Comparing Swine Vitamin and Mineral Premixes

Objective: To compare two rations – one with a standard vitamin and mineral premix and one with a Fertrell vitamin and mineral premix – in feeder pigs.

Farmer-cooperator will:
- Keep two groups of similar animals, one control and one treatment group, with 20 pigs in each group. Try to maintain uniformity within the two groups.
- Feed rations containing organic corn, organic succotash, organic soy protein and premixes.
- Feed the control group a standard ration, formulated from NRC nutritional requirements.
- Feed the treatment group a ration that includes Fertrell’s vitamin and mineral premix.
- Record weights, age and number of piglets per group.
- Keep production, feed and supplementation records.
- Collect harvest data.
- Track costs associated with each ration.
- Conduct one replication.

Practical Farmers of Iowa will:
- Monitor progress of project and provide support when needed.
- Analyze the data and publish results in a PFI research report, on PFI website and potentially other outlets.
- Pay the Farmer Cooperator a fee of $550 at the conclusion of the project in 2016 (contingent on donation from Fertrell).

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The terms of this Research Protocols document are subject to the terms of the individual Research Cooperator’s Memorandum of Understanding agreement with PFI. To the extent these terms may differ or conflict, the Memorandum of Understanding shall control.