

Today's feed formulations are designed to achieve a specified nutritional value, using a selection of available raw materials to meet the desired least cost solution of the formulated ration. However, the importance of producing durable and dust-free pellets is often forgotten or not paid sufficient attention to.

When formulating according to the least-cost principle, feed manufacturers tend to forget the costs associated with producing good pellet physical quality. The use of Borregaard's pelleting aids can be a very cost-efficient solution to this dilemma.

Even the best nutritional feed recipe will be ineffective if the feed intake is reduced due to poor pellet physical quality. 'If there are more than 30% fines in a formulation, animal performance will be similar to non-pelleted feed.' **Amornthewaphat etc.(1999)**.

Hence, the aim should be to provide the specified nutrients to the animal in a compact pelleted form and not just an exercise in calculating a least cost feed formulation to a required specification.

Borregaard's pelleting aids offer several benefits that should interest the nutritionist. A good pellet physical quality has a positive impact on animal performance by improving:

THE WEIGHT GAIN OF THE ANIMALS

- Increased feed intake
- Less time and energy used/spent eating
- Increased bulk density more nutrients per bite

PellTech*
LignoBond* DD
Ameri-Bond* 2X

THE WEIGHT GAIN OF THE ANIMALS

- Better availability of nutrients more easily digestible for the animal
- Reduced the level of Anti-Nutritional Factors (e.g. Lectins, Trypsins, Glucosinolates) in the feed
- Less waste residues in feed troughs

THE UNIFORMITY OF THE PELLETS

- Prevents segregation of the formulated nutrients and provides the animals with the specified ration
- Reduced loss of heat-sensitive ingredients (e.g. enzymes, vitamins, probiotics, other micronutrients)
- Avoids selective eating by the animals

THE HEALTH STATUS

- Optimised physical pellet structure positively affects the health status of the animal (e.g. feed structure influences wet litter for poultry)
- Less dust Improves feed hygiene and inhibits microflora growth
- Reduced free moisture content in the feed reduces the risk of mould growth
- Our lignin-based pelleting aids have an antioxidant effect on high oil containing feeds
- Our lignin-based pelleting aids contain reducing sugars and have a calorific energy value which may be accounted for in the formulation of the ration



