

Herbal ingredients in pig diets as stimulators of milk production

Supervisors

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Summary

Output of milk by the mammary glands in pigs is driven by prolactin from the pituitary and by the availability of nutrients that are essential for milk production. In humans, there are a number of herbal products that have been reported to increase the production of breastmilk. This project will study whether one of those products can increase milk production by sows and will also look at the mechanism that is involved.

Research techniques involved

The project mainly involves working with sows and their piglets, and will also involve some endocrine (blood hormonal profiles) work to study the mechanisms involved.

For this project a PorkCRC scholarship may be available.