PRESS RELEASE

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NEW RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS NEED FOR THERMOSTABLE XYLANASE IN POULTRY PRODUCTION

New research from AB Vista shows that thermostability of xylanase plays a critical role in ensuring consistent performance improvements in poultry.

Feed pelleting and the importance of enzyme thermostability – the capacity of a fibre-degrading xylanase to survive the high temperatures involved in pelleting – will be discussed by AB Vista's Global Technical Director, Dr Hadden Graham, at the upcoming Australian Poultry Science Symposium in February.

In his presentation, Dr Graham will discuss how xylanase survival through conditioning and pelleting is important in achieving the most efficient feed conversion and return on investment.

"Pelleting poultry feed unequivocally benefits bird performance by improving feed intake, increasing nutrient digestibility, reducing feed wastage and reducing microbial contamination," Dr Graham says.

"But pelleting conditions vary dramatically across the globe and between feed mills – temperatures can fluctuate by more than 25˚C, and conditioning times may range from seconds to minutes."

These variations can affect the activity of some enzymes in the feed mixer – with less thermostable enzymes demonstrating poorer performance after being processed at higher temperatures, he states.

During the Sydney symposium, Dr Graham will present results from an AB Vista broiler trial recently undertaken at a Polish University. The study was aimed at assessing the thermostability and subsequent efficacy in the animal of three different commercial NSPases applied to wheat-based diets processed at three different conditioning temperatures: 80, 85 and 90˚C.

Analysis of the pelleted feed demonstrated that the activity of one enzyme in particular – Econase XT – survived processing and maintained efficacy up to 90˚C. The other two products lost activity and were less effective in the animal following processing at higher temperatures.

“The trial results demonstrate the importance of analysing in-feed activity of NSPases, and how selecting a thermostable NSPase is critical to guarantee maximum and consistent performance.”

Full details of the study and more information will be available at the Australian Poultry Science Symposium, Veterinary Science Conference Centre, University of Sydney, 14th – 17th February. During the symposium, Dr Graham will deliver a presentation entitled: Effect of pelleting temperature and enzyme supplementation on the performance of broilers fed a wheat-based diet.

For more information, contact AB Vista on +44(0)1672 517 650 or info@abvista.com.

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Notes to editor:

AB Vista is an animal nutrition technology company offering pioneering products and technical services to the global animal feed industry. Since its establishment in 2004, AB Vista has grown to be a top-three player in feed enzymes and is also one of the largest suppliers of natural betaine to the global animal nutrition industry. The company invests heavily in research and development and has a growing portfolio of products and services spanning the poultry, swine, ruminant and aquaculture sectors. AB Vista is headquartered in the UK, with regional offices located in the USA, Brazil, Singapore, Spain, India, China, Germany and Finland.

AB Vista is part of AB Agri, the agricultural division of Associated British Foods, one of Europe's largest food & retail companies with a market capitalisation of £26 billion.

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