

TECHNICAL SERVICE BULLETIN



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BIOGRO® IN LOWER-ENERGY BROILER RATIONS

In Technical Service Bulletin 247E, the benefits of Unidentified Growth Factors (UGF's) were reported in results from a broiler field trial. It was observed that performance improved over a corn-soy control diet when a single high-quality UGF (72% Norwegian fishmeal) was added to the diet. Results were further improved with the addition of BIOGRO®, a proprietary UGF manufactured exclusively by Dawe's Laboratories USA.

It was noted in Bulletin 247-E that the trial rations were higher in energy than is always the case. Lower energy diets are often selected when costs of feed grade fat, corn, etc. are relatively expensive.

To determine the value of BIOGRO® in lower-energy broiler diets, Dawe's Laboratories USA conducted another field trial at the same commercial broiler operation in the Southeastern U.S. Again, a Hubbard x Hubbard cross was used, with 2325 birds per pen. Now, however, the corn-soybean meal diets fed were:

RATION	CALORIES/LB METABOLIZABLE ENERGY	FEEDING SCHEDULE
Starter	1370	0-20 days
Grower	1400	21-28 days
Finisher	1430	49-55 days

As in the earlier trial, BIOGRO® was added to the diet at the rate of 0.25%.

RESULTS

	CONTROL DIET	BIOGRO DIET
Average Weight (lbs)	4.08	4.28
Feed Efficiency	2.15	2.09
Mortality (%)	2.67	2.15
Feed Cost (liveweight in cents/lb)	17.17	16.73

DISCUSSION

As in the earlier trial using high-energy diets, BIOGRO improved feed efficiency and feed cost/lb of liveweight. But improvements were even more pronounced in average weight and mortality.

In the trial using lower-energy rations, average weight was improved 4.90%, compared with an improvement of 2.11% when using high-quality fishmeal only in high-energy feeds.

While benefits seem more pronounced with lower-energy feeding programs, results indicate significant economic advantages for producers who feed BIOGRO in all broiler diets.