

Paylean™ (ractopamine hydrochloride) OK'ed in Ohio exhibition hogs

Recent action by the Ohio Department of Agriculture has cleared the way for the use of the feed additive ractopamine hydrochloride (Paylean™, Elanco Animal Health) in hogs exhibited in Ohio, provided the label directions are followed. Ractopamine is a member of a class of drugs known as beta-agonists.

The FDA approved it in December 1999 for swine weighing between 150 and 240 pounds to increase rate of gain, improved feed efficiency, and increased carcass leanness. Effective June 3, 2002, the Ohio Administrative Code Section 901-19-20 of the Tampering Exhibition Rules was rescinded. This section, written before the FDA approval of Paylean™, had made the finding of residues of beta-agonists grounds for disqualification.

The use of ractopamine hydrochloride (Paylean™) in swine, including exhibition hogs, must follow the label instructions:

- a. Feed continuously as a sole ration to hogs weighing between 150 and 240 pounds body weight.
- b. Feed in a complete swine ration (not top-dressed) containing at least 16% crude protein.
- c. Not for use in breeding swine.
- d. Approved feeding rate is 4.5 to 18 grams per ton of feed.

As a reminder:

- a. The use of Paylean™ in species other than swine is illegal.
- b. The use of Paylean™ in swine at more than 18 grams per ton of feed is illegal.
- c. Read, understand, and follow label directions for all medications.