

Presan®-FX supports zootechnical performance and carcass weight in grower-finisher pigs

Conclusion

- Presan®-FX numerically improves the feed conversion ratio, average daily feed intake and average daily gain in grower-finisher pigs in healthy conditions
- Presan-FX numerically increases carcass weight and carcass feed conversion ratio

Due to the pressure to get better economic results, the interest in effective feed additives to improve performance in grower-finisher pigs has increased. Recent results from Canada demonstrate that Presan®-FX is effective in improving grower-finisher pig performance, even in antibiotic growth promoter (AGP)-free conditions. In this study, the effect of Presan-FX in grower-finisher pigs under European circumstances (in an AGP-free environment) is evaluated.

Does the use of Presan-FX in grower-finisher pigs improve zootechnical performance and carcass parameters under healthy conditions?

The pigs receiving the diet that included Presan-FX showed a numerically lower FCR during the finisher phase (75–115 kg) and over the total duration of the study. During grower phase 2 (50–75 kg), a tendency of reduced FCR was observed for pigs fed a diet containing Presan-FX (-0.07 pts, $p = 0.08$) compared to the control group. The FCR during the entire trial period shows a numerical reduction of 0.05 for the Presan-FX group compared to control group (Figure 1). Average daily feed intake (ADFI) and average daily gain (ADG) were equal for both treatments over the entire trial period.

The use of Presan-FX had a numerically positive effect on carcass characteristics. The Presan-FX group showed a 2 kg higher carcass weight at the slaughterhouse compared to the control (Figure 2). Also, the dressing percentage, which is the warm carcass weight divided by total body weight, was numerically higher for pigs receiving Presan-FX

(data not shown). Furthermore, the loin depth and back-fat thickness numerically increased in the Presan-FX treatments (data not shown). All of these improvements resulted in a lower carcass FCR for the pigs fed Presan-FX (Figure 2).

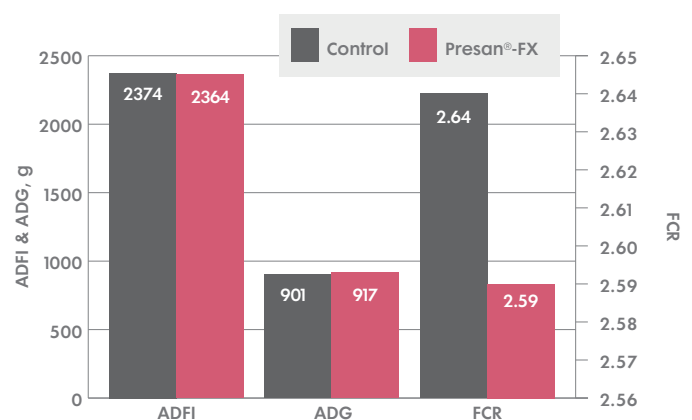


Figure 1. Zootechnical performance of grower-finisher pigs during the total trial period (25-115 kg)

Materials and methods

In this study, the effect of Presan®-FX on performance and carcass weights of grower-finisher pigs was assessed. A total of 144 crossbred Hypor x Maxter pigs were allocated to 24 pens with six pigs per pen and 72 animals per treatment. The study was performed in the Trouw Nutrition Swine Research Facility. The pigs were raised under healthy conditions, which was indicated by a low occurrence of poor faecal consistency. Simple diets were used that met all growing pig requirements. Only amino acid levels were 5% lower than recommended in order to reduce diet digestibility, thereby posing a challenge on gut health. The pigs were randomly assigned to two treatment groups (Table 1), and zootechnical performance was measured during the trial period. When the pigs reached an average body weight of 115 kg, they were sent to the slaughterhouse, where live weight, carcass weight, back fat and muscle thickness were measured.

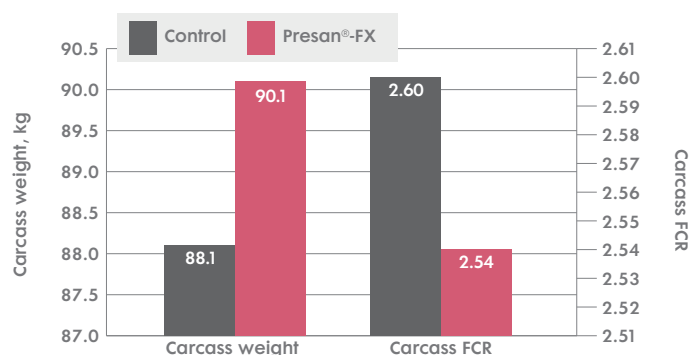


Figure 2. Effect of Presan®-FX on carcass characteristics of grower-finisher pigs, measured in the slaughterhouse

Treatment table

	Grower phase 1 (25-50 kg)	Grower phase 2 (50-75 kg)	Finisher phase (75-115 kg)
Control	–	–	–
Presan®-FX, kg/t	1.0	1.0	1.0

Discussion

In this study, the effect of the addition of Presan-FX in grower-finisher diets was evaluated. The performance of the pigs in this study was excellent, with a high average growth, a low FCR and normal faecal consistency. Although no significant difference in growth and FCR was observed, Presan-FX numerically improved zootechnical performance parameters. Due to the pre-existing high performance of the pigs, Presan-FX had less opportunity to further increase performance.

Trial Summary

Animal species: Swine, grower-finisher
Main subject: Zootechnical performance, carcass characteristics
Product: Presan-FX
Inclusion rate: 1 kg/t
Country & year: The Netherlands, 2016
Type of trial: R&D trial, *in vivo*

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