

Nutritional cares of poultry, swine and cattle

Calgophos® : the complete formulation for better performances

Calgophos® provides a specific association of major and trace elements, such as phosphorus, calcium, magnesium, sodium, manganese, zinc, copper and cobalt. Its complete formulation associated with its optimal proportion and with its acid phosphate form gives animals all the best of the oral bioavailability of each ingredient. In this way, Calgophos® is a very effective and practical product for many animal species.

To begin with, we have to keep in mind that just a little part of the total phosphorus contained in grains can be assimilated by monogastric animals (down to 20% in some cases). This lack actually affects all the minerals because of the absorption links. This threat is very important in backyard poultry, but not only.

The nutrition influence

In order to avoid environmental concerns and to prevent excess excretion of phosphorus in the manure, nutritionists are pressured to formulate diets with phosphorus levels close to the minimum amounts required by animals. The objective is to decrease the input of mineral premixes in animal nutrition by using more minerals from the feed itself (with phytase). The consequence is that the feed may not be able to meet high demands. What are these cases of high demands? They actually concern many animal species.

Calgophos® for poultry

Focus on laying and breeding hens :

Calgophos® is indicated as far as the elements balance is suffering:

- At the beginning of lay, animals are still increasing their feed intakes and, until they reach the targeted level of consumption, a Calgophos® treatment (1 to 2 days a week) is indicated.
- At the peak of lay, the objective is now to have the flattest laying curve possible. 1 week Calgophos® treatment is necessary.
- After the peak of lay, the quality of shells may be degraded. On the top of that, the animals mineral status is reduced with the onset of bone demineralization phenomena. 3 days Calgophos® treatment every 2 weeks is indicated.

- For the recovery of any decrease in the laying curve which is finally, for a part at least, linked to a decrease of the feed consumption, Calgophos® is also indicated.

Focus on growing poultry :

Calgophos® is, also, very useful (broilers, pullets, turkeys, ducks, goose) in high growth stages when feed doesn't finally supply enough major and trace elements to meet the needs. Another use in poultry is due to heat strokes.

Focus on heat strokes :

In warm summer conditions, animals, firstly, suffer from polypnea which makes an alkalization of the blood and, then, a serious decrease of the calcium absorption. On top of that, there is a decrease of the feed consumption. Calgophos®, we already wrote it, is an interesting product providing major and trace elements. Its acid phosphate form also allows to regulate the blood pH and to recover its physiological area.

Calgophos® for swine

Focus on sows :

Calgophos® is very useful in early lactation of the sow. The major objective of nutrition in lactation is to meet the requirements for milk production of the sow, which increases from about 3-4 liters/day just after farrowing to 10-12 liters/day in peak lactation. To match this increasing nutritional need, feed intake is increased gradually during the first 4-5 days of lactation until the sow is consuming 4-5 kg/day when she is fed to appetite. On the other hand, it is important not to over-feed in early lactation, as this may limit the animal's voluntary feed intake in later lactation when the needs are greatest ; it may also predispose the sow to MMA. The use of Calgophos® during 3 days after farrowing in the drinking water or in the liquid feed is an interesting mean to provide the sow needs, to manage the early lactation and to prepare the next lactation steps. The Calgophos® treatment can be longer and repeated according to the sow parity and the litter size.

Focus on boars :

To our knowledge, no reports have been published on the efficacy of phytase in diets for boars. Anyway, the boar needs are specific and mainly concern foot problems and testicular function. Calgophos® with its specific formulation and specially its zinc bring is very useful as a prevention product. The Calgophos® treatment is indicated during 3 days every 2 weeks.

Calgophos® for dairy cattle

Focus on dairy cows :

The interest of Calgophos® concerns the early lactation and in case of reproduction troubles of the herd. In the early lactation, as for sows, feed intakes

have to be increased in order to meet the later lactation steps demands. After calving, a 1 day treatment in the drinking water or by drench is interesting regarding the large formulation of Calgophos®. This use also prevents hypocalcemia trouble. On top of that, Calgophos® is useful in the case of reproduction trouble with a 5 days treatment in the drinking water. The Calgophos® large association of major and trace elements allows to solve main reproduction troubles due to deficiencies.

The elements balance between requirements and supplies is a dynamic phenomenon. Low feed consumptions and stress events, for instance, lead to deficiencies which aren't easy to precisely identify. By its large association, Calgophos® is the product of choice for the prevention and the treatment of these impaired balances. In this way, Calgophos® makes better performances.

References :

- Nys Y., Oligo-éléments, croissance et santé du poulet de chair, INRA Prod.Anim, 14, p.171-180, 2001,
- Close W.H., The role of feeding and management in enhancing sow reproductive potential, London Swine Conference – Maintening your competitive edge, 9-10 april 2003,
- Wilson M.E., Rozeboom K.J., Crenshaw T.D., Boar nutrition for optimum sperm production, Advances in Pork Production, volume 15, p.295, 2004,
- Boland M.P., Trace minerals in production and reproduction in dairy cows, Advances in Dairy Technology, volume 15, p.319, 2003.