

**Comparative utilization of 4 isoenergetic diets by the fattening pig.
Results of a cooperative trial between I.T.P.-I.T.C.F.-E.D.E.-I.N.R.A.**

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To determine the relationship between the energy value (digestible energy) of a diet and the animal performance, four diets with the same theoretical digestible energy content were compared :

- a simple diet (cereals + soyabean meal) ;
- a diet including different energy sources ;
- a diet including different crude protein sources ;
- a compound feed.

A total of 384 animals were used in four stations. Castrated males were restricted up to 8,000 kcal DE/kg at 60 kg live weight and females up to a maximum of 9,200 kcal DE/kg at 80 kg.

The diets led to different results. The best performance were obtained with the simple diet.

During the finishing period, an interaction sex \times diet was noticed. During the growing period, performance were different whatever the diet (as compared to the simple diet, they were 2, 4 and 6 p. 100 lower, respectively with the second, third and fourth diet). On the overall, the differences were rather small and may be explained by the differences in the true energy value (digestibility trial) or in the amino acid contents of the diets. This emphasizes the limits of the recommendations about amino acid supplies as well as those concerning energy upgrading in compound feeds.

**On the farm feed production.
Types of feeds and raw materials**

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A survey was made in 165 farms of Western-France (Pyrénées-Atlantiques, Aveyron, Lot, Indre, Vienne, Deux-Sèvres and Finistère) concerning on the farm feed production : raw materials, diet formulas and types of feeds produced.

This survey showed that almost 94 p. 100 of pig feeders and 38 p. 100 of breeders only produce a single feed : the pig feed or the sow compound feed. The most frequently produced feeds are the 2nd-age feed for piglet, the sow compound feed and the pig feed.

Cereals remain the main sources of energy and soyabean meal the main source of protein. Farmers still avoid using oilseeds. The variability in the digestible energy content of feeds does not exceed 3 p. 100, while that of the protein/energy and lysine/energy ratios reaches up to 9 p. 100.