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® AMAFERM® USED
50 g/metric ton of feed

This validation trial evaluated the effect of **AO-Biotics® EQE** on the growth and survival of pullets between 9 and 15 weeks of age. Results were compared against both the Farm Standard Curve and the Lohmann Brown Classic management guide. Supplementing **AO-Biotics® EQE** during this stage enhanced body weight, improved feed conversion, and lowered mortality rates. These benefits reflect stronger development, more efficient nutrient use, and better survivability, all of which contribute to higher productivity, persistency in the laying period, and a boost to the farm's profitability.

VALUE

Incorporating **AO-Biotics® EQE** in the feed of pullets during rearing helps establish healthier, more efficient pullets, laying the groundwork for greater lifetime performance and profitability in egg production.

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 32,000 pullets 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

Adding **AO-Biotics® EQE** to the diet between 9 and 15 weeks of age positively influenced pullet growth and efficiency (***Table 1***)

AO-Biotics® EQE improved the body weight of the pullets by 8%.

- At 15 weeks, **AO-Biotics® EQE**-fed pullets reached an average of 1126 g of BW, which represents an 8.4% increase compared to the farm standard (1053 g) and 6.9% higher than the management guide (1039 g) (***Figure 1***).
- This demonstrates improved growth, ensuring pullets enter lay with the optimal body condition for productivity.

AO-Biotics® EQE-fed pullets consumed on average 66.8 g of feed, in line with expectations.

- With **AO-Biotics® EQE**, the feed conversion ratio improved by 15% versus the farm standard, showing that **AO-Biotics® EQE**-fed pullets converted feed more efficiently into body mass.
- These improvements not only reduce rearing costs but also indicate stronger nutrient utilization for the laying period.

AO-Biotics® EQE reduced the cumulative mortality of the flock by 29%. (***Figure 2***)

- Lower mortality results in more birds reaching the laying stage. This directly supports profitability by increasing the number of productive hens during the stage of production.

The combination of higher body weight, better feed efficiency, and reduced mortality highlights how **AO-Biotics® EQE** strengthens pullet development, which is related to an improvement of the laying persistency and productivity.

CONCLUSIONS

Feeding **AO-Biotics® EQE** at 50 g/metric ton during rearing significantly improved pullet growth, feed efficiency, and survival. These benefits establish a stronger base for pullets entering the production phase, ensuring higher productivity, persistency, and extended laying performance. By increasing survivability and enhancing nutrient efficiency, **AO-Biotics® EQE** delivers both biological and economic advantages, reinforcing the 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 development[1].**

9-15 weeks of age	EQE[2]	Farm Standard Curve[3]	Lohmann Brown Classic Management Guide
Cumulative mortality, **%**	0.375	0.531	-
Body weight, **g**	1126±200.8	1053±240.0	1039±180.3
Feed intake, **g/d**	66.8±18.57	-	-
Feed conversion ratio, **g:g**	2.90±0.347	3.42±0.168	-

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

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

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

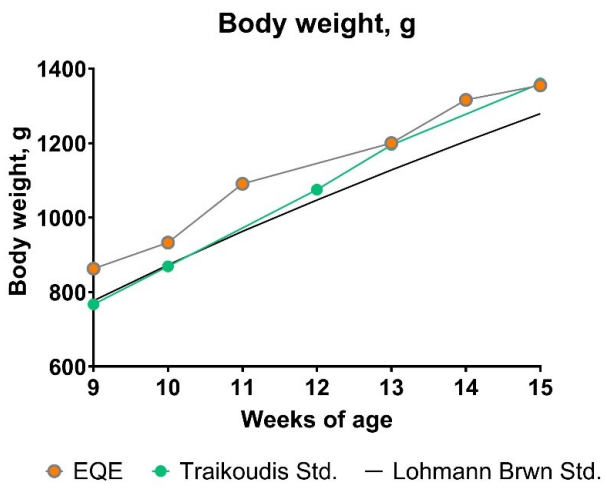

Figure 1. Impact of **AO-Biotics® EQE** at 50 g/ton of feed on the body weight of pullets from 9 to 15 weeks of age.

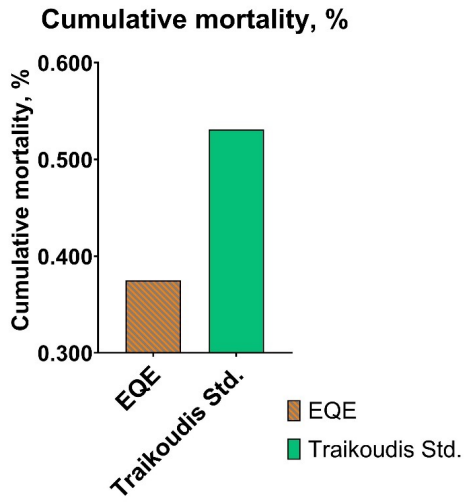

Figure 2. Impact of **AO-Biotics® EQE** at 50 g/ton of feed on the cumulative mortality of the flock from 9 to 15 weeks of age.

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