

## **The results of a comprehensive study on the use of dried brewer's yeast *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* in feeding sheep**

### **Summary**

The study was conducted to determine the effects of dried brewer's yeast (Inter Yeast® S) used as a dietary supplement for sheep. The yeast was shown to have a positive effect on the productivity and health status of the sheep. It stimulated the growth rate and development of lamb muscles, as well as the milk yield of ewes. The yeast supplement fed to ewes in the period of preparation for mating caused an increase in prolificacy. The study also demonstrated that the yeast had immunomodulatory properties. A stimulatory effect on humoral and cellular defence mechanisms was shown in both lambs and adult ewes. This was associated with the effect of structural components of the yeast cell wall:  $\beta$ -1.3/1.6-D-glucan and mannan-oligosaccharides (MOS). As a result of the influence of yeast we can expect an increase in the amount of lamb on the hoof obtained within one year from one mother of the foundation stock, which is an essential objective of production targeted at the use of sheep for meat. We conclude that it is advisable to use Inter Yeast® S dried brewer's yeast in the diet of sucking lambs and adult ewes during lactation and during the 3-week period of preparation for mating. A good option is administration of the supplement with CJ concentrate in the amount of 50 g/kg mixture.

**KEY WORDS:** yeast, *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, sheep, productivity, immunity