

# **FEEDING STUDY in BREEDING SOWS with EUCARVET**

**By  
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## **STRUCTURE OF THE STUDY**

### **STUDY SITE:**

The field study was carried out at Josef Lendl's pig farm at Klein-Wilfersdorf 2, A-2105 Oberrohrbach in Lower Austria, a member of the Association of Lower Austrian Pig Breeders. This agricultural farm includes 50 hectares of land used for agriculture with at present 102 pedigree sows in pens adapted to modern purposes.

### **STUDY OBJECTIVE:**

The objective of the study was to test the feed supplement "EUCARVET" made by the pharmaceutical company F. TRENKA Chem. pharm. GmbH, Goldeggasse 5, A-1040 Vienna.

EUCARVET is a product made purely from plant derivatives and is based on EUCARBON, used in human medicine for 100 years. As a feed supplement it consists of medicinal plant carbon, senna leaves, rhubarb roots, mint oil, fennel oil and organic sulphur. EUCARVET supports the production of digestive juices and reduces the formation of fermentation gases in the digestive tract. It improves the well-being of the animals and promotes the natural digestive process.

### **DURATION OF THE STUDY:**

The study was carried out between 12.08.2006 and 28.09.2006.

## **MATERIAL and METHODS**

### **ANIMALS AND STUDY PROCEDURE:**

Two groups of 8 pigs of the Landrace breed housed in two adjacent farrowing pens, each with 8 boxes took part in the study and were divided into a control group and a study group.

All animals were pedigree animals. Their ear tags and the boards on the pens enabled them to be identified accurately.

### **FEED**

The feed was mixed on the farm. The composition of the feed: barley, maize, soya extract meal 49, W. Kleie, sunflower extract meal 38, dried sugar beet, brewer's yeast, choline chloride, Agrotox (antifungal agent), Sauermix (organic acid) mineral and active substance mixture 7009 (lactating sows) Ratifeed (chicory, lanolin) Acidomix (phosphoric acid).

The feed was given by hand at mealtimes.

In an advanced state of pregnancy the animals had their feed reduced for the last 5 days when housed in the farrowing pen (1/2 kg birth feed and 1 kg feed for lactating sows).

Experience shows that it is sufficient to halve the amount of feed in the last 2 days.

The birth feed consisted of barley, sugar (in the form of fructose), 2% methionine and organic acids and this was also continued 2-5 days after the birth. The amount of feed for the first 5 days post partum was prepared according to the following formula:

lactation days: 3, e.g. 4 days post partum 4:3 is approximately 1.30 kg. From one week post partum the amount was changed as needed and on the 10<sup>th</sup> day post partum the LENDL farm introduced a day without feed.

#### HEALTH CARE

Factors recorded during feeding of EUCARVET were observations on the well-being of the animals and also recording any health changes in the animals. All animal treatments were recorded. Piglet losses were compared and in particular the intention was to eliminate as far as possible the occurrence of milk fever, which had been a source of some concern on the farm. The milk yield of individual sows and the birth behaviour were parameters for comparison.

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\*) J. Lendl, farm owner, E. Lendl, agricultural engineer, H. Pammer, International Feed Consulting

**COMMENTARY EUCARVET FEEDING STUDY, BREEDING SOWS, FARM  
of J. LENDL, Klein Wilfersdorf**

After the end of the study Herr Lendl was not convinced that much had changed as a result of using EUCARVET. More in-depth analysis of the very carefully recorded course of the study did show, however, that there were after all considerable differences in favour of the EUCARVET group.

The lower numbers of piglets stillborn, and reduced rearing losses and thus the higher numbers of piglets reared per sow, would certainly bring a projection of considerable economic success on a farm such as that of Herr Lendl, with over 100 sows. Herr Lendl had no hesitation in repeating the study, which with the small number of animals involved in the study would certainly not be a mistake.

The animal faeces was normal at all times, which indicates an optimal dosage of 2 kg for each tonne of feed.

The use of adoptive piglets in fostering was necessary on economic grounds, and certainly did not affect the study, since the problem animals were mainly in the control group.

Klagenfurt, 13.10.2006

## SUMMARY OF EXPERIMENT

Control group 8 sows									Study group 8 sows									
Sow no.	WZ*	live-born piglets	stillborn piglets	losses	fostered piglets	transferred piglets	final number of piglets	remarks	Sow no.	WZ*	live-born piglets	stillborn piglets	losses	fostered piglets	transferred piglets	final number of piglets	EUCARVET added from farrowing/days	Remarks
487	12	8	3	1			7		645	2	7			3		10	18	
513	11	10	2	2		2	6		585	7	12		3			9	9	
643	2	10		1	1		10	1x Oxytocin (labour)	556	8	12		3		9	0	10	2 x Oxytocin (milk)
629	4	10		1	3		12	2x antibiotic (manual delivery)	586	6	12	2	2			10	10	
630	4	11		2			9		473	13	8					8	9	
540	10	8	1	2	2		8		625	4	11					11	9	
660	1	13	1	6	1	8	0	2x Vetalgin (fever)	618	5	12	2	5			7	7	4x Vetalgin (fever)
658	1	13	4	0			13		606	6	12			1		13	9	
Ø in %	5.6 <sup>25</sup>	10.3 <sup>75</sup>	1..3 <sup>75</sup>	1.8 <sup>75</sup>	0.8 <sup>75</sup>	1.2 <sup>5</sup>	8.1 <sup>25</sup>		Ø in %	5.8 <sup>75</sup>	10.7 <sup>5</sup>	0.5	1.6 <sup>25</sup>	0.5	1.1 <sup>05</sup>	8..5	10.1 <sup>25</sup>	

\* litter number

## CONCLUSION

The study lasted from housing in the farrowing pen on 12.08.2006 until the weaning of the piglets on 28.09.2006 a total of 47 days.

The improvements due to use of the **feed supplement EUCARVET** were on average **per sow**:

Piglets, **live born plus** 0.375 animals (10.375 to 10.75 in the EUCARVET group) = + **3.5%**

Piglets **stillborn**, in the EUCARVET group **fewer** by 0.875 animals = - **36.4%**

**Rearing losses** in the EUCARVET group **fewer** by 0.225 piglets = - **15.4%**

Average **number of weaned piglets more** by 2 animals = + **24.6%**