



Country Chronicles

Accounts of Land O'Lakes Swine Feed Success

Bernard & David Arnts, Alta, IA

The Arnts brothers and their wives own and operate a grain, swine, and beef family farm operation near Alta, IA. Bernard Arnts and his wife, Peg, have four children. David Arnts and his wife, Cheryl, (pictured) have five children. The third generation farming operation consists of 1000 acres, 250 sow farrow-to-



finish swine enterprise, and a beef calf enterprise. The sow operation was originally built in 1988 and expanded to its current size in 1991. They work with Doug Davis, the Land O'Lakes Purina Feed Swine Consultant at First Cooperative Association.

They are currently feeding their sows the UltraCare[®] High Maternal Line-with-phytase sow feeding program. They are also feeding NEWtraStart[™] and PUSH[®] products to their sows. David said "I believe **since feeding PUSH[®] the litters have become more even.** It's not like it used to be." David indicated that **since they started feeding NEWtraStart[™] they have seen**

an estimated 15% increase in sow feed intake during the lactation phase. The Arnts' also feed Gentle Lax Pak[™] to their lactating sows resulting in no apparent constipation problems. They are 100% AI and raise their own replacement stock. Replacement gilts are fed the UltraCare[®] High Maternal Line feeding program starting at approximately 200 lb body weight.

Their nursery pigs are fed the UltraCare[®] nursery feeding program which consists of UltraCare[®] 200 pellets, UltraCare[®] 300 pellets and then UltraCare[®] 400 and 500 grind and mix rations. Dave stated that transitioning the pigs from one phase to the next is an easy transition for the pigs. Pigs are in the nursery for approximately 6 weeks and come out at 50-55 lbs body weight. David then feeds a 6-phase EcoCare[®] grow-finish program. Rations are balanced by Doug Davis on the DNS software program with emphasis placed on digestible amino acids. David has fed the EcoCare[®] program for approximately 8 months in an older, partially slatted building that was constructed in 1978. This 31-year old building contains no ports for pit agitation. Soaking time and the amount of water required during pre-cleaning has been reduced in comparison to when they fed the LeanGain[®] DDGS Premix program. With only a vacuum pump and no agitation, David reported that he was able to **lower the manure level to 15" in the fall of 2009 as opposed to 24" of sludge left in previous years.** Cheryl, David's wife, reported that "David's clothes don't smell as potent as they did in the past. **The building has a fresher smelling environment.**"

Prepared by: Doug Davis, Land O'Lakes Cooperative Swine Consultant at First Cooperative Association in Iowa.

The Arnts are witnesses to the improved pig performance and value provided by Land O'Lakes Feed products.

Learn more about these products at www.lolfeed.com

Caring Starts Here.