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Carnitol-L®

Carnitol-L® *reduces the number of stillborn piglets when administered before farrowing.*

Trial description

1 Set-up

- Various metabolic processes take place in the liver. Consequently, a good liver function is crucial for optimal production.
- Carnitol-L® is a liquid formulation combining L-carnitine, choline, plant extracts and sorbitol. It stimulates the liver function, improves the metabolic status and optimizes energy production.
- 40 ml Carnitol-L®, corresponding to 1.2 g L-carnitine, was daily supplemented in the feed troughs of sows for the last 5 days prior to farrowing.
- The impact of product administration on the average number of live and stillborn piglets was investigated in 2 highly productive Danish sow herds.

		Herd 1	Herd 2
Latest year productivity	Number of sows	880	1100
	Weaned piglets/sow/year	33.1	39.2
	Live born/litter	17.9	18.8
	Stillborn/litter	2.2	2.1
	Number of litters/sow/year	2.23	2.38
Carnitol-L® supplementation		in 1 kg pre-farrowing feed	by drench

2 Measured parameters

- The average number of live and stillborn piglets in farrowings before (= control) and after the supplementation of Carnitol-L® - was registered and compared per litter

	Herd 1		Herd 2	
	Control	Carnitol-L®	Control	Carnitol-L®
Number of farrowings	595	206	267	211

  - was determined on a yearly basis, taking into account the number of litters/sow/year
- The return on investment was calculated based on the reported production parameters and the treatment cost.

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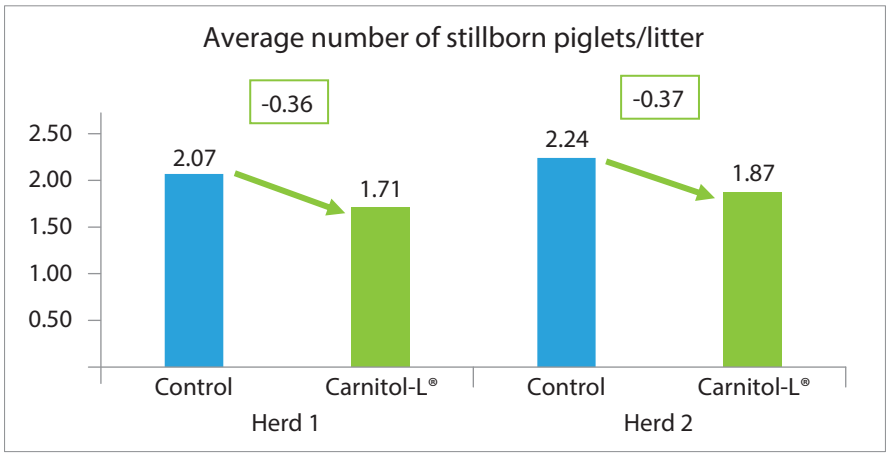
Results

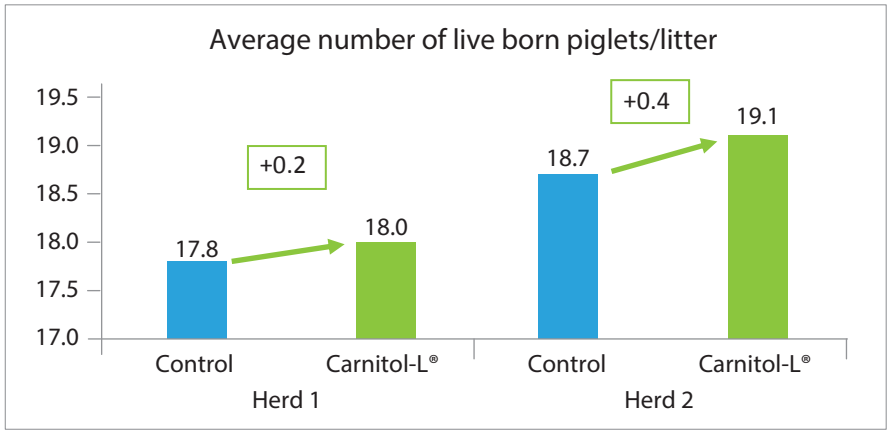
Carnitol-L® supplementation the last 5 days before farrowing resulted in a:

- Significant decrease of the average number of stillborn piglets/litter



	Decrease of the average number of stillborn piglets/litter		
	per sow/litter	per sow/year	
	based on trial results	based on number of litters/year	
Herd 1	- 0.36 (p value 0.03)	- 0.80	(0.36 x 2.23)
Herd 2	- 0.37 (p value 0.07)	- 0.88	(0.37 x 2.38)

- Increase of the average number of live born piglets/litter.



	Increase of the average number of live born piglets/litter		
	per sow/litter	per sow/year	
	based on trial results	based on number of litters/year	
Herd 1	+ 0.2 *	+ 0.45	(0.2 x 2.23)
Herd 2	+ 0.4 *	+ 0.95	(0.4 x 2.38)

**not significant*

- The return on investment was 1:2.4 and 1:4.8 when comparing the control farrowings with the Carnitol-L® supplemented farrowings in herd 1 and 2 respectively.

Conclusion

Supplementation of Carnitol-L® the last 5 days prior to farrowing results in an significant decrease of the number of stillborn piglets and an increase of the number of live born piglets.

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