

IX INTERNATIONAL  
SYMPOSIUM ON MEDITERRANEAN PIG  
3,4 and 5 NOVEMBER 2016  
Portalegre-Portugal



BOOK OF ABSTRACTS





### EFFECT OF FEEDING MALTODEXTRINS AND DEXTROSE ON REARING AND SLAUGHTERING PERFORMANCE OF IMMUNOCASTRATED MALE PIGS.

Luisa Antonella Volpelli<sup>3</sup>; Giacinto Della Casa<sup>1</sup>; Giovanna Minelli<sup>3</sup>; Michele Comellini<sup>3</sup>; Paolo Macchioni<sup>2</sup>; Valerio Faeti<sup>1</sup>; Gianni Marchetto<sup>1</sup>; Domenico Pietro Lo Fiego<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Consiglio per la Ricerca in Agricoltura e l'Analisi dell'Economia Agraria (CREA), Unità di Ricerca per la Suinicoltura, S.Cesario s/P, Modena, Italy; <sup>2</sup>Dep. Scienze e Tecnologie Agro-Alimentari, University of Bologna, Italy; <sup>3</sup>Dep. Scienze della Vita, University of Modena and Reggio Emilia

**Abstract:** This study aimed to verify previous research findings showing that feeding maltodextrins (M) and dextrose (D) leads to a reduction of voluntary feed intake in the Italian heavy pig; this may be interesting for immunocastrated pigs fed *ad libitum*, whose feed intake skyrockets after the 2<sup>nd</sup> vaccination, causing too fatty carcasses at slaughtering. Thirty-six male pigs (Italian Duroc x Italian Large White crossbred) received a double immunocastrating injection at 90 and 162 days of age. At 120 days, weighing 51.84±4.38 kg, the subjects were evenly housed in 9 boxes, fed *ad libitum* till the 2<sup>nd</sup> injection and then given, until slaughtering (197 days of age; 144.51±9.70 kg), one of the experimental diets: control diet, *ad libitum* (CL); control diet, restricted at 7.5% l.w.<sup>0.75</sup> (CR); with MD (3.5 + 3.5%; adjusted for energy and protein by lowering corn meal while increasing barley, soybean meal, and wheat bran), *ad libitum* (MD). The CR diet was introduced as the alternative choice to avoid too fatty carcasses. Compared to the restricted ones, pigs fed *ad libitum* during the entire trial (with or without MD) showed higher ADG (1265 and 1260 vs 1085 g/d), ADFI (3780 and 3833 vs 2943 g/d), feed:gain ratio (3.00 and 3.05 vs 2.72) and heavier carcasses (125.13 and 124.40 vs 113.25 kg), with lower lean meat content (52.21 and 52.09 vs 55.83 %). The results point out how immunocastrated pigs fed *ad libitum* showed similar rearing and slaughtering performance regardless of the inclusion of maltodextrins and dextrose in the diet.

**Keywords:** Immunocastrated pigs, maltodextrins, dextrose, *ad libitum* feeding.

PO - 1389