

Effective young animal nutrition is the key to good results

Nourishing young animals adequately is essential in order to obtain good zootechnical and economical performances. The birth process followed by intensive handling induces stress to the young animal, no matter if it is a chick, a calf or a piglet. The right housing and providing or giving access to the necessary nutrients are crucial in order to cope with this.

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Although nature provides the young animals, via the yolk or colostrum, with the necessary nutrients to survive, feeding the young animals additionally with the proper nutrients is essential to stimulate intestinal development. The intestine is the first line of defence in disease prevention and responsible for nutrient efficiency.

Early life struggles of day-old chicks

As opposed to other species, birds have the advantage of having nutritional storage in their body, the remainder of the yolk sac. But also unlike other species in professional animal husbandry, the birds, no matter whether they are chickens or turkeys, usually have no access to feed immediately after



birth. Including hatching, grading, sorting, storage and transport it can take 24-72 hours until day-old chicks are placed at the farms. These circumstances make it obvious why early feeding in the poultry house is extremely relevant and important for their later development.

Besides these external stressors, the young birds have to face a harsh change in nutrition after hatch.

While the yolk basically consists of fats and proteins in poultry-specific molecules, the bird is later confronted with mostly plant-based fats, proteins and, of course, a lot of starch.

Right from the start

The objective is to build the link between the maternal/intrinsic nutrition of the young animal and the later feed supply.

We want the birds to eat as soon as possible to have a good and early gastrointestinal tract development.

This offers the potential for a very high and efficient performance during the production cycle.

To achieve their genetic performance potential it is crucial to create the basis to obtain adequate body development. This starts from the very beginning. ■