

R&D Snapshot

Increasing feed conversion efficiency by reducing the bridging effect in feed silos (APL Group Demonstration Award)

Investigator: Jayce Morgan, NSW Department of Primary Industries

Purpose:

- APL provides assistance to producers and industry service provider through Group Demonstration Awards to trial technologies and share results with the wider industry
- This project investigated the commercially available Sure-Flo® silo insert designed to improve flow of feed and reduce bridging
- Bridging and flow problems arise from reducing grain particle size in an effort to improve feed utilisation by the pig.

Take home messages:

- Whilst the Sure-Flo® inserts clearly changed flow patterns within the silo there were still flow issues and many of the expected benefits were not realised, ie. ability to further reduce particle size, reduced OHS risk from not having to climb silos etc
- Diet formulations used during the trial did not cause the flow problems that had been experienced on this unit previously, which suggests that diet composition is also a factor in flow problems
- Future investigation is required to determine if changes in feed flow would provide benefits with a wider range of diet formulations.

Additional information:

- Click [here](#) to view the full report
- Contact Emalyn Loudon at emalyn.loudon@australianpork.com.au or 02 6270 8823.

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