26 **Abstract** 1. In recent years, policies encouraging the production of ethanol from maize or
5
6 27 wheat have stimulated an increased production of distillers' dried grains with solubles
7
8 28 (DDGS) for which the nutritional value for poultry is poorly described, especially in the case
9
10 29 of wheat DDGS.

11
12 30 2. DDGS samples (19) were obtained from 7 plants in Europe from June to September 2007.
13
14 31 Each sample was analysed for chemical composition and 10 representative samples were
15
16 32 measured for amino acid (AA) content and their standardised digestibility (SDD) in
17
18 33 caeectomised cockerels. Lightness score (L) of each DDGS was also measured.

19
20 34 3. Results indicated a rather stable crude protein content (327 to 392 g/kg DM) but the AA
21
22 35 profile was variable between samples. Lysine (LYS) was the most affected AA with contents
23
24 36 ranging between 0.83 and 3.01 g/100g CP. In addition, only 0.76 of total LYS were free if
25
26 37 estimated by the fluoro-dinitro-benzene procedure and 0.85 of total LYS were free if
27
28 38 estimated by the furosine procedure.

29
30 39 4. The SDD of LYS was also highly variable (-0.04 to 0.71) with the lowest values observed
31
32 40 for DDGS samples with a low LYS content in CP; these latter samples had also a high
33
34 41 occurrence of Maillard reactions and low L values (< 50). Consequently, both LYS content in
35
36 42 CP ($r = 0.63$) and SDD of LYS ($r = 0.64$) values were positively related with L.

37
38 43 5. Our data indicate that LYS SDD can be accurately predicted from LYS content in CP
39
40 44 according to a quadratic ($R^2 = 0.94$) or a linear-plateau model ($R^2 = 0.90$; breakpoint for 1.9
41
42 45 g/100g lysine in CP and a 63% plateau SDD value).

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47 INTRODUCTION

48 The ethanol industry in Europe is increasing rapidly (+60% between 2007 and 2008;
49 www.ebio.org). Ethanol is currently produced on an industrial scale *via* enzymatic breakdown
50 of starch and yeast fermentation of glucose into ethanol. Mainly produced from wheat in
51 Europe, wheat dried distillers' grains with solubles (DDGS) is the main by-product resulting
52 from the dry milling and fermentation of grains which corresponds to the residual component
53 of the grain kernel after the starch has been fermented by yeast to produce ethanol. Used so
54 far in ruminant diets, this by-product has become available for non ruminants. Rapid adoption
55 of this ingredient as a cost-effective raw material has challenged the poultry nutrition
56 industry. Many publications point out the difference between old and new plants with major
57 concerns on the effects of heat treatment. Required to reduce the moisture content of wet
58 distillers' grains, this treatment may reduce the availability of heat sensitive amino acids (AA)
59 such as lysine (LYS) (Cromwell *et al.*, 1993) because of Maillard reactions and the associated
60 production of Amadori compounds. In maize DDGS, Maillard reactions can bind the free ϵ -
61 NH₂ group of LYS to the reducing sugars with subsequent difficulties in dosage of LYS and
62 lowered digestibility in poultry or pigs (Fastinger and Mahan, 2006; Pahm *et al.*, 2008a; Stein
63 *et al.*, 2006). In contrast, the LYS with a free ϵ -NH₂ group is considered to be bio-available.
64 Consequently, total LYS analysis that begins with acid hydrolysis and includes the
65 unavailable fraction of LYS overestimates LYS content for nutritional purposes.

66 Thus, the objective of this study was (1) to evaluate wheat DDGS amino acid content
67 with a special focus on LYS and (2) to evaluate amino acid digestibility in caecectomised
68 cockerels. Based on a large scale of samples, variability between products was also evaluated
69 and prediction equations were developed.

70 MATERIAL AND METHODS

71 **Feedstuffs**

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3 72 A total of 19 samples of wheat DDGS from 7 European ethanol plants were collected in July-
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5 73 September 2007. First, 10 of them were chosen as representative of total variability according
6
7 74 to their major characteristics (nitrogen, starch, fat, crude fibre, ash) and were measured for
8
9 75 AA digestibility in pigs (Cozannet *et al.*, 2010) and in cockerels (present study) and for
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11 76 energy digestibility in pigs (Cozannet *et al.*, 2010) and in broilers, cockerels, laying hens and
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13 77 turkeys (Cozannet *et al.*, 2010). Each plant was represented by at least one sample in the 10
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15 78 selected samples. In the specific case of AA digestibility in cockerels, the 9 additional
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17 79 samples were also measured in cockerels in the same conditions as those of the 10 samples.
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19 80 These results will be used only for validation of the prediction equations. Experiments on
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21 81 cockerels were carried out at Adisseo CERN, Commentry, France according to the Certificate
22
23 82 of Authorization to Experiment on Living Animals No. B0315901 (European Directive
24
25 83 24/11/86 86/609 CEE).

31 84 **Diets, animals, housing, experimental design and samples collection**

32
33 85 A total of 60 adult ISA Brown cockerels, surgically caecectomised according to the technique
34
35 86 described previously by Parsons (1985), were used in a factorial block design. The birds,
36
37 87 housed in an environmentally controlled room, were kept in individual cages with wire floors
38
39 88 that permitted collection of excreta on stainless trays. They had free access to water and were
40
41 89 subjected to a daily photoperiod of 16 h. Four birds in adjacent cages were considered as the
42
43 90 experimental unit. A maize-based standard maintenance diet was fed between assays. For the
44
45 91 present assay, 10 experimental diets were composed with one of the 10 DDGS mixed with
46
47 92 wheat starch and 40 g/kg premix in order to achieve a 180 g/kg as-fed CP diet. In addition, a
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49 93 N-free diet (replacement of DDGS by starch) was also used.

