

Boyle Farms Sow Lactation Field Trial

INTRODUCTION:

In a sow field trial conducted at Boyle Farms, Moorhead, Iowa, sow feed intake was measured during lactation to determine if the addition of 1.25% DPS 50RD to the lactation diet of multi-parous sows would increase sow feed intake. In this trial, the sows fed DPS 50RD during lactation had higher feed intakes than the control sows fed no DPS 50RD.

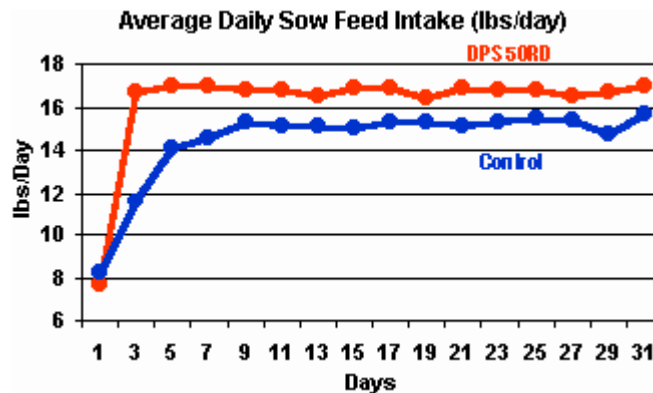
MATERIALS AND METHODS:

Two treatments were tested in the trial: **1. Control (No DPS 50RD) and 2. 1.25% DPS 50RD**

Forty, 7/8 Large White, 1/8 Hampshire sows were tested in this trial. Twenty were assigned to each treatment. The sows were farrowed in two different farrowing houses of similar design with total power ventilation to maintain a thermo-neutral environment. The farrowing crates were raised deck design with "Tenderfoot" flooring. All sows farrowed from November 22 to December 2, 1999. Pigs were cross-fostered within treatment to even the litter sizes. Sows were fed twice daily with a scale scoop and the pounds of feed fed were recorded at each feeding. Diets were corn-soy based diets with a total lysine content of .85%. In the DPS treatment diet, DPS 50RD replaced hi-pro soybean meal.

RESULTS:

Average Daily Feed Intake	Days 1-5	Days 6-10	Days 11-15	Days 16-20	Days 21-25	Days 26-31	Days 1-31
DPS 50RD	14.68	16.94	16.66	16.72	16.82	16.69	16.43
Control	11.55	14.98	15.00	15.25	15.29	15.25	14.58



CONCLUSION:

All sows in this trial had very good feed intake. The producer observed that the sows on DPS 50RD were more enthusiastic eaters than the sows on the control diet. The sows fed 1.25% DPS 50RD went on feed quicker and consumed more feed throughout the lactation period than the sows on the control diet. The sows on DPS 50RD ate an average of 1.8 pounds more feed per day than the sows fed the control diet without DPS 50RD or 12.3% more feed during lactation. The value of getting sows to eat more feed in lactation has been well documented. The results of this trial show that DPS 50RD had a significant effect on increasing sow feed intake in lactation $P < .00014$.