



**UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA**

***THE EFFECT OF SELENIUM SUPPLEMENT ON ANTI-OXIDANT  
STATUS AND AST CONCENTRATION IN BEEF CATTLE***

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**THE EFFECT OF SELENIUM SUPPLEMENT ON ANTI-OXIDANT STATUS AND AST  
CONCENTRATION IN BEEF CATTLE**

**ZHARIF ATIQ BIN HASHIM**

A project paper submitted to the

**Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Universiti Putra Malaysia**

In partial fulfillment of the requirement for the

**DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF VETERINARY MEDICINE**

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It is hereby certified that we have read this project paper entitled “The Effect of Selenium Supplement on Anti-Oxidant Status and AST Concentration in Beef Cattle”, by Zharif Atiq bin Hashim and in our opinion it is satisfactory in terms of scope, quality and presentation as partial fulfillment of the requirement for the course VPD 4999 – Final Year Project.

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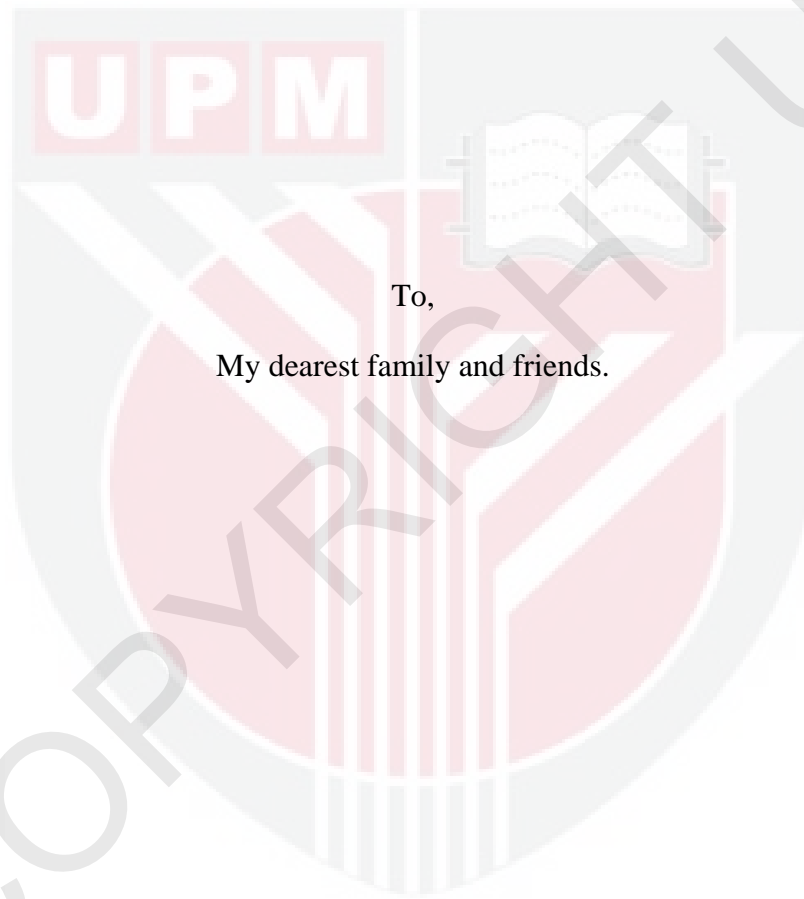
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## DEDICATION



To,  
My dearest family and friends.

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## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

dH <sub>2</sub> O	distilled water
DIW	deionized water
DTNB	5, 5-dithiobis- 2- nitrobenzoic acid
EDTA	ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid
GSH- Px	glutathione peroxidase
Hb	haemoglobin
HCl	hydrochloric acid
H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	hydrogen peroxide
HPO <sub>3</sub>	meta-phosphoric acid
H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	sulphuric acid
MDA	malondialdehyde
NaCl	sodium chloride
NADPH	nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide phosphate
Na <sub>2</sub> HPO <sub>4</sub>	disodium phosphate
Na <sub>2</sub> WO <sub>4</sub>	sodium tungstate
O <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup>	superoxide anion

OH <sup>-</sup>	hydroxyl
RBC	red blood cell
ROS	reactive oxygen species
Se	selenium
STDE	standard deviation
TBA	thiobarbituric acid
TBARS	thiobarbituric acid reactive substance
TEP	tetraethoxypropane

## **ABSTRAK**

Abstrak daripada kertas projek yang dikemukakan kepada Fakulti  
Perubatan Veterinar untuk memenuhi sebahagian daripada keperluan kursus VPD  
4999 - Projek.

