

# TECHNICAL SERVICE



# BULLETIN



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No. 232E

## THE BENEFITS OF PROTEK-ALL PLUS FOR HEALTHY WEANLING PIGS

**PROTEK-ALL PLUS®** is a concentrated water-dispersible compound of vitamins and electrolytes. Hog producers use **PROTEK-ALL PLUS®** to alleviate stresses caused by castration, scours, disease, temperature extremes, and substandard feed quality.

Recently a commercial producer of feeder pigs tested **PROTEK-ALL PLUS®** in the drinking water of perfectly healthy weanling pigs. At this Midwestern total-confinement facility, 406 pigs were weaned at 21 days of age and placed in well-ventilated nursery rooms where temperatures ranged from the mid 70's to the low 90's.

In each room, the pigs were sorted into even pen-weights, with one-half on plain drinking water and one-half on water supplemented at the rate of a single 6-ounce packet of **PROTEK-ALL PLUS®** per 128 gallons of water. All animals were fed the same diet and remained in the nursery rooms for 19 days. Throughout the period the treatment group's drinking water was supplemented by **PROTEK-ALL PLUS®**.

The manager of the facility kept detailed records of pig weights, feed consumption, environmental conditions, and his own personal observations of pig health and activity. The following summarizes the test results:

	<b>Control</b>	<b>PROTEK-ALL PLUS®</b>
Number of pigs	203	203
Initial wt/pig, lbs	12.96	12.87
Final wt/pig, lbs	21.21	21.69
Gain/pig, lbs	8.25	8.82
Group gain, lbs	1675	1790
Group feed consumption, lbs	2244	2217
Feed/gain	1.34	1.24
Mortality	0	0

The manager of the facility noted that pigs from both groups were in good health throughout the test. Still he reported that the animals on **PROTEK-ALL PLUS®** consistently appeared more active, with “healthier looking coats.”

### Conclusions:

Pigs receiving **PROTEK-ALL PLUS®** in their drinking water for 19 days after weaning outgained control pigs by 6.9% and showed a 8.0% improved feed conversion. These superior production results translate into the following economics:

1. The group of pigs on **PROTEK-ALL PLUS®** gained 115 lbs more than the control group. Assuming a conservative liveweight value of \$1.00 per lb, the added value for the treatment pigs was  $\$1.00 \times 115 \text{ lbs} =$  \$115.00
  
2. **PROTEK-ALL PLUS®** pigs consumed 27 lbs less feed. The nursery ration cost was \$0.20 per lb. Therefore, there was a feed savings of  $\$0.20 \times 27 \text{ lbs} =$  5.40  
**GROSS BENEFIT:** \$120.40
  
3. The cost of the test was 1 packet of **PROTEK-ALL PLUS®** per day for 19 days. The retail price of **PROTEK-ALL PLUS®** is \$1.87.  
 $\$1.87 \times 19 \text{ days} =$  -35.53  
**NET BENEFIT:** \$84.87

For every \$1.00 spent on **PROTEK-ALL PLUS®** there was a gross return of \$3.39.

The net value of the average feeder pig was increased by \$0.41.

Farrowing has become in increasingly competitive industry, with managers striving to control costs to the last penny. In light of this test, can the progressive producer afford not to give his pigs the proven benefits of **PROTEK-ALL PLUS®**?