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| September 3, 2018  Press Contact Dr. Jürgen Krauter  Head of Communications  Nutrition & Care  Phone +49 6181 59 -6847  Fax +49 6181 59-76847  juergen.krauter@evonik.com |  |
| Specialist Press Contact  Michael Giffels  Communications  Animal Nutrition  Phone +49 6181 59-3763  [michael.giffels@evonik.com](mailto:michael.giffels@evonik.com) |  |

Evonik Nutrition & Care GmbH

Rellinghauser Straße 1-11

45128 Essen

Phone +49 201 177-01

Fax +49 201 177-3475  
Germany

[www.evonik.com](http://www.evonik.com)

**Supervisory Board**

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**Managing Directors**

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New SID database includes weaner pigs

Evonik has launched a new standardized ileal digestibility (SID) database for swine feeds which – for the first time – provides SID values of all amino acid for weaners, as well as for grower pigs. The new information means that feeds formulated specifically for weaners will no longer need to be based on digestibility data from growers – which should more closely meet requirement and result in enhanced performance, as well as reduced nitrogen excretion.

The Evonik Swine SID Compendium (2018) provides up-to-date SID coefficients for all essential and non-essential amino acids for 73 different ingredients used in grower feeds, and 43 ingredients used in feeds for weaner pigs. The data is based on numerous scientific studies and publications.

“Formulating feeds based on the standard ileal digestibility of amino acids is the most effective way to optimize nitrogen utilization, while at the same time minimizing its excretion into the environment,” explains Dr. Alfred Petri, Senior Vice President Sales Animal Nutrition.

“Until now, feeds for weaners have been based on the same SID values as those for growers, even though digestibility of amino acids can be lower in younger pigs.”

“This new data will mean that feeds can be formulated to meet the specific needs of weaners more closely and, therefore, reduce the risk of supplying too much, or too little, of specific amino acids for optimal health and growth.”

Nitrogen release by production animals is directly related to excess crude protein in the diet and the digestibility of amino acids. Concern over the environmental impact of nitrogen has led to increasing scrutiny by governmental agencies.

“A greater understanding of the digestibility of different amino acids at different ages could help us to minimize the amount of nitrogen being released into the environment,” says Petri.

“In addition, it has the potential to reduce the amount of crude protein in the diet, and thus reduce feed costs.”

The Evonik Compendium has SID coefficients for the amino acid content of 73 ingredients used in feeds for growing pigs, including 10 cereals, 14 cereal byproducts, six pulses, six brewing and distilling products, 18 oilseeds and meals, 13 animal and milk byproducts, and six other feedstuffs. For weaned pigs there is data on 43 ingredients, including nine cereals and cereal byproducts, two pulses, two brewing and distilling products, 13 oilseeds and meals, 13 animal and milk byproducts, and four other feedstuffs.

More information, and access to the new data please contact your Evonik representative.

**About Evonik**

Evonik is one of the world leaders in specialty chemicals. The focus on more specialty businesses, customer-orientated innovative prowess and a trustful and performance-oriented corporate culture form the heart of Evonik’s corporate strategy. They are the lever for profitable growth and a sustained increase in the value of the company. Evonik benefits specifically from its customer proximity and leading market positions. Evonik is active in over 100 countries around the world with more than 36,000 employees. In fiscal 2017, the enterprise generated sales of €14.4 billion and an operating profit (adjusted EBITDA) of €2.36 billion.

**About Nutrition & Care**

The Nutrition & Care segment is led by Evonik Nutrition & Care GmbH and contributes to fulfilling basic human needs. That includes applications for everyday consumer goods as well as animal nutrition and health care. This segment employed about 8,250 employees, and generated sales of around €4.5 billion in 2017.

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