### **KESAN SUPLEMEN SELENIUM TERHADAP TAHAP ANTIOKSIDAN DAN KEUTUHAN OTOT PADA LEMBU PEDAGING**

Oleh

**Zharif Atiq bin Hashim**

**2016**

**Penyelia: Prof. Dr. Noordin Mohamed Mustapha**

Selenium (Se) merupakan mikronutrien penting yang diperlukan untuk pertumbuhan normal dan pertahanan antioksidan. Objektif kajian ini adalah untuk menentukan kesan pemberian Se terhadap tekanan oksidatif (malondialdehid, MDA dan glutathion peroksidase, GSH-Px) dan integriti otot pada lembu pedaging.

Sepuluh ekor lembu betina berusia setahun telah dipilih secara rawak dan dibahagikan kepada dua kumpulan iaitu kawalan dan rawatan. Kumpulan kawalan telah disuntik secara intra-otot dengan 10 ml normal salin, manakala kumpulan rawatan telah disuntik secara intraotot dengan 0.1mg/kg sebanyak dua kali, iaitu Se

pada permulaan dan dua minggu ujikaji. Darah diambil secara mingguan sehingga minggu keempat. Plasma, sel darah merah dan serum kemudian diproses untuk mendapatkan kepekatan MDA, GSH-Px dan AST. Hasil kajian menunjukkan bahawa tidak terdapat perbezaan yang keertian pada kepekatan MDA dan AST. Walau bagaimanapun, kepekatan GSH-Px menunjukkan perbezaan keertian ( $p < 0.05$ ) kenaikan hanya pada minggu 1 dan 2 ujikaji. Kesimpulannya, rejim tambahan Se yang digunakan mungkin tidak begitu berkesan dalam menyekat tekanan oksidatif dan meningkatkan keutuhan otot pada lembu pedaging.

Kata Kunci: *Selenium, tekanan oksidatif, malondialdehyde, glutathione peroxidase, AST*



## **ABSTRACT**

An abstract of the project paper presented to the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine in partial fulfillment of the course VPD4999 - Project.

### **THE EFFECT OF SELENIUM SUPPLEMENT ON ANTI-OXIDANT STATUS AND MUSCLE INTEGRITY IN BEEF CATTLE**

**By**

**Zharif Atiq bin Hashim**

**2016**

**Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Noordin Mohamed Mustapha**

Selenium (Se) is an essential micronutrient required for normal growth development and antioxidant defense. The objective of this study is to determine the effect of Se supplementation on the oxidative stress (malondialdehyde, MDA and glutathione peroxidase, GSH-Px) and muscle integrity (aspartate transaminase, AST) in beef cattle. Ten 1-year-old cows were selected randomly and divided into a control and treatment group. The control group was injected intramuscularly with 10ml normal saline, while the treatment group received two intramuscular injections of 0.1mg/kg of Se, viz at the start and two weeks post-experimentation.

Blood was collected weekly until the fourth week of the experimental period. The plasma, red blood cell and serum were then subjected to MDA, GSH-Px and AST assays, respectively. The results showed that there was no significant difference in the concentration of MDA and AST between both groups. However, the concentration of GSH-Px showed a significant ( $p < 0.05$ ) increment only on the weeks 1 and 2 post-treatment. It is concluded that supplementation regime of Se used may not be effective in abating the oxidative stress and improving muscle integrity in beef cattle.

Keywords: *Selenium, oxidative stress, malondialdehyde, glutathione peroxidase, AST*

# 1. INTRODUCTION

Selenium (Se) was first recognized as an essential micronutrient in 1957 (Schwarz and Foltz, 1957). Selenium and vitamin E both have complementary but independent roles as antioxidants in the protection of cells against damaging effects of free radicals produced during normal metabolism (Villaret *et al.*, 2002). On the otherhand, Se and vitamin E deficiency can results in nutritional muscular dystrophy, infertility, stillbirths or retained placenta (Bill, 2010).

The acidic soil of Malaysia with a range of pH of 3 to 5 (Shamshuddinet *al.*, 2011) may precipitate the formation of selenium complexes with iron hydroxide leading to low uptake by pastures (Lyons *et al.*, 2007) and thus being less bioavailable to animals. Such scenario is likely to be manifested in grazing ruminant as a form of ill-thrift (Noordin, 1995). Selenium fertilization of pasture and supplementation programmes in animals via feed concentrate, mixture or boluses would be an effective way to increase selenium content in the animal diets (Lyons *et al.*, 2007).

Owing to the likely scenario mentioned above, an investigation into the role of Se in grazing ruminants in Malaysia is warranted. Therefore, the objectives of this study are to:

- i. determine the status of oxidative stress in beef cattle with and without selenium supplementation
- ii. assess the muscle integrity via AST concentration in beef cattle with and without selenium supplementation.



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