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The type of forage and condensed tannins in dams' diet: influence on meat shelf life of their suckling lambs

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## Highlights

Interest for meat products raised on extensive systems and with long shelf life  
Effect of grazing and inclusion of Quebracho in lactating ewes on suckling lamb meat  
Pasture system produced meat with low intramuscular fat and high  $\alpha$ -tocopherol content  
The inclusion of Quebracho improved the color and extended the meat shelf life

## ABSTRACT

The aim of the present study was to assess the effect of the type of forage (Pasture *vs.* Hay) and the inclusion of quebracho (QUE *vs.* Control), a natural antioxidant, in the concentrate fed to lactating ewes on the meat quality of male and female suckling lambs. At lambing, 39 Churra Tensina lambs with their dams were distributed in groups; half of them had access to permanent pastures (Pasture; n=20) and the other half were stalled in pens indoors, receiving pasture hay *ad libitum* (Hay; n=19). Within each forage treatment, half of the ewes were daily fed a commercial concentrate with 10% of quebracho (as fed basis; SYLVAFEED ByPro Q, Spain) (QUE) and the other half a commercial concentrate without

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