

Reducing the use of animal by-product meals in layer diets



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Economic constraints and public concerns have compelled the poultry industry to increasingly use a range of cheaper, alternative plant-derived feedstuffs in feed formulations and eliminate the use of animal by-product meals. However, use of such ingredients also increases the dietary levels of phytic acid which can have wide ranging ramifications on performance of egg production, quality and nutrient digestibility. This publication details several studies which examined the effectiveness of supplemental phytase in improving the availability of phosphorus, amino acids and energy from plant feed ingredients for laying hens.