

OREGO-STIM LIQUID SUPPORTS THE PRODUCTION OF HIGHER VALUE EGGS IN A FREE RANGE SYSTEM

SUMMARY

- ✓ The production of larger, higher grade eggs are fundamental to the profitability of a layer farm.
- ✓ This commercial study was undertaken to determine the effect of Orego-Stim Liquid (OSL) supplementation in drinking water, on the grading of eggs produced from hens in a free range housing system.
- ✓ OSL is a high quality eubiotic composed of 100% natural oregano essential oil (OEO). Natural OEO has many properties including antimicrobial, antioxidant, anti-inflammatory and immunomodulatory functions. In previous trials, supplementation has been shown to support the production of higher value eggs in various systems.
- ✓ OSL supplemented hens produced larger eggs and a higher percentage of 1st class eggs, resulting in a return on investment of 14.4:1.

COMMERCIAL STUDY DESIGN

A commercial trial was conducted in collaboration with a free range egg producer in Europe (2020/2021), to determine the effect of OSL on hen performance. Two groups of 32,000 hens were used in the study, a control group and an OSL supplemented group. OSL was administered via a Dosatron at 300ml/1000L of drinking water (two times standard inclusion) from 21 to 43 weeks of age. The inclusion rate was reduced to 200ml/1000L of drinking water until 58 weeks of age, and then increased again to 300ml/1000L of drinking water until 76 weeks of age (study termination). Egg production data was collected daily.

RESULTS

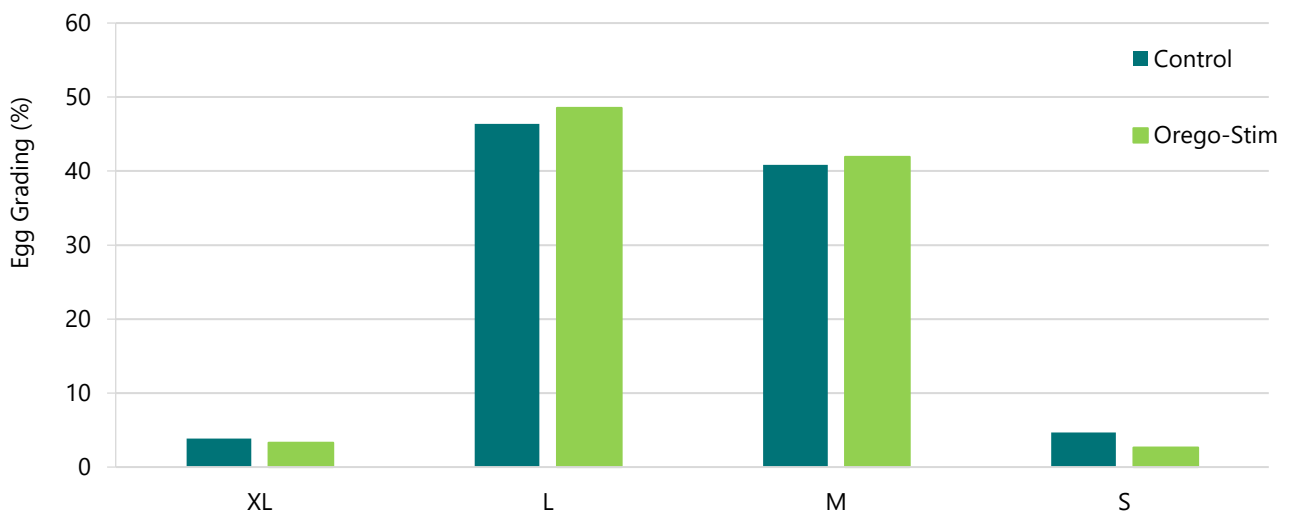


Figure 1. Egg grading (%) according to UK/EU classification system.



