

The effects of Progres® in broiler diets

Resin acids are compounds derived from spruce and pine trees. These components are antimicrobial and anti-inflammatory and these form the basis of Progres®. Progres® has interactions with microbiota, immune system and the GIT, with as result a reduction in harmful (gram-positive) bacteria, better cytokine balance and overall better performance.



In two recent trials, the effects of feeding Progres® to broiler breeders were investigated.

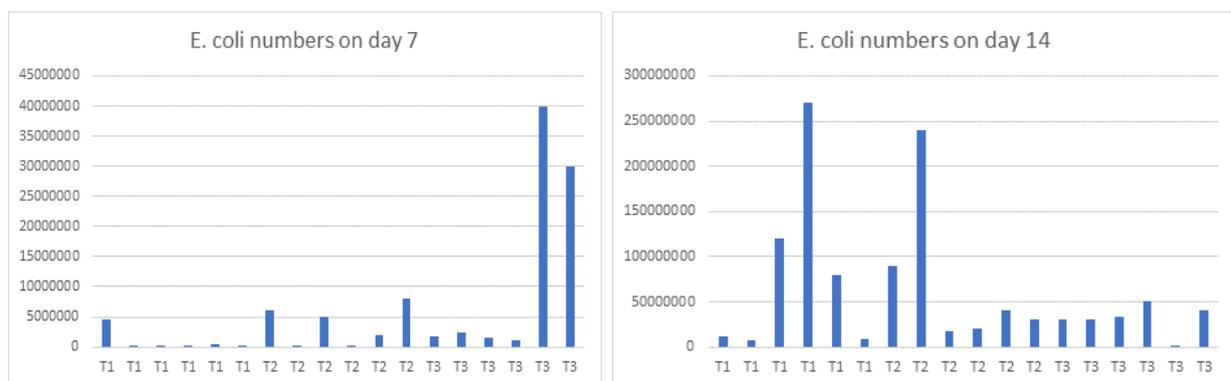
Progres® reduces the risk for E-coli infections

In a trial with 900 female day-old chicks (300 chicks per group) from a male breeder line, the effect of Progres® on the development of E-coli was investigated from day 0 to 14. Birds received either no Progres®, 750 g/ton Progres® in feed or 750 g/ton Progres® + a probiotic sprayed at hatchery.

The results clearly showed that on both day 7 and day 14 the levels of E-coli were low in the group that got fed 750 g/ton Progres® (=T2). On day 7 the same low results were observed in the control group. At day 14 these results were observed in the Progres® + probiotic group as well.

In conclusion it showed that a dosage of 750 g/ton Progres® results in a lower E-coli risk and that addition of a probiotic at hatchery is not necessary.

750 g/ton Progres® resulted in a lower E-coli risk in both measurements



Count T1 = T2 < T3

Count T1 > T2 = T3

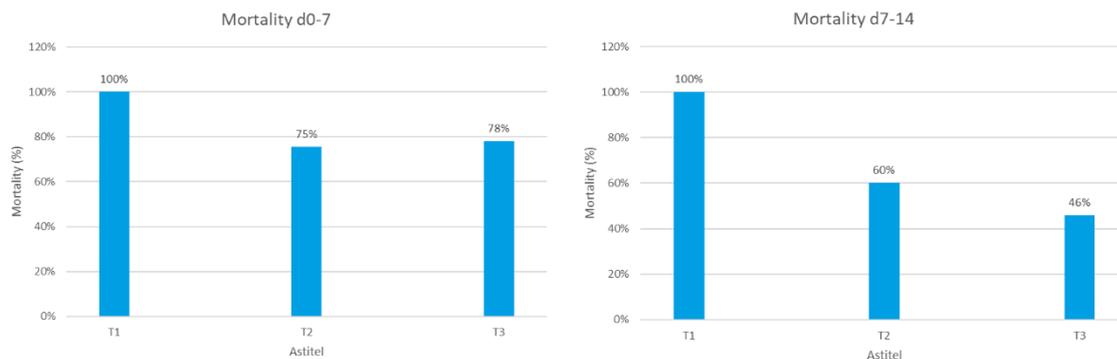
Progres® reduces mortality when challenged

The setup of the second trial was equal to the first one, with the exception that the chicks were exposed to cold stress. This was induced by keeping the environment at a temperature of 25°C instead of the advised 25-32°C during the first 14 days of age.

The main effect was found on mortality. Compared to the control group, groups of animals fed a diet containing 750 g/ton Progres® had 25% lower mortality on day 0-7. From day 7-14 the difference was even larger, with 40% lower mortality. The addition of a probiotic at the hatchery did not give a clear further decrease in mortality.

As there is usually a large variation for parameters like mortality, these results are not statistically significant. Still a reduction of more than 25% in mortality is a very relevant result, as mortality is one of the main concerns when rearing broilers.

750 g/ton Progres® resulted in a reduction of more than 25% in mortality



Performance parameters like feed intake and uniformity did not show any significant results (lowest p-value = 0.139). It is expected that for differences in performance to occur, the challenge must be more severe.

Progres® in broiler diet stimulates health and reduces mortality, which can best be seen under challenging conditions