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INTRODUCTION

Liquid feeding is an alternative to dry feed extensively used in Europe but not that much in Spain. Can also provide a better digestibility and cheapening feeding costs specially by using by-products in the diet.

OBJECTIVES

1. To compare production yields of piglets during lactation period with two different sow feed presentation, dry feed and liquid feed.
2. To compare sow wear during lactation period with two different feed presentation, dry feed and liquid feed.
3. Economic analysis of the results.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Table 1: Productive results of comparing dry feed and liquid feed during lactation.

	Dry feed	Liquid feed	Prob.	% improved AL
nº sow	14	14		
Δ litter weight (kg)	46.04±4.29	48.88±4.29	0.64	6.17
Diff. BW	-21.26±5.45	-19.90±5.54	0.86	6.38
Diff. DFT	-1.71±1.06	-1.57±1.06	0.92	8.33
NE Balance (Mcal)	-87.41±25	-81.58±25	0.87	6.68
ME intake (Mcal/d)	16.33±0.53	15.00±0.53	0.09	-8.18
ME balance diff (Mcal)	-3.52	-5.46		
ME balance equ. (Mcal)	-4.57	-4.66		
Difference of global use of feed (%)	-12.30	5.10		

Table 2: Economic results of selling weaning pigs, comparing dry feed and liquid feed

	Dry feed	Liquid feed
kg piglet/year	161161	16830
Price weaning piglet (€/kg)	2.36	2.36
annual sale (€)	380340	398438

Using liquid feed :

- ✓ 6932 € (7 €/sow a year) → weaning piglets sale.
- ✓ 25030 € (25 €/sow a year) → waste difference.

CONCLUSIONS

1. No statistically significant results. But the differences between the mean values obtained have a remarkable practical and economic impact.
2. Liquid feed has improved 5% the weaning litter weight and has reduced 6-7% the mobilization of sow body reserves, due to a better use of feed and reducing its waste.
3. Results show with liquid feed you can earn from 7 to 25 €/sow a year more than dry feed.