



## Improve digestibility of milled feed by up to 10%

### Farm facts

**Name:** F.J. Bosworth & Sons  
**Location:** Spains Hall, Essex  
**Farm size & enterprise:** 270 sows breeder/feeder, home mix and mill with home production of cereals used for pig feed

### Benefits

- Reduced restlessness, aggression and tail biting among finishing pigs
- Improved feed utilisation
- Reduced wastage (up to 10%)

This sample contains too many clusters with too high a percentage in the larger compartments



### Background

Producer Stuart Bosworth had noticed increased restlessness, aggression and tail biting among the finishing pigs when a particular variety of wheat was included in the diets.

His regional BPEX KT manager suggested he tried using the Bygholm Sieve and they found that although the variety produced a similar particle size to other wheat varieties, it was stickier.

The farm stopped including the 'sticky' wheat in the feed and no further problems were seen in the pigs.

The Bygholm Sieve was later used to analyse other grain types. When analysing rapemeal they found that 10% of the sample was too coarse and in clusters; as a result they now mill the rapemeal used in the pig diets.

Unmilled Soya (HiPro) showed similar results with up to 10% of the product being too coarse to be effectively digested by the pigs.

“ We spend so much money on feeding our pigs, so why not put a little effort into analysing the feed for optimal efficiency?  
 Stuart Bosworth, producer ”

### The Bygholm Sieve

The Sieve, originally developed in Denmark, is used for monitoring the degree of coarseness of feed, cereal and other feed products.

The coarseness and degree of grinding has an impact on feed efficiency:

Fine grinding of the feed means that pigs can easily utilise the nutrients within it, but intake can be reduced; this is common when feeding dry feed. Moreover, fine grinding can result in stomach ulcers.

A coarser grinding of the feed can result in poorer feed efficiency, but can have a positive effect on stomach ulcers, or if there is a problem with Salmonella, E. Coli or Ileitis in the herd.



### Key to success

- Regularly take feed sample for analysis with the Bygholm Sieve
- If you are a home mill and mix producer you can analyse your raw materials individually
- If you purchase meal diets you can analyse a feed sample and identify clusters, shells and other wastage that the pigs are unable to use for growth
- The Bygholm Sieve can give you an indication of how much unutilised feed can cost you

If you would like to try the Bygholm Sieve contact the BPEX KT team