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Carnitol-L®

Carnitol-L® *supplementation during gestation increases weight of neonatal piglets*

Trial description

1 Set-up

- The liver is responsible for various metabolic processes. 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 and optimizes energy production.
- Carnitol-L® was supplemented to a standard sow liquid feed during gestation to study its impact on technical performance of the piglets. The trial was performed in a highly productive sow herd.

Latest year productivity	
Number of sows	1180
Number of farrowings	53 per week
Weaned piglets/sow/year	37.6
Live born/litter	18.7
Stillborn/litter	2.2
Number of litters/sow/year	2.35

- The product was supplemented as 2,5 L Carnitol-L® daily in the liquid feed corresponding to:
  - 4 ml per sow per day 28 days prior to farrowing (4 kg feed)
  - 2 ml per sow per day 115-80 days prior to farrowing (2 kg feed)
- The dose of Carnitol-L® was 1 ml per kg dry feed (30 mg L-carnitine) per day.
- A batch was weighed prior to the supplementation (Control = 41 sows) and later batches were weighed at 4 weeks interval. The last weighed batch of sows farrowing (47 sows) had received Carnitol-L® supplement throughout the gestation.

2 Measured parameters

Technical performance of the piglets in the farrowing units was investigated. Piglets originating from sows farrowing during the respective week were individually weighed at birth.

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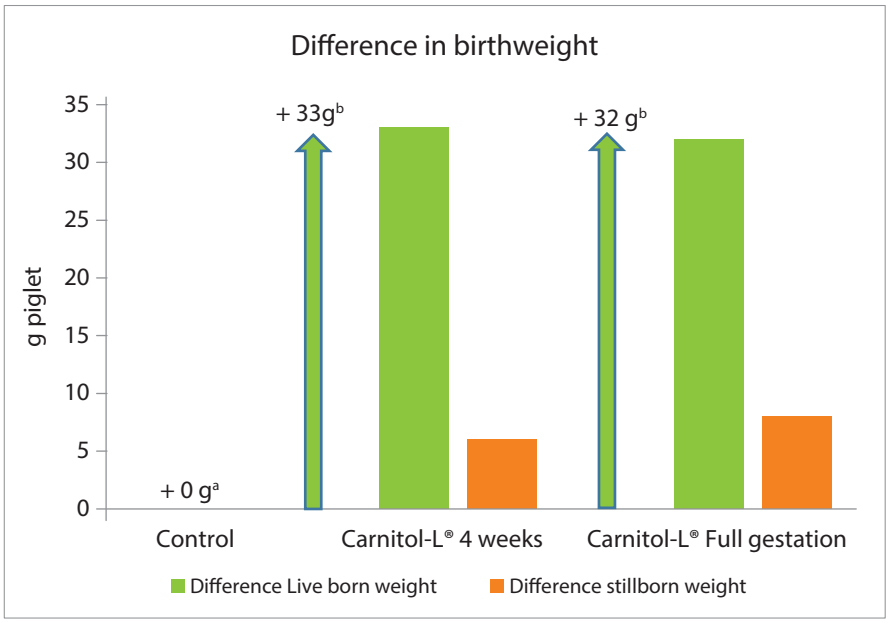
Results

Piglet weight at birth

		Live born piglets			Stillborn piglets		
	# sows	# piglets	Avg. weight (g)	P-value	# piglets	Avg. weight (g)	P-value
Control	41	761	1259 ± 329		118	960 ± 374	
Carnitol-L® 4 weeks	40	734	1292 ± 318	0,05	102	966 ± 364	0,91
Carnitol-L® Full gestation	47	878	1291 ± 333	0,04	120	968 ± 358	0,86



The effect on weight gain is evenly distributed and not due to just a few larger pigs. All piglets in the litter are becoming heavier.
The effect on piglet weight did not differ for supplementation during only the last 4 weeks of gestation compared to supplementation during the full gestation.

Conclusion

Carnitol-L® supplementation during gestation increases the bodyweight of piglets at birth significantly.

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