

The Impact of Dietary Supplementation with **AO-Biotics® EQE** on the Development of Rearing Pullets Under Commercial Conditions from 9 to 15 Weeks of Age.

Validation Trial Greece

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- **AO-Biotics® EQE** improved the body weight of the pullets.
- **AO-Biotics® EQE** reduced the mortality of the flock.

SUMMARY

DOSE OF AO-BIOTICS® EQE USED
50 g/metric ton of feed

This field trial evaluated the effect of **AO-Biotics® EQE** on performance and mortality in rearing pullets from 9 to 15 weeks of age. The data obtained was compared to the farm's historical standard performance curve (Farm Standard Curve) and the Lohmann Brown Classic management guide. Feeding **AO-Biotics® EQE** to pullets during rearing (9–15 weeks) improved body weight, enhanced feed efficiency, and reduced mortality of the flock. These improvements indicate stronger development, more efficient nutrient utilization, and higher survivability, which together support greater productivity and persistency during the laying cycle, ultimately enhancing farm profitability.

VALUE

AO-Biotics® EQE supplementation during rearing builds a healthier, more efficient pullet foundation, securing higher lifetime productivity and profitability for egg producers.

PROTOCOL

Location:

- Thessaloniki, Greece

Duration:

- The impact of **AO-Biotics® EQE** was evaluated for 6 weeks, beginning the evaluation at week 9 of age.

Animals:

- Approximately 25,000 laying hens were involved in this validation process.
- Lohmann Brown Classic

Treatments:

- A commercial feed supplemented with **AO-Biotics® EQE** at 50 g/metric ton of feed was fed to the animals

Trial Design:

- Pullets were fed a commercial feed supplemented with **AO-Biotics® EQE** at 50 g/metric ton of feed was fed to the animals. A Farm Standard Curve was calculated using historical data from the barn, where the same genetics had previously been used. Values from the management guide from the Lohmann Brown Classic were used as well for the comparisons.

Data Collection:

Hen development:

- Body weight
- Feed intake
- Feed conversion rate
- Mortality

RESULTS

The Inclusion of **AO-Biotics® EQE** in the diet from 9 to 15 weeks of age improved pullets' development. (*Table 1*)

AO-Biotics® EQE improved the body weight of the pullets by 5%.

- Body weight at 15 weeks was improved in the **AO-Biotics® EQE** group (1100 g) compared to the farm standard (1053 g; +4.5%) and the Lohmann Brown Classic guide (1039 g; +5.9%). (*Figure 1*)
- This improvement indicates better growth and development, which is critical for ensuring that pullets reach the ideal weight to enter the laying period with strong productivity potential.

AO-Biotics® EQE-fed pullets consumed on average 73.8 g/day. This is aligning with expected intake values. This is related to the improvement observed in the FCR of the pullets.

- Feed conversion ratio (FCR) improved in the **AO-Biotics® EQE**-fed pullets by 19% compared to the farm standard.
- This demonstrates that pullets supplemented with **AO-Biotics® EQE** were able to convert feed more efficiently into body mass, which not only reduces rearing costs but also is related to a more efficient nutrient utilization during the laying period.

The combination of higher body weight and improved FCR suggests that including **AO-Biotics® EQE** in the diet during rearing supports stronger physiological development, which is expected to translate into improved productivity and persistency during the laying cycle.

AO-Biotics® EQE reduced the cumulative mortality of the flock by 69%. (*Figure 2*)

- Lower mortality during rearing increases the number of pullets entering the laying phase, directly improving the farm's profitability by ensuring that more birds contribute to egg production.

CONCLUSIONS

- Feeding **AO-Biotics® EQE** at 50 g/metric ton of feed during the rearing phase resulted in better growth, improved feed efficiency, and lower mortality, ensuring a stronger foundation for the pullets entering production. These improvements are directly linked to the potential for greater productivity, better persistency, and extended laying performance later in life. By increasing survivability and enhancing feed efficiency, **AO-Biotics® EQE** contributes not only to biological performance but also to economic profitability, strengthening the long-term sustainability of egg production systems.

RESULTS (CONTINUED)

Table 1. Impact of feeding AO-Biotics® EQE to rearing pullets from 9 to 15 weeks of age on their development¹.

9-15 weeks of age	EQE ²	Farm Standard Curve ³	Lohmann Brown Classic Management Guide
Cumulative mortality, %	0.164	0.531	-
Body weight, g	1100±209.1	1053±240.0	1039±180.3
Feed intake, g/d	73.8±18.57	-	-
Feed conversion ratio, g:g	2.78±0.223	3.42±0.168	-

¹Data are means and standard deviations for weeks 9 to 15.

²Commercial feed supplemented with **AO-Biotics® EQE** at 50 g/metric ton.

³The farm standard curve was calculated using historical data from the barn, where the same genetics had previously been used.

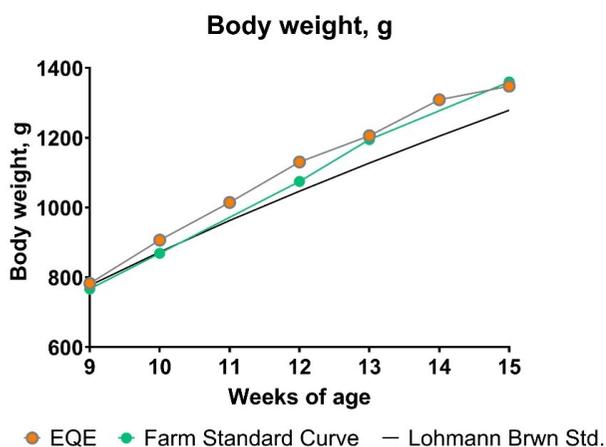


Figure 1. Impact of **AO-Biotics® EQE** at 50 g/ton of feed on the body weight of pullets from 9 to 15 weeks of age.

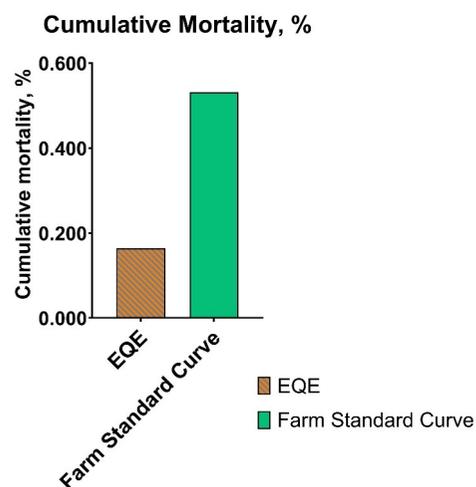


Figure 2. Impact of **AO-Biotics® EQE** at 50 g/ton of feed on the cumulative mortality of the flock from 9 to 15 weeks of age.

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