Influence d'une supplémentation de l'aliment de la truie reproductrice en mannane-oligosaccharides (MOS) sur le poids de naissance des porcelets

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Effect on pig birth weight of including mannan-oligosaccharides (MOS) in reproductive sow diets

A study conducted in three locations (A, B and C), on a total of 149 mixed parity sows, investigated the effect of feeding MOS to gestating sows on the birth weight of piglets. Within location, sows were allotted to either control or MOS treatment on the basis of parity. The control group included 69 sows (25A, 24B and 20C). The MOS group included 80 sows (26A, 24B and 30C). MOS were given to sows at the rate of 4 g/d starting on day 30 of gestation (A), 5 g/d starting on day 90 of gestation (C), or was included in the diet (0.1%) throughout gestation (B). Piglets were dried and weighed (± 2 g) at birth before the first suckling. The interaction between location and treatment was not significant (P = 0.99). Data were adjusted to common litter size of 13. 15 born alive piglets representing the overall mean litter size. Average individual birth weight was increased in sows fed MOS (1422 *vs* 1361 g, P = 0.042). As a consequence, the distribution of individual birth weights was also different (Chi^2 = 0.026). The percentage of light piglets (≤ 1000 g) was lower (11.6 *vs* 15.6%, P = 0.008) while the percentage of heavy ones (> 1600 g) was higher (27.3 *vs* 23.0%, P = 0,032) in sows fed MOS, but the coefficient of variation was not statistically different. It is concluded that adding MOS to gestation diet is associated to an increase in piglets' birth weight.