



# R&D Snapshot

## Novel photoperiod regimes did not make post-weaning feed intakes 'shine'

**Investigator:** Kirrily O'Halloran, Rivalea

**Purpose:**

Photoperiod (how long an animal is exposed to light) and light intensities can stimulate weaner appetite. This study compared whether different photoperiods and lighting source, fluorescent or novel BioLumen lighting (which targets the specific light spectrum optimum for pig vision), affected weaner performance.

**Take home messages:**

- Treatments were
  - (A) 8hrs of fluorescent light
  - (B) 48hrs of fluorescent light followed by 18hrs of fluorescent light
  - (C) 48hrs of Biolumen light followed by 18hrs of BioLumen light
- The different treatments didn't affect feed intake, weight gain, feed conversion or weight up to 35 days post weaning
- Weaner feed intakes were higher than previously seen and this improvement may have affected the study results
- Understanding social feeding behaviours and reducing mixing stress at weaning remain important research priorities in this area

**Additional information:**

- For further information or a copy of the final report please contact Dr Rebecca Athorn at [rebecca.athorn@australianpork.com.au](mailto:rebecca.athorn@australianpork.com.au) or 02 6270 8827

**APL Project 2016/070** – Effect of novel photoperiod regimes on stimulating weaner performance

