

# R&D Snapshot

## Nutritional strategies to minimise the influence of bedding material consumption on growth efficiency

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### Purpose:

- To provide producers and nutritionists with solutions for the optimal nutrition of growing pigs housed in deep litter systems.

### Take home messages:

- For pigs housed on cereal straw:
  - Approximately 7% of their intake consists of bedding material
  - Intake level doesn't change with time (regardless of fouling) or weight of pigs
  - There's no significant change in their intake of formulated feeds.
- Consumption of as little as 5% bedding material depresses ileal and faecal digestibility of energy, protein, amino acids and minerals and reduces the digestible lysine to digestible energy content of a grower diet by as much as 10 to 15%
- Nutrient digestibility adjustments need to be bedding material specific
- A remedial nutrition strategy is worthwhile for pigs housed on deep litter systems, whereby diets are formulated with a 5% up-specification of energy, amino acids and minerals, or through the incorporation of appropriate enzymes.

### Additional information:

- Click [here](#) to view the full report
- Contact Heather Channon at [heather.channon@australianpork.com.au](mailto:heather.channon@australianpork.com.au) or 03 9645 9189
- Discuss options with your nutritionist.

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