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## Long Term Use of Soon Soon High Efficiency Dehulled Full Fat Soybean Meal Improves Sow Productivity



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#### Introduction

Performance of sows fed lactating diets supplemented with Soon Soon High Efficiency Dehulled Full Fat Soybean Meal (HEDFFSBM) together with Soon Soon High Efficiency Dehulled Soybean Meal (HEDSBM) showed clear improvements (Soon Soon Technical Bulletin, Issue No. 08-05/2007). Improvements include:

- 1. shorter non-productive sow days
- 2. less repeat service
- 3. higher weaning weights
- 4. more pigs weaned per litter
- 5. more pigs weaned per female per year
- 6. more litters per female per year

During a six (6) months observation, sows were able to maintain better milk ability without relying on body reserves to maintain their conditions post weaning. Thus, sow body conditions were maintained despite more piglets weaned and weaned at earlier age. Better milk ability resulted in higher weaning weight which is very important for the survival and growth performance of piglets after weaning.

What is the long term impact of using HEDFFSBM in breeder diets?

#### Method

To gain the insight into the long term impact of using HEDFFSBM together with HEDSBM, reproductive performance data over a period of five (5) years were compiled and compared to performance prior to introduction of the product into the sow diets.

Reproductive performance data from a large (more than 2,500 sows) commercial farm from Segari, Lumut, in Perak, were used. The sows were typical Landrace and Large White or Landrace and Duroc crosses.

Like other Malaysian pig farms, dry and gestating sows were individually penned while lactating sows were placed in farrowing crates on concrete floor slated at the hind quarter. The barns were open-sided houses. Heating lamps were provided for the baby pigs in the farrowing crates to provide additional warmth.

The reproductive performance data were divided into 2 phases. First phase used all data prior to 2004 when the farm did not use HEDFFSBM while second phase used data from 2004 till May, 2009.

The farm started incorporating 10% HEDFFSBM in their sow diets in 2004 and continued with this feeding program till today.

All data pertaining to reproductive performance were recorded and analyzed using PigChamp.

#### **Results and Discussion**

Overall, there was improvement in reproductive performance after sows were fed diet containing 10% HEDFFSBM together with HEDSBM. Sows returned to oestrus faster post partum, from 5.5 days to 4.4 days for 90% of the sows; an improvement of 1.1 days.

Reproductive Performance	0% HEDFFSBM (before 2004)	10% HEDFFSBM (2004 - May 2009)	Improvement, value	Improvement, %
90% sows return to heat post partum, days	5.50	4.40	1.10	20.00
Sows longevity, parities	6.00	8.00	2.00	33.33
Litter size at birth	9.25	10.00	0.75	8.11
Weaning age, days	28.00	24.50	3.50	12.50

Probably because of better milk ability as a result of feeding HEDFFSBM, sows did not have to rely on body reserves to maintain their body conditions post weaning. Better body conditions enable the sows to remain productive over a longer period of time. Before switching over to HEDFFSBM, sows ceased to be productive economically and had to cull by the sixth parity. With diets containing 10% HEDFFSBM, sows productivity could continue economically up to the eighth parity.

Longer productive life of 2 parities means 2 litters of 10 piglets per sow's life-span. All these were achieved after the switch over to feeding breeding sows with diets fortified with 10% HRDFFSBM. Besides, better milk ability from feeding diets containing 10% HEDFFSBM allowed piglets to achieve weaning weight earlier by 3.5 days on the average.

#### **Conclusion**

This observation concluded that long term feeding of breeding sows with diets containing HEDFFSBM together with HEDSBM improved the overall productivity of the farms. Besides improving the productivity of the breeding stock through bigger litter size, both born alive and weaned and more pigs per sow per year, feeding breeding stock with diets fortified with HEDFFSBM also increased the longevity of the productive life-span of the breeding stock.