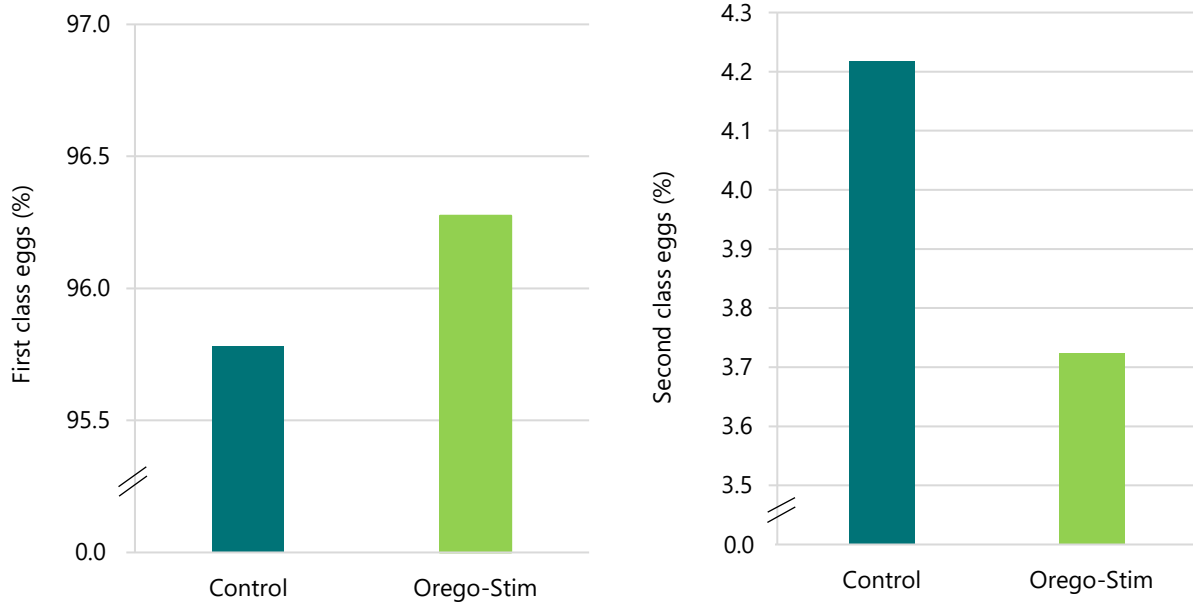


Figure 2. First and second class egg production (%)

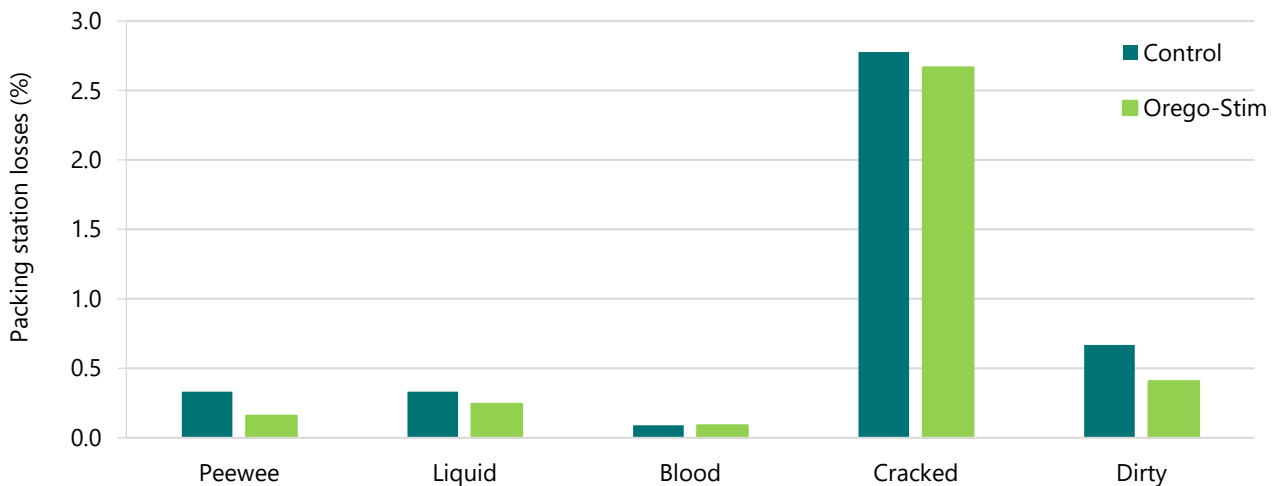


Figure 3. Packing station losses (%)

Hens supplemented with OSL:

- ✓ Produced more large and medium graded eggs (Figure 1).
- ✓ Were 1.1 times* more likely to produce 1st class eggs (Figure 2).
- ✓ Had fewer egg losses at the packing station (Figure 3).
- ✓ Provided an overall return on investment of **14.4:1**.

In conclusion, OSL may support the production of larger eggs, and a higher percentage of 1st class eggs in free range production systems, leading to increased profitability from the sale of these higher value eggs.

*Odds ratio 1.138 (95% CI), Pearson chi-square p=0.0027

Disclaimer: No guarantee of performance is given. All economic benefits claimed in this document were correct at the time of publication.

