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**EFFICIENCY OF PREBIOLACT APPLICATION WHEN FEEDING
EARLY WEANED PIGS**

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Recently, natural biologically active substances that normalize digestive processes in the body, effectively adjusting qualitative and quantitative composition of microflora of the digestive system of animals have been widely introduced as a safe alternative to antibiotics.

These substances include prebiotics. Prebiotics are indigestible carbohydrate components of food that selectively stimulate and increase the activity of beneficial microflora, inhibiting the development of pathogenic and conditionally pathogenic microflora, thus improving the state of the digestive system.

The aim of our study was to investigate the efficiency of application of the new feed additive Prebiolact having prebiotic effect for feeding pigs.

Four groups-analogues were selected for the experiment each having 15 animals. 30-day piglets were weaned having body weight of 7.2-7.4 kg. After 15-day comparative period piglets of the second group were fed Prebiolact for 92 days of the basic period in the amount of 2.0 g per head daily, piglets of the third group – 2.5 g and the fourth one - 3.0 g per head daily. The first group was a control one and it was not fed this preparation. Post-effect of feeding this preparation was studied in the final period before live weight of animals was 110-120 kg.

It has been established that feeding of this preparation in the basic period at the dose of 2.0 g per head daily contributed to probable increase of average daily gains by 6.4%, resulting in the increase of the live weight of animals at the end of the period by 4.1%, respectively. At the same time feed consumption decreased by 6.0%.

When the dose of the preparation was 2.5 g per head per daily, average daily gain increased by 14.9%. This makes it possible to reduce consumption of feed units by 12.9%, digestible protein - by 13.0%, dry matter – by 12.9%, lysine – by 13.2%, methionine + cystine - by 12.8%.

Increase of the amount of this preparation up to 3.0 g per head daily improves animal performance by 14.0% and absolute gain by 10.8%.

In the final period a tendency towards the growth of animal performance was the same and it was at the level of the basic period. Thus, average daily gain in the second, third and fourth research groups exceeded the rate of the control group by 3.9%, 10.2% and 8.4% making it possible to increase live weight at the end of the period by 4.6, 10.6 and 9.4%. There also was a reduction in consumption of estible protein, dry matter, essential amino acids on average by 8,5-9,0% by the experimental animals.

It has been established that the optimal dose for feeding Prebiolact over the whole period of the research is 2.5 g, which increases average daily gain by 12.2%.