



The Avimix® concept for poultry

By nutritionist Maria N. Johannsen, Vitfoss.

What is Avimix®?

Avimix® is Vitfoss' range of mineral feeds for poultry.

Based on information about available raw materials, animal species, etc., Vitfoss offer feed calculations and advice to farmers as well as feed supplier in order to tailor each Avimix® to contain just the needed nutrients to fulfil total requirements. In other words, using your own grains, protein source, etc., Vitfoss will provide the lacking nutrients that are needed to ensure maximum performance. In this way, Vitfoss prefer to customise the Avimix® to individual needs.

Avimix contain all required vitamins and trace minerals. Next, Avimix contain amino acids, calcium, and phosphorus. To further improve the value of your own Avimix®, it may include:

- Enzymes (e.g. phytase to improve digestibility of plant phosphorus)
- Yolk colour (natural or synthetic - to obtain requested colour)
- Coccidiostat (against coccidiosis)
- Antioxidant (to ensure feed quality and animal performance)
- Organic minerals (e.g. to improve performance, improve bone strength, etc.)
- Increased levels of selected vitamins (e.g. to boost the immune system)
- Other supplement products that apply to specific issues

Like other mineral feeds from Vitfoss, Avimix® can be requested in smaller bags of available size as well as big-bags of approx. 500 kg and 960 kg.

Please, check our poultry catalogue¹ for further guidance, or send an e-mail to the author: mnj@vitfoss.dk

Improve animal performance and housing environment with Micro-Aid®

Micro-Aid® is an additive that contains saponins extracted from the desert plant *Yucca schidigera*. The effect of Micro-Aid® is to inhibit urease, which is an enzyme catalysing the production of ammonia from urea in the gastro-intestinal tract of the animal. This means, that ammonia production in the gut is reduced.

Micro-Aid® is not absorbed by the bird. Hence, Micro-Aid® passes through the intestine and is excreted with faeces. Micro-Aid® will maintain the inhibition of ammonia production in the manure.

High concentrations of ammonia are toxic both to the bird as well as to the microorganisms in the gut. Therefore, reducing ammonia production is of interest in regard to improving animal performance.

¹ (<http://www.vitfoss.com/NR/rdonlyres/F618168C-4BF0-4842-BCE3-5CAB7DF69596/0/AVXGB081209lowres.pdf>)



Some of the results of using Micro-Aid® are:

- Improved nutrient utilization.

In broilers the response is increased body weight and lower feed conversion ratio. The table below shows results from a Danish broiler trial conducted in 2004 with Ross 308 birds.

Trial No.	Period	Age, days	Control		Micro-Aid® suppl.		Difference	
			Weight, g	FCR	Weight, g	FCR	Weight, g	FCR
1	Dec-Jan	33	1712	1.65	1793	1.59	81	-0.06
2	Jan-Feb	33	1724	1.59	1801	1.55	77	-0.04
3	Mar-Apr	30	1360	1.59	1387	1.55	27	-0.04
4	Mar-Apr	35	1864	1.64	1894	1.63	30	-0.01
6	May-Jun	36	2116	1.65	2166	1.61	50	-0.04
8	Jun-Jul	38	2160	1.64	2131	1.63	-29	-0.01
9	Jun-Jul	36	1984	1.66	2006	1.65	22	-0.01
11	Aug-Sep	28	1319	1.50	1347	1.43	28	-0.07
Average:							36	-0.035

Additionally to improved performance, incidence of ascites and overall mortality can be reduced.

- Improved air quality.

Inhibition of ammonia production in the manure means lower ammonia concentration in the poultry house. It is of benefit both to the animals and to the employees.

Micro-Aid® can with advantage be added directly to the Avimix®. We recommend a Micro-Aid® inclusion in the complete feed of 75 ppm to broilers and 125 ppm to layers and turkeys.

