







# **Commercial Production and Maternal Diets**

- Feed 70% of operating costs, with protein 30% of diet costs
- Amino acid requirements of the developing fetus change with gestational age (Wu et al., 1999; NRC, 2012)
- Fetal growth and development influences birth weight, later growth performance
- Importance of Arginine (ARG) in fetal and neonatal pig development



### Why feed arginine at all?

- Key in urea synthesis and disposal of excess nitrogen, it is
- Utilized in polyamine synthesis and nitric oxide synthesis in uterine lumen
- Numerous metabolic processes within the trophectoderm and liver
   Key role in trophectoderm development through SLC7 family receptors
- Contributes to cellular functions such as MTORC1
- Specific role in activation of castor proteins direct regulation of MTOR and cellular proliferation processes
- All of these contribute to the overall goal of fetal development in cellular proliferation, differentiation, and communication

### Objectives

- Benefit of additional ARG in commercial production and on offspring performance remains unclear
- Objectives
  - To evaluate supplementation of L-ARG (at 1% inclusion, as fed) at different stages of gestation
  - Determine its influence on offspring performance in commercial swine production



### Materials and Methods- Maternal Diets

	Trial	Diets		NRC Req Total Basis (%)			
Diet Component	Arginine	Control	Gilts (100- 135 kg)	P1 (140 kg, <90d gest	P1 (140 kg, >90d gest	NRC Average	
Dry Matter	87.63	87.46					
Crude Protein	16.30	14.88					
Alanine	1.00	1.02					
Arginine	1.28	0.65	0.34	0.32	0.42	0.36	
Leucine	1.58	1.60	0.75	0.55	0.75	0.68	
Lysine	0.78	0.75	0.74	0.61	0.8	0.72	
Met+CYS	0.53	0.54	0.45	0.41	0.54	0.47	
Methionine	0.26	0.26	0.22	0.18	0.23	0.21	
Phenylalanine	0.69	0.70	0.45	0.34	0.44	0.41	
Threonine	0.53	0.53	0.51	0.46	0.58	0.52	
Tryptophan*	0.12	0.12	0.13	0.11	0.15	0.13	
Valine	0.68	0.69	0.51	0.45	0.58	0.51	



#### **Statistical Analysis**

- Statistical analyses (SAS 9.0, Cary, NC) were performed on gilt and offspring performance
  - Cross foster events were removed for offspring growth performance parameters
  - All offspring growth performance analyzed using birth weight and weaning weight age as covariates
  - Gilt and gestation pen utilized as a random effect











	Post Wean Growth Performance was Not Different by Maternal Diet						
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	Average Daily Gain, kg/d	CONTROL	EARLY	FULL	LATE	SEM	P value
	30 kg Target	0.41	0.41	0.42	0.41	0.02	0.83
	60 kg Target	0.80	0.76	0.79	0.81	0.03	0.16
	100 kg Target	1.00	1.03	1.02	1.00	0.04	0.76
CONTROL EARLY FULL LATE							











24	Summary
	Supplementation of ARG did not effect litter size or birth weight
	Individual wean weights and pre wean average daily gain
	Tended to increase, late gestation ARG
	Maternal ARG supplementation did not affect post wean growth or
	carcass performance
	Birth weight improves overall growth performance
	Birth weight classification increased strength of relationship

## Conclusions

- Maternal supplementation of additional ARG, at 1% inclusion
- Particularly pre wean performance, Late gestation ARG
- Future exploration of mammary development to lactation
- Intensive data collection and further controlled analysis

  Revealed improvements not easily observable in standard production data
- B How can we translate academic data into commercially relevant results