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51 94 The birds were assayed for 3 successive one-week periods. Over the first period, each
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53 95 bird received the N-free diet in order to evaluate unspecific endogenous AA losses. For that
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55 96 purpose, the birds, after a 24-h fasting period, received 100 g of glucose solution (800 g/kg

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3 97 glucose) in water. Then, 24 h later, 50 g of N-free diet was force fed to each bird and a 4-h
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5 98 collection period was carried out. Over the 2 following periods, each experimental diet was
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7
8 99 measured on 3 experimental units. For this purpose, fasted birds for 24 h were force fed with
9
10 100 approximately 180 g of wet diet (500 g/kg DM) with a subsequent twice-daily total collection
11
12 101 of excreta over the following 48 h for each bird. Collected excreta were then immediately
13
14
15 102 frozen and freeze-dried at the end of the experiment. Freeze-dried individual samples from the
16
17 103 2-d collection were pooled and mixed per experimental unit before grinding through a Retsch
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19
20 104 mill equipped with a 1-mm screen.

21 22 105 **Chemical analyses**

23
24 106 Samples of raw materials, diets and freeze-dried excreta were analysed for DM, N (according
25
26 107 to the methods of AOAC, 1990) and AA contents at Ajinomoto Eurolysine S.A.S., Amiens
27
28 108 (France). The AA contents were measured by cation exchange chromatography after acid
29
30 109 hydrolysis for 24 h (Directive 98/64/CE, 3/09/99 – Norm NF EN ISO, 2005). Analysis of
31
32 110 methionine was performed after initial oxidation of samples with performic acid.
33
34 111 Phenylalanine was analysed without oxidation, whereas tryptophan was analysed after
35
36 112 hydrolysis in 4 M barium hydroxide at 110°C for 16 h (AFNOR, 1998). The DDGS samples
37
38 113 were also analysed according to standard methods (AOAC., 1990) for ash, starch, crude fat
39
40 114 and crude fibre. Detergent fibre fractions (NDF, ADF and ADL) were determined by a
41
42 115 sequential procedure with prior amylolytic (thermamil 120L) and proteolytic (extracted from
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44 116 *Streptomyces griseus*) treatments (van Soest and Wine, 1967) . Residual N in NDF and ADF
45
46 117 fractions was also measured. Because of incomplete removal of protein from NDF residue, a
47
48 118 sequential procedure that used both heat-stable α -amylase and sodium sulphite was developed
49
50 119 to measure insoluble dietary fibre in all feeds (values of NDF, ADF and ADL were the
51
52 120 average of both values using protease or sulphite). Protein solubilities in KOH and water as
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54 121 defined by Araba and Dale (1990) and the American Oil Chemists' Society (1998) were

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3 122 measured on DDGS samples in order to evaluate protein quality with high protein solubility
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5 123 corresponding to higher protein quality or less heat damaged products. Colour scores
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8 124 (Luminance, L; red index, a, and yellow index, b) were determined using a CR-410
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10 125 colorimeter; the L, a and b ranged from 0 (black) to 100 (white), from -60 (green) to 60 (red)
11
12 126 and from -60 (blue) to 60 (yellow) respectively.

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15 127 Total LYS content was dissociated in two categories: free LYS or LYS whose ϵ -amino
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17 128 groups are bound to other groups. The free LYS (FLYS) estimate was based on free ϵ -NH₂
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19 129 conversion to ϵ -dinitrophenyl-lysine through a reaction using 1-fluoro-2,4-dinitrobenzene
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21 130 (FDNB) before the sample was acid-hydrolysed (Carpenter, 1960) for total AA hydrolysis.
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23 131 The bound LYS (BLYS) content was indirectly evaluated from the furosine measurement.
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25 132 Furosine is one of the compounds that are produced from Amadori products during the acid
26
27 133 hydrolysis step in amino acids analysis (Finot *et al.*, 1968). Amadori products in milk contain
28
29 134 320 g/kg furosine, 400 g/kg BLYS and 280 g/kg pyridosine (Bujard and Finot, 1978); these
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31 135 ratios are assumed to be constant in any Amadori compound (Guerra-Hernandez *et al.*, 1999).
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33 136 Chromatographic determination of furosine in wheat DDGS samples was performed by ion-
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35 137 pair RP-HPLC (hydrolysis with 8 N HCl under inert conditions at 110°C for 24 h. Finally, *in*
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37 138 *vitro* digestibility of N in wheat DDGS was measured according to a method adapted from
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39 139 Boisen and Fernandez (1995) with a 3 times higher pepsine level including addition of three
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41 140 time pepsine activity.

42 43 44 45 46 47 141 **Calculations and statistical analyses**

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49 142 Total LYS content corresponds to LYS measured after hydrolysis. Assuming constant
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51 143 proportions of the three hydrolysis products of Amadori compounds, the BLYS content was
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53 144 calculated from furosine content as:

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$$\text{blys} = \frac{\text{Furosine} \times 40}{32}$$

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3 146 The standardised digestibility (SDD) of each AA was calculated for each DDGS using
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6 147 the following equation:

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$$SDD_{AA} = \frac{AA_{int} + \text{endogenous AA loss} \times DM_{int} - AA_{exc}}{AA_{int}} \times 100$$

10
11
12 149 with AA_{int} and AA_{exc} as the total AA intake and excreted (g DM) respectively, DM_{int} as the
13
14 150 dry matter intake (kg) and endogenous AA loss corresponds to the basal endogenous losses
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16 151 (g/kg DM_{int}) as calculated for each experimental unit of birds fed the N-free diet and
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18 152 assumed to be proportional to DM intake.

