

## SoftCell®

# Combination of lignocellulose and plant extract improves animal health

Quality of litter material is of high importance for animal health and performance in poultry production. Sharp spikes and edges hurt the sensitive footpads of the birds from the first days of life. The consequence of these lesions is entry of harmful bacteria followed by arthritis, painful legs and reduced performance.

**SoftCell®** is made of lignocellulose which is processed into a soft and flexible material and is pelletized afterwards. This production process results in a litter material with very effective water binding capacity which remains dry for a long period. Consequently the birds' footpads stay dry and clean. Rate of footpad lesions is reduced and birds are therefore more healthy and vital.

The high water binding activity of **SoftCell®** leads to a significant improvement of air quality in poultry houses. Furthermore **SoftCell®** offers remarkable cost- and labour-saving effects: Dry litter material prevents litter caking and minimizes need of top-dressing.



**SoftCell®** is a synergistic combination of natural lignocellulose and an active plant extract. The plant extract decreases bacterial load in the poultry houses to take off pressure from immune defence system.

## **SoftCell®**

Results from science and practice of turkey breeding

Scientific investigation done by the Institute of Animal Welfare and Animal Husbandry, Celle, Germany.

The influence of different litter materials (lignocellulose, straw, wood shavings) on foot health and growth performance was investigated in more than 1,200 female turkeys during a 16 week lasting trial. The investigation was performed with 3 trial groups. The **SoftCell®** group showed significant higher final body weight, which was 11.23kg compared to 10.7kg in the



wood shavings group and 11.0kg in the group which was housed on wood shavings (week 1 - 6) and straw (week 7 - 16). Feet health definitely improved from the use of **SoftCell** $^{\circ}$  in comparison to wood shavings and straw. Examination of footpads revealed a significant reduction of pododermatitis (-50%) in the **SoftCell** $^{\circ}$  group.

## **SoftCell®**

#### Scientific investigation and field experience in broilers

Improvement of feet health (incidence of pododermatitis) in broilers is scientifically proven.\* Field experience shows that the animals are more vital and completely feathered. The animals have clean and dry feet during the whole fattening period. Less breast blisters and a higher breast meat yield are recorded.

\* detailed trial results are available from Agromed Austria GmbH.





There are no harmful spikes and edges which can hurt the chicks' sensitive footpads. The chicks' feet are remarkable clean. Furthermore I was able to observe very good foot health in the flocks using **SoftCell**® till now. The animals are more healthy and vital.



half, the turkeys are more healthy and vital.

Turkey litter with **SoftCell**® is used in my biogas plant without any problems and with very good gas yield.



Andre Middekke turkey breeder, Damme, Germany: I achieve a healthier inhouse climate with SoftCell®, the animals are



clean and completely feathered. The extraordinary water-binding capacity of **Soft-Cell®** saves me a lot of manpower, as there is no need of top-dressing of litter material."





### **Application:**



#### **Turkeys:**

12.5 kg **SoftCell**® per m² is equivalent to 2.5 cm litter height and lasts for an entire fattening period without top-dressing.

1st - 16th week for hens

5<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> week for male turkeys



#### **Broilers:**

0.8 -1.5 kg **SoftCell**® per m²; this is equivalent to 1 cm litter height, lasting for one fattening period (ø 35 days) without top-dressing.



#### Layers / pullet rearing

1-2 kg **SoftCell®** per m²; depending on the housing system.

## SoftCell® - for farmer's profit and animal's health

- no need of top-dressing
- less manpower
- birds' sensitive footpads stay unharmed
- birds are mobile and vital less arthritis
- healthy feet less animal losses
- less moisture in the poultry houses, reduced bacterial load of litter and air
- improved in-house climate and reduced air ammonia level
- higher final body weight and less breast blisters
- no nesting place for pest insects (Black Beetle)
- free of mycotoxins
- litter can be easily composted or can be used in biogas plants
- approved for organic farming

agromed Austria GmbH Bad Hallerstr. 23, A-4550 Kremsmünster, Tel: +43 (0) 7583 | 5105, Fax -40, e-mail: info@agromed.at, www.agromed.at

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