



## Improve Gut Health in Piglets

The swine industry continues to look at and evaluate alternative ways to control and manage the microbial ecosystem to insure a sustainable, environmentally friendly approach to pork production. A most promising method is the modulation of the gut microflora in pigs including, but certainly not limited to selected bacteria to inoculate the gut.

This can be accomplished by the introduction of live organisms (probiotics) or those derived from botanical sources (phytobiotics) known as prebiotics. Both are capable of modulating the microflora towards a favorable composition.

Over the past 25 years, veterinarians have encountered an increasing amount of bacteria that are resistant to antibiotics that could once protect the pig. This is a very important issue that continues to be investigated and is more relevant today than ever. Scientists around the world have provided strong evidence that the resistant bacteria can be transferred from food producing animals / swine to humans through consumption of their meat.

One of the benefits of MSP[RS] is reducing morbidity in the pig by creating an improved ecosystem by improving large intestinal viscosity. If we can improve large intestine microflora and factors affecting the ecosystem by reducing pH by butyrate production and



fluid flow within the large intestine, then piglet morbidity will be improved. It is well understood that once a pig has suffered a gut challenge intestinal villi is damaged or even destroyed allowing for slower growth.

MSP[RS] is not an antibiotic, but rather a tool to help manage the pig's gut ecosystem allowing for an easier transition to the next phase of production.

In recent work from Canada in a controlled study, MSP[RS] used weaned pigs weighing less than 16 pounds MSP[RS] supplemented pigs had improved fecal consistency with a more solid feces with no growth performance reduction.

Not only do we see improved response from MSP[RS] as a gut manager we also see the benefit of MSP[RS] as an excellent drying tool. It is well known that wet, chilled newborn piglets are prone to disease challenge as compared to dry, warm piglets. Dry piglets start nursing earlier getting a faster start with proper intake of valuable colostrum, which is the natural protection against disease challenge. There are a number of very attractive features to MSP[RS] surrounded by a number of benefits, but the first and foremost benefit is getting that piglet started off correctly in colostrum intake as a dry, good feeding piglet. This benefit will stay with the pig during the lactation period, allowing for an easy transition to the nursery. In the event the piglets are being marketed as just weaned or larger feeder pigs the benefits have been shown to reduce shipping stress that results in morbidity or even death loss.

Commercial production has also demonstrated benefits of MSP[RS] prior to weaning by helping to manage the pigs large intestine ecosystem. Such management has been shown to greatly assist in transitioning the piglet from sows milk to solid food/creep feed. It is, again well understood that optimum weaning transition programs yield performance results to market weight.



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