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21 153 Data on each replicate over the 2 periods ($n = 30$) were subjected to an analysis of
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23 154 variance with diet effect ($n = 10$) (SAS Institute Inc., Cary, NC). Linear regression equations
24
25 155 for predicting digestibility coefficients of nitrogen and LYS of wheat DDGS from chemical
26
27 156 characteristics were calculated according to a stepwise regression procedure including
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29 157 chemical content, colour indicators or *in vitro* digestibility of nitrogen as explaining variables
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31 158 using SAS regression procedures. Parameters with P value below 0.05 were considered in the
32
33 159 model. The equations with the lowest residual standard deviations (RSD) are presented.

34 35 36 37 160 RESULTS

38 39 40 161 **Chemical composition and physical properties of wheat DDGS**

41
42 162 The starch concentration was low in most DDGS samples (41g/kg DM) and varied between
43
44 163 25 and 95g/kg DM (Table 1). However, this variation was mainly due to two products with a
45
46 164 high starch content. Concentrations of CP, crude fat and crude fibre in the 10 samples
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48 165 averaged 361, 46 and 83g/kg DM, respectively. One objective in the selection of DDGS to be
49
50 166 measured in the digestibility trials was to reduce correlations between chemical
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52 167 characteristics; apart from the inevitable correlations between the different cell wall fractions
53
54 168 (Crude fibre, NDF, ADF and ADL), few correlations were significant (data not shown). The
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56 169 N content measured on detergent fibre fractions indicates that a fraction of CP content was
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58
59 170 included in the fibre fractions as indicated by the high CP content in NDF (91g/kg DM on

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3 171 average; data not shown) and CP content in ADF (4 to 82; 28 g/kg on average; Table 1)
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5 172 residues. In addition, CP in ADF and ADF content were positively correlated ($r = 0.84$; Table
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7
8 173 2). Protein solubility measured in water and in KOH averaged 0.18 and 0.34 respectively.
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10 174 Nevertheless, no significant correlation between the two criteria was obtained ($r = 0.30$; data
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12
13 175 not shown).

Tables 1 and 2 near here

15 176 The LYS and arginine levels in CP were highly variable (0.83 to 3.01 and 2.25 to 4.62
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17 177 g/100g CP respectively), whereas contents in other AA were less variable. It should be noted
18
19 178 that all AA, except LYS and arginine, expressed in g/kg DM, were positively and
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21
22 179 significantly correlated with CP content (g/kg DM) (data not shown). The FLYS content
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24 180 averaged 1.53 g/100g CP and represented 0.76 of LYS in DDGS; this latter ratio varied from
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26 181 0.52 to 0.89. Unavailable LYS determined from furosine content averaged 0.26 g/100g CP
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28 182 (range: 0.13 to 0.54) and represented 0.16 of LYS (range: 0.05 to 0.37). Consequently, the
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30 183 sum of unavailable and available LYS contents in g/100g of LYS (or recovery) averaged 0.93
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32 184 with minimum and maximum values of 0.67 and 1.10. Finally, the correlation between LYS
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34 185 and FLYS contents (g/100g CP) was high and positive ($r = 0.99$), whereas a poor correlation
35
36 186 was observed between LYS and BLYS (g/100g CP) content ($r = 0.01$) in connection with a
37
38 187 rather constant BLYS content and highly variable LYS values.

43 188 The colour, as estimated from values of L, ranged from 43 to 63. In fact, the L score
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45 189 distribution revealed that, between the 10 DDGS samples, three products could be considered
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47 190 as dark ($L < 50$) with low LYS levels (1.01 g/100g CP) and 7 as light ($L > 50$) with higher
48
49 191 and rather constant LYS levels (2.29 g/100g CP). Luminance values were correlated with
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51 192 fibre fractions evaluated according to different chemical procedures and especially with ADF
52
53 193 content ($r = -0.94$), CP in ADF residue ($r = -0.86$), or FLYS content ($r = 0.90$) expressed in
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55 194 g/100g of LYS (Table 2). In addition, light products might be subdivided in two additional
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57 195 groups in connection with their starch content. Five products had starch content lower than 70
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3 196 g/kg and two had higher starch content. High starch content products had also higher furosine
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5 197 content (1.4 vs 0.5 g/kg DM); the LYS recovery was also higher for these two high starch
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7
8 198 samples (1.09 vs 0.92 and 0.82 for the light-low starch category and the dark category
9
10 199 respectively).

12 200 **Digestibility of diets and wheat DDGS**

15 201 All cockerels remained healthy throughout the duration of the experiment and no animal was
16
17 202 removed from the study. Endogenous AA losses are presented in Table 3. Aspartic and
18
19 203 glutamic acids represent the most important part of these losses (8.5 and 12.0 g/100g of total
20
21 204 losses respectively), while methionine and tryptophan each accounted for less than 2%. The
22
23 205 SDD of CP in DDGS varied between 0.55 and 0.85, with an average value of 0.74 (Table 4).
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25 206 It was correlated with colour ($r = 0.87$) with the lightest samples having the greatest SDD
26
27 207 values (Table 2). Except for LYS, SDD, the SDD of each AA and the variability between
28
29 208 samples were in agreement with the SDD of CP. The average SDD of LYS was 0.46 and
30
31 209 varied between -0.04 and 0.71. Moreover, samples distribution of SDD also suggested a
32
33 210 division into two groups, as for chemical composition: a group with rather constant and high
34
35 211 SDD (0.61) with L values above 50 and a group with lower and variable SDD (-0.04 to 0.23)
36
37 212 and L values lower than 50. This observation could be repeated for all other AA but with
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39 213 smaller differences between the two groups than for LYS. The difference in starch content for
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41 214 the light samples did not affect the SDD of AA, except for LYS with a lower digestibility for
42
43 215 the high starch content DDGS (0.52 vs 0.64). These latter samples had also the highest
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45 216 furosine levels (Table 1).

