

Footprinting zinc oxide source in pig production: the implication for policymaking



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Introduction & Objectives

Feed production has a major contribution to most environmental impacts of pig farming systems¹.



Results

Environmental impacts of supplementing 1 kg of dietary Zn.





Climate change Energy demand Eutrophication

Life cycle assessment (LCA) studies are useful to identify the hotspots associated with feed production.

The objective was to calculate the LCA of a zinc (Zn) oxide source used in piglets feeding.

Materials & Methods

Cradle-to-gate LCA

Potentiated zinc oxide source (HiZox[®]; Animine) used in pig production in Europe.

High contribution of extraction (Zn is a non-renewable

mineral resource) and manufacturing (several

- Functional unit
- 1 kg of Zn supplemented in piglet diets.
- Life cycle inventory
- ✓ Extraction
- ✓ Manufacturing
- ✓ Packing
- Premix production
- ✓ Feed intake by piglets
- ✓ Slurry spreading
- **Primary data** Survey to manufacturer (2015).
- Method
 ILCD 2011 Midpoint as implemented in

dissolution and purification steps).



SimaPro software V8.2.

Conclusions & Perspectives

The high contribution of TM sources to ecotoxicity demonstrates the importance of their sustainable use in terms of source and dose used in animal nutrition. The LCA of TM may provide high quality industry data to international standardization of the PEF methodology, ensuring more environmental friendly products on the EU market.

¹ Dourmad et al. 2014. *Animal* 8, 2027-2037.

