



DIETARY LYSINE REQUIREMENTS FOR FINISHER PIGS

LYSINE REQUIREMENTS OF PIGS FROM
20 TO 100 KGS LIVELWEIGHT

Project Participants

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Problem

The modern pig has an increased requirement for amino acids relative to energy to allow building of protein for lean growth. There are many factors which influence the amino acid requirements of growing pigs with the major ones being genetics, sex, feed intake, liveweight and whether or not the pig is castrated. Feeding below the recommended levels of amino acids, especially lysine, can result in reduced growth.

Background

A change in consumer needs in recent years has driven a need for reduced fat on pork cuts. As such, pigs today deposit more protein and less fat. This change has resulted in a shift in dietary requirements for pigs. Lysine is the first limiting amino acid in pig diets and it is common to include synthetic lysine in diets to allow their requirements to be met. It is crucial to determine and provide the appropriate level of dietary lysine in pig diets to ensure lean growth is maximised and feed costs are minimised.

Value for Producers

Appropriate levels of lysine in the diet will ensure lean growth of pigs is maximised and feed costs are minimised, improving productivity and profitability.