Tables 3, 4, 5 near here

53 217 **Prediction of nitrogen and LYS digestibility in wheat DDGS**

55 218 Prediction equations were developed only for N and LYS digestibility whose values were the
56
57 219 most variable (Table 5). These equations indicate that N and LYS SDD might be predicted
58
59 220 from colour, *in vitro* and chemical characteristics. The strong relationship between *in vitro* N

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3 221 digestibility and N or LYS SDD ($r = 0.90$ and 0.87 , respectively; Table 2) were notable.
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5 222 Nevertheless, the strong relationships previously reported between colour score and chemical
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7 223 characteristics did not allow multivariate models involving both types of criteria. In addition,
8
9 224 observations on the darkest samples have a high influence on the coefficients. Equations
10
11 225 obtained according to a stepwise regression procedure indicated that nitrogen digestibility can
12
13 226 be evaluated from CP in ADF content. However, the only predictor for LYS SDD was LYS
14
15 227 concentration (g/100g CP) according to a linear (Table 5, equation 5) or a quadratic regression
16
17 228 (Table 5, equation 6) or a linear-plateau regression with a breakpoint for 1.9 g/100g LYS
18
19 229 content in CP and a plateau LYS SDD of 0.63 (Table 5, equations 7 and 8). The breakpoint
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21 230 defined for LYS content of 1.9 g/100g CP is close to the previous limit defined between light
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23 231 and dark samples.
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29 232 DISCUSSION

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31 233 As reported by Stein *et al.* (2006), DDGS chemical composition is highly related to the
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33 234 process used for ethanol production. In connection with the process, most of the starch is
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35 235 converted to ethanol and only small amounts remain in the DDGS. This was the case in the
36
37 236 present trial for wheat DDGS, except for the two highest values that originated from a process
38
39 237 with bran removal at the beginning of the process and a reintroduction of the bran at the end.
40
41 238 On the other hand, CP, crude fat and dietary fibre are not fermented and their levels in DDGS
42
43 239 are about three times higher than in wheat (Sauvant *et al.*, 2004). Overall, the average
44
45 240 nutrients composition of our DDGS samples was similar to previous reported values for
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47 241 wheat DDGS (Piron *et al.*, 2008, Lan *et al.*, 2008).
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53 242 According to the process, most of the AA in the protein are from wheat (0.95) and the
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55 243 rest comes from yeast growth (Ingledew, 1993). Therefore, it is logical to get a rather similar
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57 244 AA profile in DDGS (present trial) and in wheat (Sauvant *et al.*, 2004). However, the
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59 245 difference between wheat and wheat DDGS is high for LYS (2.9 vs 1.9 g/100g CP
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2
3 246 respectively) with a highly variable LYS content in CP. A similar variability in LYS level of
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5 247 wheat DDGS was measured by Piron *et al.* (2008). This variability for LYS content in CP was
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8 248 also observed in maize DDGS (Cromwell *et al.*, 1993; Spiels *et al.*, 2002) but to a smaller
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10 249 extent than in the wheat DDGS of the present trial.

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12 250 This relative disappearance and high variability of total LYS content in wheat DDGS
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14
15 251 samples, as compared with LYS in wheat, would be associated with Maillard reactions
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17 252 occurring during the the process of DDGS preparation (Pedersen *et al.*, 2007; van Boekel,
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19 253 1998) and might explain the poor correlation between LYS expressed in g/kg DM and CP
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21
22 254 content in wheat DDGS. These reactions produce brown-coloured compounds. the present
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24
25 255 results indicate that samples with low lightness values ($L < 50$; $n = 3$) in connection with high
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27 256 occurrence of these reactions have a specific nutrient profile with a high CP content in ADF, a
28
29 257 poor protein solubility in water and a poor LYS content. Based on reversible reaction between
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31 258 the ϵ -amino group of LYS and reducing sugars under specific *in vitro* conditions, Maillard
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33
34 259 reactions make LYS nutritionally unavailable for animals (Hurrell and Carpenter, 1981). On
35
36 260 the other hand, high starch wheat DDGS had high luminance values ($L > 60$) and would not
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38
39 261 be subject to Maillard reaction. In fact, these samples come from bio-ethanol plants where
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41 262 wheat bran is removed at the beginning of the process and added back after fermentation.
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43 263 Thus, these products have a specific nutrient profile with low ADF and CP in ADF.
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45
46 264 Therefore, the colour score appears as a quick and reliable tool for wheat DDGS evaluation.
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48 265 This also means that care must be taken in interpreting the results of LYS content in wheat
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50
51 266 DDGS. Total LYS is considered to be a relevant chemical indicator of protein quality for
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53 267 animal nutrition. However, complementary analyses indicate that in the case of wheat DDGS,
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55 268 some LYS is potentially unavailable for the animal. Using the homoarginine method, Pahm *et*
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57
58 269 *al.* (2008b) reported that the average FLYS concentration of 33 maize DDGS samples was
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60 270 0.75 of LYS. This value is comparable to the average value obtained in the present study

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3 271 (0.76). Nevertheless, the present study suggests little additional information provided by
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5 272 FLYS evaluation in relation with the high correlation between this parameter and colour score
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7
8 273 or LYS content as previously reported (Pahm *et al.*, 2009). Similarly, BLYS content in our
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10 274 wheat DDGS samples agree with the previous observations on maize DDGS by Pahm *et al.*
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12 275 (2008b); 0.16 in both studies. Nevertheless, results for furosine content and BLYS expressed
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14
15 276 in g/kg of DM content of wheat DDGS appear not to be related with either colour score or
16
17 277 LYS content in g/100g CP. In addition, as observed in the present trial, the sum of FLYS and
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19 278 BLYS did not represent the LYS content since the recovery was lower than one, with the
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21
22 279 lowest value being for the dark products. This suggests that the BLYS content estimated from
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24
25 280 furosine would underestimate the 'true' BLYS level, with a rapid evolution of furosine into
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27 281 advanced Maillard products and an associated low L value (Leclère and Birlouez-Aragon,
28
29 282 2001).

