Effect of hydrolyzed fish protein on piglet growth performance after weaning

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Framework: Pre-starter feeding rations for piglets usually include dairy products such as skimmed milk powder as a supply of animal protein, but they are expensive. Alternatives?

Objective: to assess the effect of the inclusion of hydrolyzed fish protein (HFP) in the feeding of piglets during the early stages around weaning (5-10 kg, 20-35 days) upon intake and growth performance. Experience carried out in spring 2007.



Material and Methods

N piglets	Control	HFP	Weaned on Average at
	0.5		24 days=4.6 kg Live Weight (LW)
Trial 1	96	96 23	23 days=4.6 kg LW
Trial 2	72	72	

Feeding management:

Phase 1 or Pre-starter (0-15 d after weaning)

- i) A: including 2% hydrolyzed fish protein; vs.
- ii) R: control treatment fed standard pre-st

Phase 2 or Starter (16-41 days): standard starter ad libitum

Piglets: Weighted at weaning (y=g) **Statistical Analysis:** PROC ANOVA (SAS)

$$y = \mu + L_i + SubL_j + L_i \times SubL_j + S_k + W0 + e_{ijk}$$

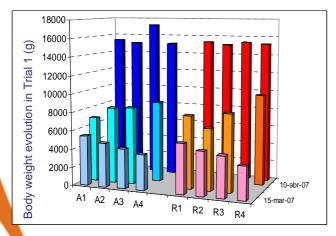
Y= LW1 (weight), G1 (gain) at the end of phase 1 LW2 (weight), G2 (gain) at the end of phase 2

L = Lot (A vs. R) **

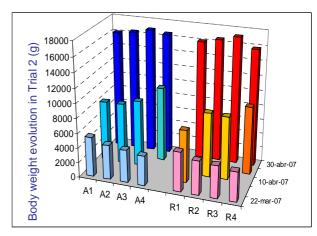
SubL = Sublot (1 to 4 according to W0) P>0,05

S=Sex of the piglet (male vs. female) P>0,05 W0 = initial weight at the beginning of phase 1

Results



No sign. effect of the fish protein upon weight



Slightly better conversion index in Phase 1, but worse in Phase 2

Low-level addition (2%) of HFP in pre-starter feeding did not seem to affect negatively piglet growth performance after weaning