



R&D Snapshot

Effect of L-Glutamine in late gestation sow diets on survivability and growth of piglets

APL Project 2014/463

Investigators: Dr Rebecca Athorn and Dave Henman, Rivalea Australia

Purpose:

- Determine whether L-glutamine inclusion in late gestation sow diets improves piglet pre-weaning survival and growth

Take home messages:

- L-Glutamine supplementation at an inclusion rate of 1% in late gilt gestation diets has been shown in previous research to increase average piglet birth weight and significantly reduce variation in piglet birth weight.
- In this study, the inclusion of L-glutamine at 1% in late gestation sow diets did not improve piglet birth weight nor overall pre-weaning growth.
- This was despite higher levels of immunoglobulin G of piglets – a proxy for colostrum ingestion and/or quality.
- It is recommended that L-Glutamine not be included in gestation diets of sows in Australia.

Additional information:

- For further information or a copy of the full report, please contact Dr Robyn Terry at robyn.terry@australianpork.com.au or on 02 6270 8820.