30
31 283 The SDD of CP and AA (except LYS) in wheat DDGS light samples used in the
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33
34 284 current study were about 10 percent units lower than the corresponding values in wheat
35
36 285 (Sauvant *et al.*, 2004) and are in agreement with recent studies on wheat DDGS (Bandegan *et*
37
38 286 *al.*, 2009). This difference with wheat can be partly attributed to the higher dietary fibre
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40
41 287 content of wheat DDGS (Lenis *et al.*, 1996). The difference is more accentuated for LYS. In
42
43 288 addition, the SDD of LYS appears highly variable. This result was also observed in maize
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45
46 289 DDGS but to a smaller extent (Ergul *et al.*, 2003; Batal and Dale, 2006) than in our wheat
47
48 290 DDGS samples. The presence of Amadori compounds in wheat DDGS may explain the
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51 291 variability in LYS SDD. In addition, low CP and AA digestibility in samples with high
52
53 292 Maillard reaction occurrence may be also caused by the restricted access of digestive enzymes
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55 293 to proteins including sugar-bonded LYS encapsulated by fibre (Schulze *et al.*, 1994; Sève,
56
57 294 1994). As for nutrients profile, the present results indicate that samples with low lightness
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59 295 values ($L < 50$; $n = 3$) in connection with high occurrence of these reactions have a specific

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3 296 AA SDD profile. In order to get more realistic nutritional values of wheat DDGS, samples
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5 297 with luminance below 50 should then be considered as abnormal and affected specific values.
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8 298 In the present trial, ADF and CP in ADF appeared to be the best variables to predict
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10 299 the variability in nitrogen or AA SDD among samples. In addition, the present study indicated
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12 300 that samples with LYS content below 1.9 g/100g CP present low LYS SDD whereas constant
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14 301 LYS SDD (0.63) could be applied for samples with LYS content above 1.9 g/100g CP.
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16 302 Therefore, wheat DDGS with LYS content above 1.9 g/100g CP should be preferred for
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18 303 poultry. A similar approach on maize DDGS in pigs indicates that only products with LYS
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20 304 content above 3.2 g/100g CP should be considered as highly valuable for pigs, whereas
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22 305 products with LYS below 2.3 g/100g in CP should be considered as badly heat-damaged
23
24 306 products (Fontaine *et al.*, 2007). Wheat DDGS, when fed to pigs, had high and rather constant
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26 307 LYS SDD values for more than 1.9 g/100g CP lys (Cozannet *et al.*, 2010). This 1.9 g/100g CP
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28 308 limit also corresponds with the previous limit defined between light and dark samples.
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30 309 Therefore, DDGS colour may be a good indicator of AA SDD and particularly LYS SDD.
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36 310 The prediction equations for LYS SDD obtained in the present trial were established
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38 311 from measurements on 10 samples selected from a set of 17 samples. These 10 samples were
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40 312 thoroughly analysed and measured for their AA standardised ileal digestibility (SID) in pigs
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42 313 (Cozannet *et al.*, 2010) and poultry (present trial). Wheat DDGS LYS SID in pigs averaged
43
44 314 0.56 (0.09 to 0.83), with a high correlation between SID of LYS in pigs and LYS SDD in
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46 315 cockerels ($r=0.93$) and a very comparable ranking of LYS SID and LYS SDD values (Figure
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48 316 1). Values for pigs could then be estimated from values in poultry (and *vice versa*). Chung
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50 317 and Baker (1992) reported greater SID in pig compared with poultry, however, these authors
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52 318 noted that their ranking of SID was not in agreement with that of Opapeju *et al.* (2006). The 7
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54 319 'discarded' samples and two additional wheat DDGS samples were also measured in adult
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56 320 cockerels under the conditions of the present trial, but with less complete chemical analyses.
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3 321 The results have then been used for validating the prediction equations established on the 10
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5 322 samples using quadratic model with LYS content in g/100g CP as predictor (Figure 2). LYS
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8 323 SDD of validation samples averaged 0.59 with an average predicted value of 0.56. In
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10 324 addition, the correlation between the measured and predicted values was quite high ($r = 0.98$;
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12 325 $RSD=3.5$). This indicates that the prediction equation based on LYS percentage in CP
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15 326 represents an acceptable predictor of LYS SDD in wheat DDGS. Figures 1 and 2 near here

17 327 **Conclusions**

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19 328 As reported for maize DDGS, the present results indicate that wheat DDGS have variable
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22 329 nutrient composition and SDD of AA, with LYS content and digestibility exhibiting more
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24 330 variability than other AA. In addition, the total CP content in wheat DDGS is relatively high
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27 331 and DDGS can then be considered as a potential source of supplemental protein and AA for
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29 332 poultry. Nevertheless, the protein quality of DDGS is rather low due to a deficiency in several
30
31 333 indispensable AA, especially LYS. Finally, the present study suggests a subdivision of wheat
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34 334 DDGS into three categories: wheat DDGS with high starch content, wheat DDGS with low
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36 335 starch content under normal drying conditions and overheated, and dark wheat DDGS with
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38 336 low starch content. The darkest DDGS have the lowest digestible LYS content and so should
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41 337 only be fed to poultry with caution.

