



Microbial ecology and probiotics to support animal nutrition

dal -

Research Manager, Health by Nutrition

May 11, 2021



- Main concern : improve feed efficiency and decrease pathogens load
- Antibiotics (AGP) were largely used to improve animal performance even though the mode of action not fully understood





But a more responsible animal production



Transition to the Ab free, less medication

Produce a safe, qualitative, sustainable and afordable animal protein



Poultry and pigs = athletes! With boosted metabolism, High level of feed intake





Wet litter, undigested feed particules





Bacterial translocation and systemic lesions





Research & Innovation

Digestive Health : The « Critical Transition » concept



Van de Guchte et al. 2018

Microbiota is key to control inflammation, barrier integrity, RedOx balance



Intestinal microbial is also key when considering pathogens => ecological environmment



esearch [&] Innovation

- Integrate « pathogens » in their microbial environment
- Maintain an optimal microbiota to control pathogen development => prevention by increasing resilience





"microbiota ⇔ performance"



- Experiment repeated 3 times to confirm the results
- In each experiment, there were bacterial types whose abundance was correlated with performance
- These performance associated bacteria varied from one trial to the next

Research [&] Innovation



Metagenomics : what are the microbial functions modified in dysbiosis challenge?



One way to improve animal production = probiotics

Growth rate

Research [&] Innovation

- Feed efficiency and Nutrient Digestibility
- Carcass yield ; Egg production; milk production
- Animal product quality
- Gut health
- Control or prevention of enteric pathogens





A F

Ε

Т

V

Ε

F

F

С

A

С

γ

Main features of probiotics for animal production

- Non pathogenic
 - Non toxic
- Not carrying antibiotic resistance
- Should survive in digestive tract
 - Acid conditions in stomach
 - Digestive enzymes
 - Bile salts
- Should survive the feed processing
- Should have a beneficial effect on host microbiota or/and host intestinal functions

Feed processing is high constraint for the use of feed additives

- High heat
- High Pressure

Probiotic effect on the host can be direct or indirect (through microbiota)



Probiotics act on the host : effect on the intestinal barrier, on inflammation



Research [&] Innovation



- Model: Caco-2 cells established in monolayer in a transwell system
- TEER measurement over time
- Anti-inflammatory properties: IL8 production
- Similar can be done for antioxydant properties





The main types of probiotics in animal production

| Type Lactobacillus | Type Bifidobacterium | Other lactic acid bacteria | Other microorganisms |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|---|--|
| L. brevis ^a | B. animalis ^a | Enterococcus faecalis | Bacillus cereus |
| L. casei ^a | B. longum ^a | Enterococcus faecium | Bacillus licheniformis ^a |
| L. crispatus ^a | B. pseudolongum | Lactococcus lactis ^a | Bacillus subtilis ^a |
| L. farciminis ^a | B. thermophilum | Leuconostoc citreum ^a | Propionibact. Freudenreichi ^a |
| L. fermentum ^a | | Leuconostoc lactis ^a | Saccharomyces cerevisiae (boulardi) ^a |
| L. murinus | | Leuconostoc mesenteroides ^a | Saccharomyces pastorianus ^a |
| L. gallinarium ^a | | Pediococcus acidilactici ^a | Kluyveromyces fragilis |
| L. paracasei ^a | | Pediococcus pentosaceus ^a | Kluyveromyces marxianus ^a |
| L. pentosus ^a | | Streptococcus infantarius | Aspergillus orizae |
| L. plantarum ^a | | Streptococcus salivarius | Aspergillus niger |
| L. reuteri ^a | | Streptococcus thermophilus ^a | |
| L. rhamnosus ^a | | Sporolactobacillus inulinus | |
| L. salivarius ^a | | | |

Markowiak and Śliżewska Gut Pathog (2018) 10:21



The future of probiotics in animal nutrition

• New type of probiotics

Research [&] Innovation

- Ex of 2nd generation probiotics

Butyricicoccus pullicaecorum Reduces Feed Conversion and Protects from Potentially Harmful Intestinal Microorganisms and Necrotic Enteritis in Broilers

Front. Microbiol., 21 September 2016 | https://doi.org/10.3389/fmicb.2016.01416

- Precise Nutrition through Machine learning and artificial intelligence
- Improve characterization of the biological response to probiotics
- Develop predictive modelling of microbial and host responses to probiotics



Take home messages

- Animal nutrition today = feeding 'athletes' keeping them resilient
- Microbiota (its functions and its ecology) is key for improving gut health (inflammation, leaky gut, infections)
- Animal nutritionists have to take into account the microbiota, and not only the animal *per se*
- Probiotics in animal nutrition are part of the solutions to succeed demedication

• Future should focus on new type of probiotics and precise nutrition



Thank you !

