

Algae innovative solutions in poultry production

María García Suárez, Technical Service Olmix

To face the growing demand from consumers to reduce the use of antibiotics in farms, using natural products, OLMIX developed Searup, a complementary feed based on marine algae extracts (MSP = Marine Sulfated Polysaccharides) able to reinforce the natural defenses of animals.

MSP are complex polysaccharides, with a branched structure containing different sugars, including rare ones like rahmnose. Moreover, these sugars can carry sulfate groups on their structure. This makes them unique, as this characteristic is not found in any terrestrial plant, and is the origin of their various biological activities.

A recent study, conducted in collaboration with INRA (French National Institute for Agronomic Research) demonstrated that the immunomodulating MSP used in Searup is able to activate immune receptors of intestinal cells, and to induce the expression of some immune mediators (cytokines and chemokines), thus modulating both innate immunity (macrophages, neutrophils) and adaptive immunity (T and B lymphocytes).

Searup is distributed via drinking water, enabling a punctual administration and a high flexibility and reactivity of use. Searup use is recommended during stress periods such as start of animals or transition phases to face up these critical periods. It is also used in support of vaccination programs and allows to reinforce natural defenses of poultry during critical phases of their life. Consequently, animals perform better as far as technical or economic parameters are concerned.

Numerous trials conducted in research facilities or directly on farm have demonstrated its interest in poultry production (reduced mortality and condemnation rates in broilers, better vaccine uptake – better homogeneity, better persistence- in layers and pullets).