

OPTICARE

QUALITY FEED FOR YOUNG PIGLETS

SwiNco believes in the **“gradual weaning”** of piglets

The post weaning phase is a critical period in the piglets' life as many changes are happening at that time. Gradual weaning is a step by step procedure learning and educating the piglets to already consume an increasing amount of dry matter before weaning. High feed intakes help piglets to digest and absorb nutrients like protein and starch, leading to the desired growth and a super healthy digestive tract. It is important that piglets become acquainted with nutrient sources other than sow

milk already at an early age, in order to prepare them and their guts for what is coming. Ensuring a better development digestion tract and intestinal villi's after weaning will increase piglet growth rates, reduce distress behaviours and reduce their susceptibility for diarrhoea caused by Streptococci and E. coli.

Conventional piglet feeding programs is associated with an abrupt dietary change from sow's milk to dry piglet feed, without any consideration to gut health and raw material connectivity. Conventional piglet feeding programs are often associated with a decreased nutrient intake and could cause various detrimental effects. Considering the effects of conventional piglet feeding programs on post weaning performance in piglets, it is desirable to improve piglets adaptation to weaning by developing a feed program that coincides with profound changes in intestinal function, enabling the digestion and absorption of nutrients from novel food sources.

This is where the SwiNco Opticare piglet products and feed programs fits in. The Opticare products are a range of five unique complete diets, arranged in a specific order to help young piglets to make a gradual transition from a diet based on sow's milk to a non-milk diet, ultimately to achieve nutritional independence from the sow, to achieve high feed intakes before and after weaning and to create a healthy and established microbiome with strong and vigorous intestinal villi's.

All the Opticare products are connected with each other to accomplish “gradual weaning”. Suggested feed programs, using the products in the Opticare range, are worked out to fit to different scenarios found on farms and to fit into the price range of all producers. In the end, all of the feed programs are designed to achieve “gradual weaning”.



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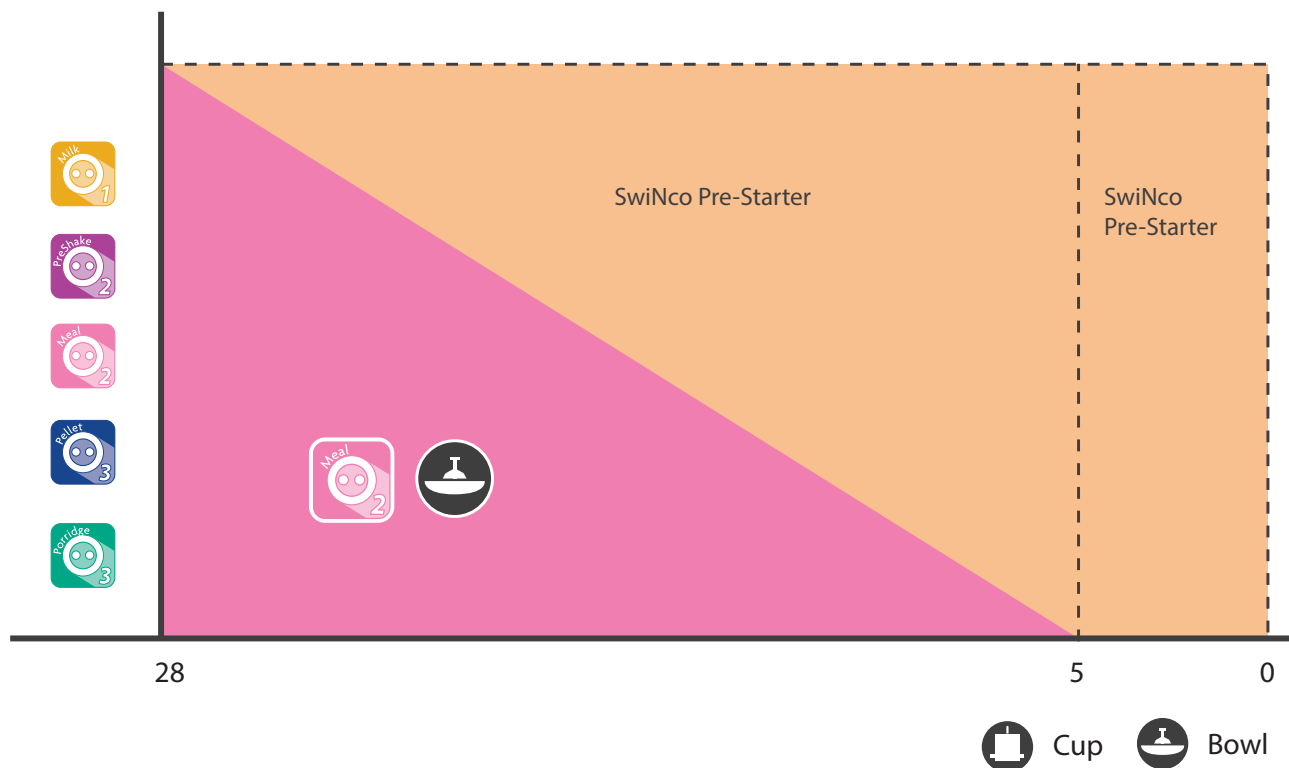
Gradual weaning

GRADUAL WEANING

All feed programs are developed to give the piglets a head start in life. To achieve our goal of “gradual weaning” the feed programs do not stop at weaning, and need to be well connected with the feed program followed after weaning. This is what we call the “gradual weaning” program.

The “gradual weaning” program is graphically explained in the graph below :

Gradual weaning concept



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GRADUAL WEANING

The following feed changes and feeding per day is advised to have the perfect start with gradual weaning :

Time after weaning	Opticare Meal	SwiNco Pre-starter	Times fed per day	7:00	10:00	14:00	17:00
1 (weaning day)	75 %	25 %	3		P	P	P
2	75 %	25 %	4	P	P	P	P
3	50 %	50 %	4	P	P	P	P
4	25 %	75 %	3	P	D		P
5	0 %	100 %	2	P		D	
6/7	0 %	100 %	2	D		D	

P Porridge (2,0 l water with 1 kg Opticare meal)
D Dry fed, without water