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Table 1. *Composition of wheat distillers' dried grains with solubles (DDGS)*

	Wheat DDGS (n=10)			Colour ¹		Starch ²	
	Mean	Min	Max	Dark	Light (n	< 7% DM (n	> 7% DM
				(n =3	= 7)	= 5) ³	(n = 2)
Dry matter	926	893	944	925	927	922	939
<i>Nutrient content, g/kg DM</i>							
Ash	52	43	67	57	49	50	48
Protein (N*6.25)	361	326	389	358	362	366	353
Crude fat	46	36	56	51	43	45	40
Crude fibre	83	62	109	95	78	83	64
NDF ⁴	292	251	338	293	292	304	262
ADF ⁴	120	77	179	157	104	113	83
ADL ⁴	48	21	105	84	33	36	24
Starch Ewers	41	25	95	29	47	30	87
Colour score							
L (luminance)	54	43	63	46	57	55	63
a (red index)	6.2	4.4	7.3	5.3	6.7	6.4	7.2
b (yellow index)	13.4	5.3	19.0	8.0	15.8	14.5	19.0
Protein solubility							
in water	0.18	0.09	0.30	0.22	0.16	0.19	0.09
in KOH	0.34	0.27	0.43	0.36	0.33	0.34	0.32
CP in ADFn (g/kg DM)	28	4	82	68	11	13	4
Maillard reactions							
Furosine (g/kg DM)	0.71	0.36	1.50	0.63	0.74	0.50	1.40
<i>In vitro</i> N digestibility ⁵	0.74	0.55	0.86	0.62	0.79	0.79	0.78
Amino acid contents, g/100g CP							
<i>Indispensable amino acids</i>							
Arginine	3.76	2.25	4.62	2.47	4.30	4.23	4.49
Histidine	1.95	1.66	2.18	1.71	2.06	2.04	2.11
Isoleucine	3.42	3.28	3.54	3.31	3.47	3.47	3.48
Leucine	6.41	5.83	6.77	6.10	6.54	6.50	6.62
Lysine							
Total ⁶	1.91	0.83	3.01	1.01	2.29	2.35	2.12
Free ⁷	1.53	0.50	2.59	0.57	1.95	2.00	1.82
Bound ⁸	0.26	0.13	0.54	0.24	0.28	0.18	0.50
Residual ⁹	0.11	-0.22	0.42	0.20	0.07	0.17	-0.20

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3	Methionine	1.43	1.31	1.53	1.36	1.45	1.45	1.48
4	Phenylalanine	4.44	4.22	4.65	4.31	4.50	4.51	4.47
5	Threonine	2.95	2.68	3.14	2.77	3.02	3.00	3.08
6	Tryptophan	1.05	0.85	1.21	0.91	1.11	1.08	1.20
7	Valine	4.22	3.97	4.39	4.09	4.28	4.28	4.28
8								
9								
10	<i>Dispensable amino</i>							
11	<i>acids</i>							
12	Alanine	3.65	3.36	4.09	3.49	3.72	3.72	3.72
13	Aspartic acid	4.83	4.03	5.64	4.39	5.01	4.99	5.08
14	Cysteine	1.76	1.10	1.95	1.52	1.86	1.84	1.90
15	Glutamic acid	25.71	22.63	26.79	25.75	25.69	25.52	26.12
16	Glycine	3.94	3.74	4.13	3.80	4.00	3.95	4.11
17	Proline	8.44	8.00	9.05	8.37	8.47	8.57	8.22
18	Serine	4.34	3.90	4.65	4.04	4.46	4.42	4.57
19	Tyrosine	3.02	2.80	3.12	2.90	3.07	3.06	3.09
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¹Luminance ranged from 43 to 50 for the dark group and 52 to 64 for the light group.

²Starch content ranged from 2.5 to 4.5% DM for starch content < 7% and 8.6 to 10.1% DM for starch content > 7% according to the classification of Sauvant *et al.* (2004).

³Only wheat DDGS with luminance above 52 are considered for the low starch category.

⁴Cell wall fractions determined according to the methods of Van Soest with prior amylolytic (thermamyl 120L) and proteolytic (protease extracted from *Streptomyces Griseus*) or sodium sulfite treatments (van Soest and Wine, 1967). Values provided were the average between both treatments.

⁵In-vitro N digestibility determined according to the method of Boisen and Fernandez (1995)

⁶Total lysine measured by cation exchange chromatography

⁷Free lysine measured according to Carpenter (1960)

⁸Bound lysine content calculated from furosine measurement with: Unavailable lysine =

$$\left(\frac{\text{Furosine} \times 40}{32} \right) \times \frac{100}{CP}$$

⁹Residual lysine calculated calculated from unavailable lysine, available lysine and total lysine: Residual lysine = total lysine – unavailable lysine – available lysine

473 **Table 2.** Correlation coefficients¹ between wheat DDGS chemical characteristics and standardised digestibility (SDD) of nitrogen and lysine (*n*
474 = 10²)

	Ash	Protein	ADF	CP in ADF	L	Furosine	IDP ³	LYS ⁴	BLYS ⁵	FLYS ⁶	DN _v ⁷	SDD N ⁸
Protein	0.03											
ADF	0.34	0.05										
CP in ADF	0.49	0.12	0.84*									
L	-0.40	0.04	-0.94*	-0.86*								
Furosine	0.04	-0.11	-0.54	-0.26	0.54							
IDP ³	0.13	-0.52	0.57	0.30	-0.69*	-0.56						
LYS ⁴	-0.53	-0.04	-0.66	-0.91*	0.67	-0.06	0.07					
BLYS ⁵	0.57	-0.07	-0.06	0.46	-0.12	0.64*	-0.26	-0.69*				
FLYS ⁶	-0.35	0.01	-0.89*	-0.97*	0.87*	0.21	-0.37	0.87*	-0.44			
DN _v ⁷	-0.50	-0.18	-0.73*	-0.91*	0.70*	-0.02	-0.15	0.89*	-0.66*	0.84*		
SID N ⁸	-0.50	0.00	-0.87*	-0.96*	0.87*	0.13	-0.38	0.84*	-0.51	0.96*	0.90*	
SID LYS ⁹	-0.58*	0.02	-0.58	-0.87*	0.64*	-0.14	-0.10	0.97*	-0.82*	0.85*	0.88*	0.87*

475 ¹ Correlation whose absolute value is above 0.64 is significant (*P* < 0.05).

