



# Structure guides decisions & shows on the bottom line

Farmer adjusts management to strengthen the bottom line:

# AX3 is a Key Component

At Rugballegaard, the team has built a piglet operation where economics, management, and feeding strategy are all tightened to the highest level. AX3 has become a central component in a well-disciplined management setup that delivers zinc-free weaning, healthy guts, and strong financial performance.

**S**imon Rehder Sørensen doesn't change what he knows works. And he only makes adjustments when there is a clear need — or when the potential gains are significant. Only one parameter is changed at a time, and the impact must be visible on the bottom line.

"If another product comes along with better digestibility, we'll test it. But the effect has to be measurable. We want to use as little feed as possible — that's one of the places where you can really save money. And we're already low at 1.4 feed units per kilo of gain," says Simon R. Sørensen.

## Zinc-Free Production with AX3

This mindset is also one of the reasons Rugballegaard practiced zinc-free feeding long before it became mandatory in Denmark. By doing so, they knew exactly what challenges to expect. One of the tools that helped them get there was AX3 — the highly digestible soy protein from TripleA.

"We started using AX3 when our advisor had reviewed the trial results. It was part

of our transition to zinc-free weaning. We began three years before the legislation came into force," explains Simon

AX3 is a highly digestible soy protein, 97% digestible, with rapid gastric breakdown. It also has very low acid-binding capacity, making it gentle on the piglets' stomachs.

**"AX3 is an important piece of the puzzle we've put together. The easy-to-digest protein profile, combined with the way we use it in two different feed mixes, allows us to run zinc-free while keeping both diarrhea and feed consumption under control. It works well in a tightly managed system,"** *he emphasizes.*

Simon uses AX3 in the first post-weaning mix and again in the second mix, where standard soybean meal is also introduced.

"Most people would only use a product like this in the first mix, but we use it in both. It gives a smoother transition to the 'tougher' soy. We also grind our feed slightly coarser than most — that helps

the gut as well. And it has made a big difference in diarrhea levels: in practice, we have almost none,” he says.

### **Everything must be measurable - including profitability**

The real secret behind Simon Rehder Sørensen's success is his management. It's a discipline he's never finished with — always improving, always refining, but one step at a time.

“Our economics are extremely competitive. If we make a change, we need to be sure it pays off. If I add more protein to the feed, I don't just want to see the pigs grow — I want to see the financial return. Things have to move the bottom line,” he says.

### **Facts**

- 9 employees
- 2,300 sows
- 83,000 piglets sold for export
- 5,000 pigs finished for slaughter
- 1,000 gilts for internal breeding

### **Key Figures**

- Approx. 1.40 feed units per kg gain in the nursery
- Mortality: 1.2%
- Around 42 weaned piglets per sow per year
- Feed conversion rate: 1,18 kg of feed per kilogram of growth



# Want to know more?

AX3 is a highly absorbable soy protein that is characterized by being 97 percent digestible with rapid turnover in the stomach. It also has a very low acid binding capacity, which means that the product is not harsh on the piglets' stomachs.

## **AX3 Digest - highly digestible protein**

Particularly beneficial for infant animals, helps to phase out ZnO and antibiotics without compromising growth, improved FCR, more uniform and robust piglets, low in pH, ABC4 and ash.



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