



TECH NICKEL TIPS

IRON OXIDE AS A FEED COLORANT

Are you sure the feed that was put in your bin is the right diet? How can you tell when mash or pelleted feed all looks the same?

On a farrowing barn tour hosted by Dr. Gary Dial, he indicated that “the farrowing ration is the most influential diet in meeting production targets”. Farrowing rate, number born live, none productive days and litter weaning weight are all driven by nutrient uptake in the farrowing crate. A mistake of feed identity could have a very negative effect with all these production parameters. To ensure the nurse sow diet is being delivered to the right bin and to avoid production problems, color lactation diet red with iron oxide to distinguish it from other rations.

An add rate of 3 kg/t of iron oxide will easily distinguish a nurse sow diet from others. The cost is less than \$1.50 per tonne or pennies per pig. If the nurse sow diet is being liquid fed only half as much is required.

VIDO

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