

Feeding Monogastrics from home

Rebecca Nelder

The cost

- **The ever increasing price and decreasing availability of oil has a major affect on the price and availability of imported and processed animal feeds across all sectors.**
- **In the current economic climate people are looking to cut costs and tighten belts and organic produce is seen as niche and expensive.**
- **If organic producers continue to use feed stuffs produced in an oil expensive fashion they will become exactly that.**

Economical and Ecological

- **Organic systems aim to operate in an ecological and economical way, importing cereals grown thousands of miles away, processed at a mill and then transported again to our farms is costly in oil and therefore money**
- **Is this ecologically or economically sustainable?**

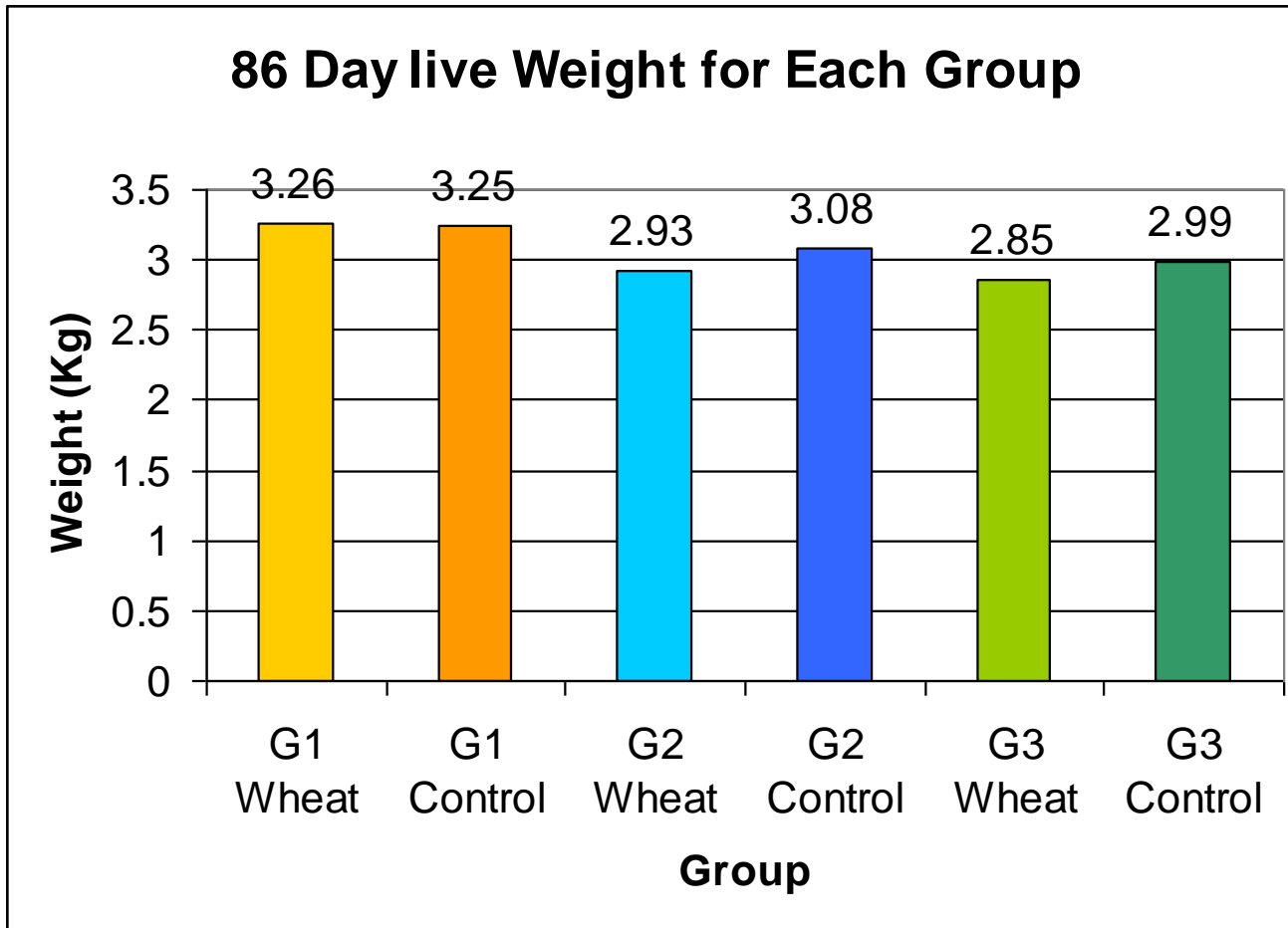
Home grown a solution?

