# B-Act® *improves the technical performance of pigs after weaning*

## Trial description

### *1 Experimental design*

- **Location:** University Experimental Farm, Thracian University, Bulgaria
- **Animals:**
  - 80 Danube white breed pigs
  - Body weight at start: 7.59 to 11 kg
  - Equal number of male and female animals (1 month of age)
- **Set-up:** animals were divided at random over 4 treatments (5 replicates per treatment, 4 animals (2 males, 2 females) per replicate), to evaluate the impact on technical performance of different levels of probiotic B-Act® inclusion in their diets.
- **Trial duration:** 60 days, after an initial 5 day acclimatisation period

### *2 Treatments*

- 4 groups:
  - Control group fed a basal diet, free of prophylactic or therapeutic chemicals
  - B-Act® group 1 fed the same control feed + B-Act® (300 g/mton of feed or $9.6 \times 10^{11}$ CFU/mton of feed)
  - B-Act® group 2 fed the same control feed + B-Act® (500 g/mton of feed or $1.6 \times 10^{12}$ CFU/mton of feed)
  - B-Act® group 3 fed the same control feed + B-Act® (700 g/mton of feed or $2.24 \times 10^{12}$ CFU/mton of feed)

B-Act® is a probiotic feed additive containing viable spores of *Bacillus licheniformis* (DSM 28710)

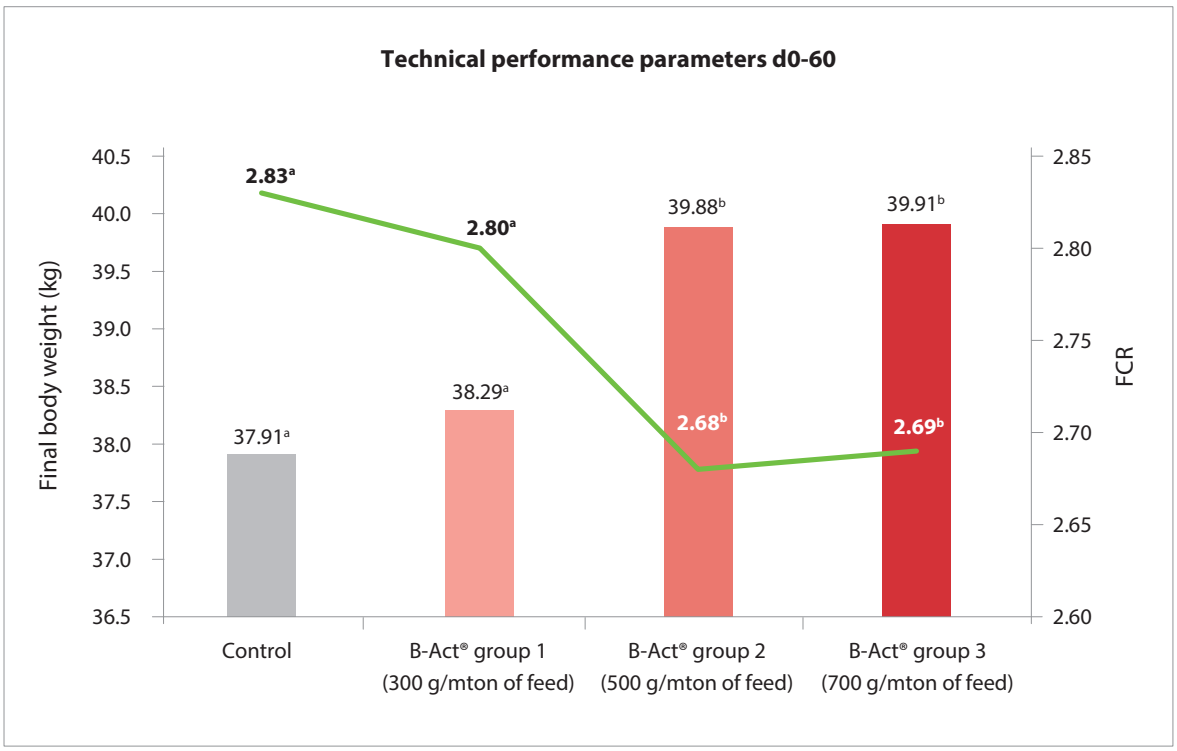
### *3 Measured parameters*

General condition, health status, morbidity and mortality were evaluated daily, whilst body weight and feed intake were measured on day 0, 15, 30, 45 and 60 (end of the study). From this feed conversion ratios (FCR) were calculated.

## Results

Compared to the control, both B-Act® inclusion of 500 and 700 g/mton of feed resulted in significantly ($P<0.05$) improved final body weights and feed conversion ratios (FCR, see Graph 1). There was no significant difference between these two inclusion rates, meaning that including B-Act® in a dosage of 500 g/mton of feed will result in the most economic application.

No mortalities or irregularities in general and/or health condition were registered throughout the whole trial period.




*Graph 1: body weights and FCR of the four different treatment groups*