Results report: combination of WH67® and benzoic acid in piglet feed

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1. Introduction

To determine whether there are any negative impacts on the sensory properties of mixed feeds from the combination of WH67® and benzoic acid, a feeding trial was carried out involving rearing piglets. The aim of the trial was to evaluate whether a combination of WH67® and benzoic acid has a negative impact on piglets' feed intake.



2. Material and methods

Fifteen homogeneous piglets were housed in six sex-segregated piglet-rearing pens (4 m² per pen). Out of the six pens, two were control pens (K = Control (Denkapig Duo DE crumbled)) and four were trial pens. Two of the trial pens were assigned variant A and two more were assigned trial variant B (see table). A Maxi-Pan feeding bowl was installed in each pen. Each day, all trial variants were given the same amount of feed in the Maxi-Pan feeding bowl. The feed in the Maxi-Pan feeding bowl was intended as a supplementary feed. The main feed was provided via an automatic mash dispenser in which the control feed was offered. In each pen, a separate storage container with 20 kg of feed was provided for the trial. Each feeding bowl was filled from the associated storage container. The trial was conducted over a period of 14 days.

Groups	Doses	Addition to feed
Control group	No supplement	-
Variant A	Control feed + supplement of 0.2 % WH67® + 0.5 % benzoic acid (VevoVitall®)	The additives were added on top of the control feed
Variant B	Control feed + supplement of 0.2 % WH67® + 0.5 % benzoic acid (VevoVitall®)	The additives were added together with the feed as a pre-mixture

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3. Results

Sensory testing of the pre-mixture and the two trial feeds (A and B)

- Benzoic acid: highly pungent, unpleasant odour, acidic
- Benzoic acid and WH67®: mildly pungent, unpleasant odour reduced, acidic
- Trial feeds A and B: no influence on sensory mechanisms compared to the control feed

Feed intake by the rearing piglets

- Even feed intake from the Maxi-Pan feeding bowls in all three trial variants
- Emptying of all storage containers on the same day (trial day 14)
- No sensory influence from the combination of WH67[®] and benzoic acid in piglet feed

4. Summary

The results of the trial show that the addition of WH67® and benzoic acid (individually during mixing or dispensed as a highly concentrated pre-mixture) to the feed of rearing piglets has no negative impact.