- **British farms have the ability to produce a varied range of cereals and legumes suitable for monogastric feed**
- **If we could formulate diets and feeding programmes for our poultry and pig systems using home grown cereals market variables, oil emissions and costs could be cut dramatically**

ORC Trials

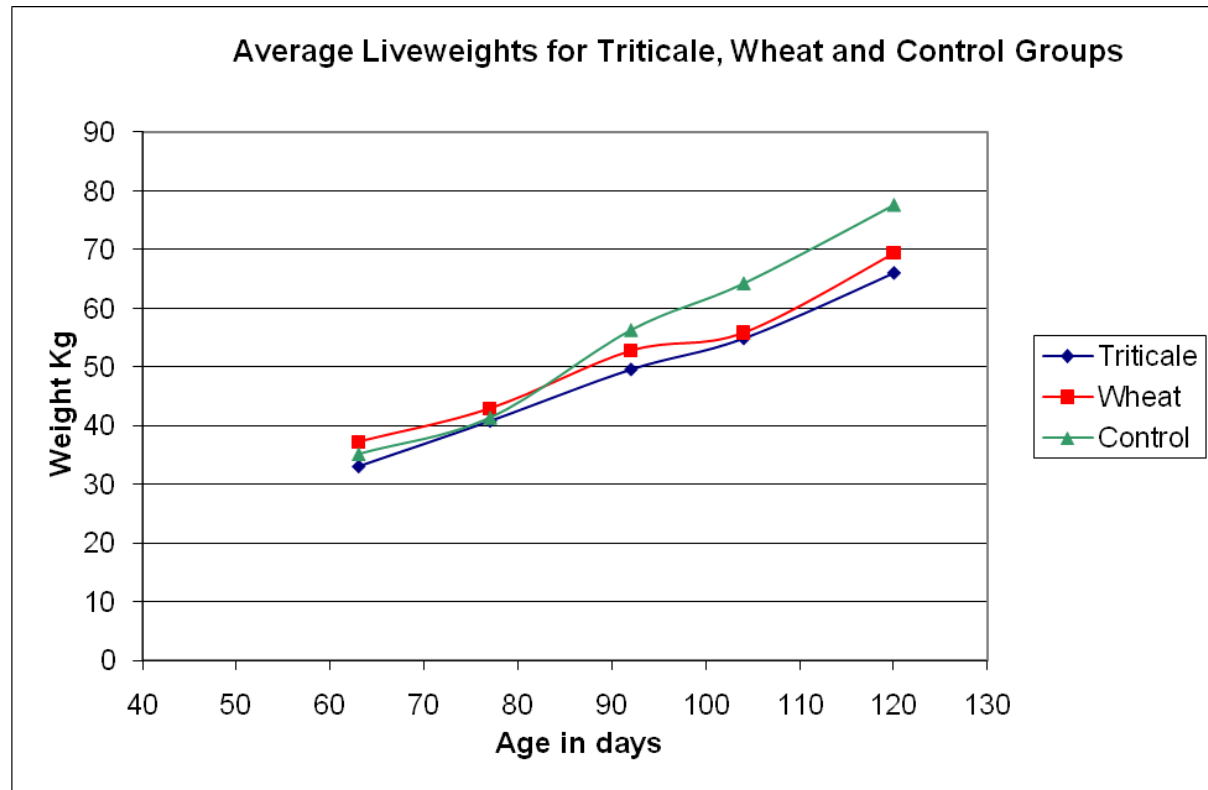
- **30%, 70% & 100% home grown, whole grain wheat trials in table poultry systems**
- **100% was not viable**
- **70% birds reached finishing weight 1.5 weeks after control birds (at 13.5 weeks old)**
- **30% inclusion showed no statistical difference to control birds**

30% Whole Grain Wheat



Pig Trials

- **50% of the pig concentrate was replaced with either Wheat or Triticale**



Pig Trials

- **Followed by a closer look at Triticale only**
- **This time all the trial pigs were from 1 litter so variation was decreased**
- **Final average group live weights were within 5kg for the Triticale and Control groups**

How is this possible?

- **If we are cutting such a huge amount of a specially formulated diet out how are the animals performing so well?**
- **What do organic animals have that indoor animals don't?**
- **A Range!**

Questions

- **Are diets that are formulated to such tiny %s really relevant to animals that experience such a vast change in their daily energy requirements?**
 - ◆ From the weather
 - ◆ From running around as the mood takes them
 - ◆ From varying goodies to range on
- **If so lets provide what we can from our own harvest and the range, and only buy in what we HAVE to.**