476 ² Ash, Protein, ADF, CP in ADF, furosine and LYS expressed in g/100g CP. BLYS and FLYS in g/100g LYS. DN_v, SDD N and SDD LYS (%).

477 ³ Protein Dispersibility Index.

478 ⁴ Total LYS content.

479 ⁵ Free LYS content.

480 ⁶ Bound LYS content.

481 ⁷ *In vitro* Digestibility Index.

482 ⁸ N standardised ileal digestibility

483 ⁹ Total LYS standardised ileal digestibility

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485**Table 3.** Basal endogenous losses (g/kg DM intake)^{1, 2}

	Mean	SD
Nitrogen ³	1.99	0.19
<i>Indispensable amino acids</i>		
Arginine	0.92	0.1
Histidine	0.35	0.03
Isoleucine	0.57	0.06
Leucine	0.91	0.1
Lysine	0.70	0.07
Methionine	0.16	0.02
Phenylalanine	0.51	0.06
Threonine	1.21	0.13
Tryptophane	0.24	0.02
Valine	1.28	0.17
<i>Dispensable amino acids</i>		
Alanine	0.84	0.07
Aspartic acid	1.32	0.13
Cystine	0.56	0.06
Glutamic acid	1.92	0.19
Glycine	1.27	0.14
Proline	1.14	0.12
Serine	1.08	0.12
Tyrosine	0.53	0.07

486 ¹Animals fed with 50g fresh N free diet487 ²Endogenous amino acids losses measured on 15 experimental units488 ³Nitrogen in digesta evaluated according to methodology described by Terpstra and De Hart
489 (1974)

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Table 4. Standardised ileal digestibilities of crude protein and amino acids in wheat DDGS

	Wheat DDGS (n=10)			Colour ¹		Starch ²		Statistics ³	
	Mean	Min	Max	Dark (n=3)	Light (n=7)	< 7% (n=5) ⁴	> 7% (n=2)	DDGS effect	RSD
Nitrogen	0.74	0.55	0.85	0.58	0.81	0.81	0.81	< 0.001	0.02
<i>Indispensable amino acids</i>									
Arginine	0.68	0.42	0.81	0.46	0.78	0.78	0.77	< 0.001	0.03
Histidine	0.70	0.48	0.83	0.50	0.78	0.78	0.78	< 0.001	0.04
Isoleucine	0.71	0.47	0.84	0.53	0.79	0.79	0.78	< 0.001	0.03
Leucine	0.76	0.55	0.86	0.59	0.83	0.83	0.82	< 0.001	0.03
Lysine	0.46	-0.04	0.71	0.12	0.61	0.64	0.52	< 0.001	0.03
Methionine	0.75	0.57	0.84	0.60	0.81	0.81	0.81	< 0.001	0.02
Phenylalanine	0.82	0.64	0.90	0.67	0.88	0.88	0.88	< 0.001	0.02
Threonine	0.65	0.42	0.76	0.46	0.73	0.73	0.73	< 0.001	0.03
Tryptophan	0.67	0.43	0.78	0.49	0.75	0.75	0.76	< 0.001	0.03
Valine	0.72	0.47	0.85	0.52	0.81	0.81	0.80	< 0.001	0.03
<i>Dispensable amino acids</i>									
Alanine	0.65	0.42	0.79	0.46	0.74	0.74	0.73	< 0.001	0.04
Aspartic acid	0.54	0.27	0.68	0.31	0.65	0.64	0.66	< 0.001	0.03
Cystine	0.60	0.30	0.77	0.37	0.71	0.70	0.71	< 0.001	0.03
Glutamic acid	0.82	0.65	0.92	0.69	0.87	0.87	0.88	< 0.001	0.01
Proline	0.81	0.64	0.91	0.67	0.87	0.87	0.88	< 0.001	0.01
Serine	0.70	0.51	0.81	0.53	0.78	0.78	0.78	< 0.001	0.02
Tyrosine	0.68	0.51	0.77	0.55	0.74	0.74	0.73	< 0.001	0.02

¹Luminance ranged from 43 to 50 for the dark group and 52 to 64 for the light group.

²Starch content ranged from 2.5 to 4.5% DM for starch content < 7% and 8.6 to 10.1% DM for starch content > 7% according to the classification of Sauvant *et al.* (2004).

