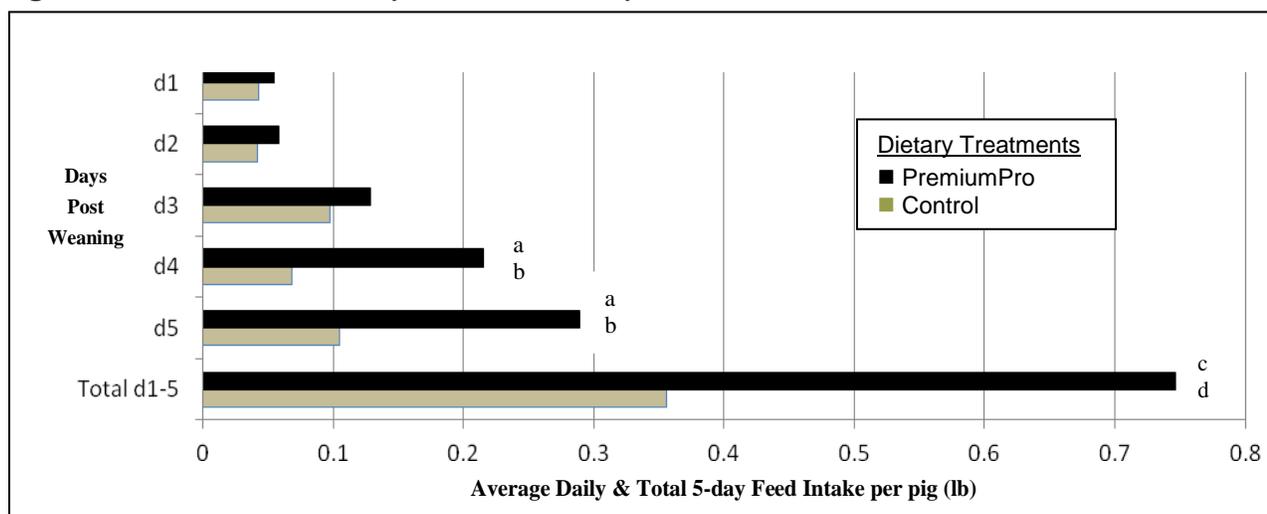


Phase-1 nursery feed containing **PremiumPro** was favored 2:1 over feed containing spray-dried blood meal, blood plasma and menhaden fish meal during the first 5-days post weaning

ABSTRACT: Twenty newly weaned pigs (14.0 ± 1.25 lb) were randomly assigned to individual pens ($2' \times 8'$) and given a choice of two phase-1 nursery feeds over a 5-day period. The control (CON) diet contained 1.25% spray-dried blood meal, 2.5% porcine plasma and 5.0% select menhaden fish meal, while the test diet (PMP) contained 12.5% PremiumPro as its only premium protein ingredient. The diets were formulated with equal nitrogen (crude protein) contributions from their respective premium protein ingredient(s), and were iso-caloric and iso-lysine with balanced amino acids among treatments. Investigators were blinded to the treatments. To avoid feeder location preference, placement of the two feeders was reversed from the previous day. Feeder placement each day followed a 4h and 1h feed and water fast, respectively. First feed approached, first feed consumed and total feed consumed responses were recorded for each pig each day. The amount of PMP consumed by the pigs was not significantly different from the amount of CON consumed on d1, 2 or 3 post-weaning (Figure 1). Consumption of PMP was greater ($p \leq 0.05$) than the consumption of CON on d4 and 5 post-weaning. Based upon total feed consumed during the 5 day study, pigs tended ($p=0.09$) to prefer the diet by a ratio of 2.1 to 1 over the CON diet (0.750 and 0.355 lb/pig, respectively). Pigs first approached PMP an average of 51.3% of the time compared to 48.7% of the time for CON. Pigs first consumed CON an average of 55.6% of the time compared to 44.4% of the time for PMP. These data suggests that preference of pig starter feeds containing PremiumPro is equal or superior to feeds containing spray-dried blood meal, porcine plasma and menhaden fish meal. Total feed consumption can be used in determining feed preference, whereas first feed approached and first feed consumed may not be an indicator of feed preference.

Figure 1: PremiumPro Nursery Preference Study*



* 5-day trial; n=20; experimental unit (n) = one (1) individually penned 21-day old piglet

a,b Means of ADFI on the same day differ $p \leq 0.05$

c,d Based upon total feed intake, pigs tended ($p=0.09$) to prefer **PremiumPro over 2:1 vs. the control diet**