



The effect of Vivalta® MRS on veal calves in multiple trials

Introduction

Calves come from various farms and are gathered and mixed during set-up at the veal farm. This results in a high pathogen load and an increased rate of disease. Intestinal health depressions occur because of the increased rate of disease and the stress of transportation from the dairy farm. The immune system of the calves is still maturing and the calves are very susceptible to various diseases. Sick calves cause decreased production and higher medicine use. In 2017 and 2018 multiple trials were conducted to study the effect of Vivalta® MRS in the first period after set up.

Material and methods

- 175 veal calves on two farms; divided into two groups
- 87 calves in the control-group: no Vivalta® MRS added to the milk feeding
- 88 calves in the Vivalta®-group: Vivalta® MRS added to the milk feeding; dosage of 4 grams/calf/feeding
- Living weight determination at start up and at the end of the trial

Results

The average technical results are shown in table 1. The start weight of the control-group was 2,45 kg higher than the Vivalta®-group. The final weight of the control-group was 1,04 kg lower than the final weight of the Vivalta®-group. This results in 890 grams growth/day of the Vivalta®-group and 791 grams growth/day of the control group, see figure 1.

Conclusion

The dosage of 4 grams Vivalta® MRS added to the milk feeding per calf results in an increased growth per day. The Vivalta®-group had an increased growth of 12,5% per day.

Table 1. Average technical results

	Control	Vivalta® MRS
Start weight (kg)	63,12	60,67
Finish weight (kg)	92,01	93,05
Growth/day (grams)	791	890

Figure 1. Growth/day