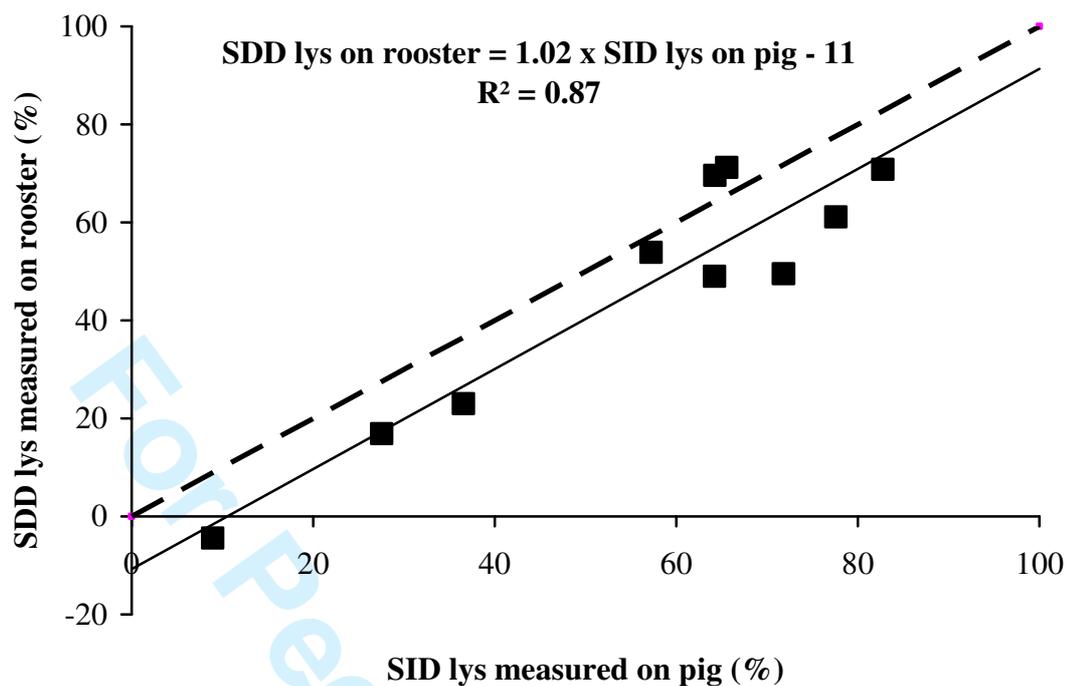
³From the analysis of variance on 60 results with wheat DDGS sample (n=10; 6 measurements per diet) as a fixed effect.

⁴Only wheat DDGS with luminance above 52 are considered for the low starch category.

500 **Table 5.** Prediction equations of nitrogen (N) and lysine (LYS) standardised digestibility of
 501 wheat DDGS in cockerels¹

Equation number	Regression equations	R ²	RSD
<i>Nitrogen standardised digestibility (n = 10)</i>			
1	SDD N = - 4.9 + 1.5×L	0.75	5.9
2	SDD N = 85.4 - 0.4×CP in ADF	0.92	3.4
<i>Lysine standardised digestibility (n = 10)</i>			
3	SDD LYS = - 90.3 × 2.5×L	0.41	21.2
4	SDD LYS = 67.5 - 0.8×CP in ADF	0.75	13.7
5	SDD LYS = -16.8 + 33.0 LYS	0.88	9.6
6	SDD LYS = -56.6 + 82.7 LYS - 13.4 LYS ²	0.94	7.3
7	SDD LYS (if LYS > 1.9) = 63.0	0.90	9.3
8	SDD LYS (if LYS < 1.9) = -42.4 + 55.5 LYS		

502 ¹SID N and SID LYS (%), ADF and CP in ADF (g/kg of DM), LYS (g/100g of CP).

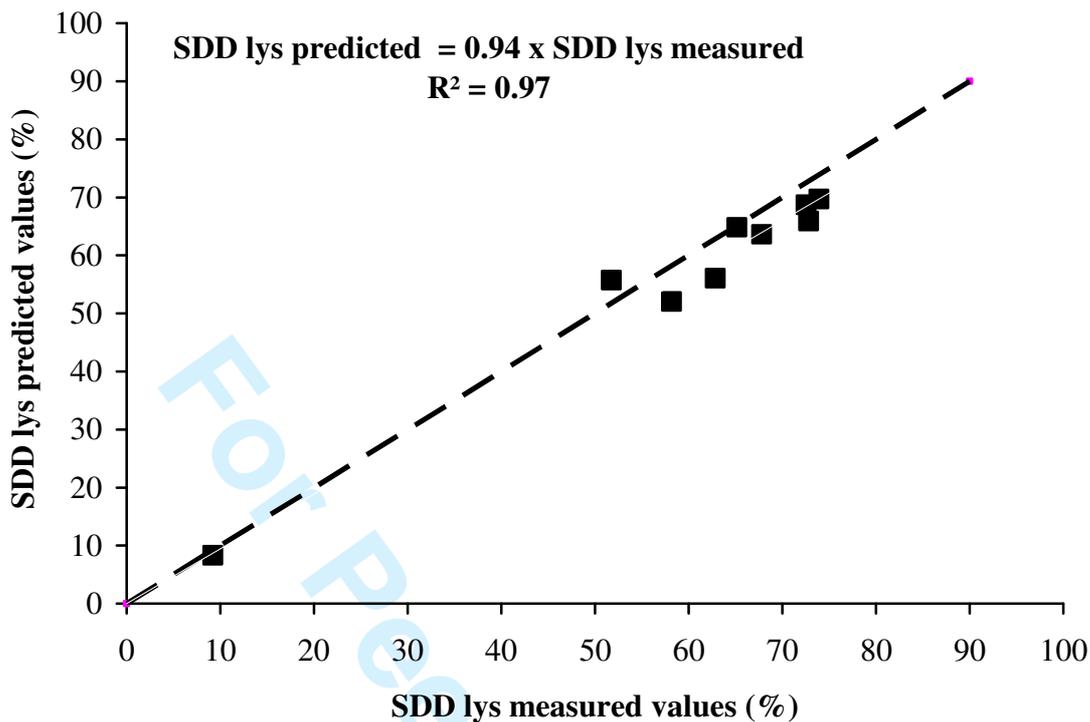


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505 **Figure 1.** Correspondence between wheat DDGS lysine standardised digestibility (LYS SDD)
506 evaluated on cockerel and lysine standardised ileal digestibility (LYS SID) on pig (Cozannet
507 *et al.*, 2010).

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513 **Figure 2.** Validation of the prediction model (equation 6, Table 5) of lysine standardised

514 digestibility (LYS SDD) from an independent data set (n=9).