

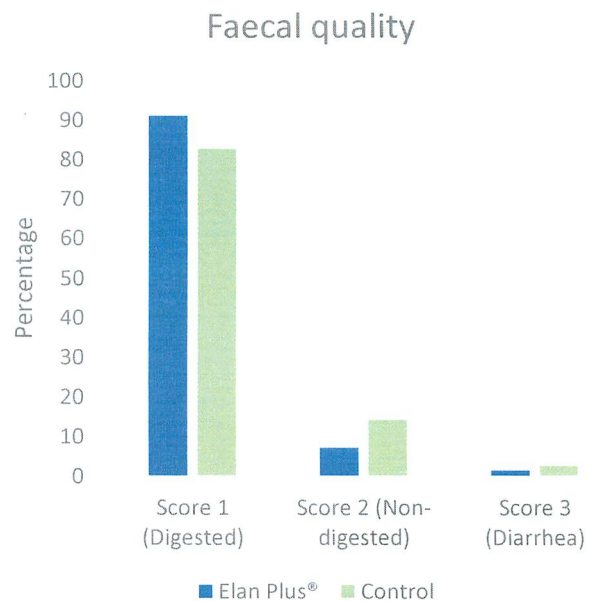
## Effect of Elan Plus® on veal calves

### Introduction

In scientific literature little is known about the effect of dietary essential oils and organic acids on antibiotic use in production of veal calves. In November 2013 a trial has been set up to establish the effect of Elan Plus® on technical performance and use of antibiotics in veal calves production.

### Material and methods

- 126 randomly selected German Holsteincalves
- Divided into two groups and set up in two identical sections with 9 pens
- Elan Plus®-group : 0.5 cc Elan Plus® per calf has been added to the milk-feeding (twice daily) for 187 days
- Control-group: regular milk-feeding, without 0.5 cc Elan Plus®
- The following health indicators were measured:
  - Faecal quality
  - Antibiotic use
  - Individual carcass weight
- Both groups were weighed at set up and weekly afterwards
- Milk- and feed intake per pen



### Results

The technical results (table 1) show that Elan Plus®-fed calves had a significant (\*=P<0.05) higher daily gain and an improved feed conversion rate compared to the control group. Elan Plus®-fed calves require less individual antibiotic treatments.

Table 1. Technical results

			Elan Plus®	Control
Growth/day		gr	1035*	951
Feed Conversion Rate			2.58*	2.76
Individual antibiotic treatments	% of the calves		5	25

### Conclusion

A dosage of 0.5 cc Elan Plus®/calf/day results in a significant daily gain increase of 84 grams, a significant improved feed conversion rate, faecal quality with less individual antibiotic treatments for digestive disorders such as diarrhea, ruminal tympany and colic, compared to the control group.