

KRILL

WHAT ARE THE COSTS VERSUS BENEFITS FOR FISH FEED MANUFACTURERS?

by Aker BioMarine, Norway

In what seems like an almost daily occurrence, the Aker BioMarine (AKBM) teams across Chile, Latin America, Southeast Asia, Europe, and Norway are found fielding questions from customers about the cost versus benefits of adding one of its krill meal products, Qrill Aqua, into their feed formulas.

These same customers want to know how adding krill meal can improve growth performance and boost overall yields, without breaking the bank, in their commercial breeding operations. Below is a breakdown of how each of the company's divisions responds to such enquiries.

Chile

Chile is home to the second largest salmon market in the world, and it wants to stay at the top with a flourishing supply of healthy salmonids. Aker BioMarine Chile states that krill meal is a sustainable source of marine protein, phospholipids, choline, EPA and DHA, feed attractants and astaxanthin.

Krill's combination of feed attractants and nutrients explains

its growth-enhancing effects, which ultimately leads to less waste from the feed. The inclusion of krill meal in the diet is also shown to result in higher fillet yield and quality, less visceral fat, and better health and robustness of salmonids in terms of liver, heart, and intestinal health.

On top of all that, krill meal is a clean product in comparison to fish meal, as no plastic content has been discovered in krill.

Europe

The key focus of the European market is all about raising marine fish in healthy and stress-free environments.

In order to assist its customers in the pursuit of this, AKBM Europe state that early life stages of marine fish are more vulnerable with high mortality issues, which is why they need good quality marine ingredients to increase their survival, robustness, and disease resistance.

Krill meal contains a high amount of phospholipids, polyunsaturated fatty acids (PUFAs) such as EPA and DHA, sterols (mainly cholesterol) and astaxanthin esters that contribute

KRILL MEAL

- a sustainable feed ingredient for farmed species around the world



to the health and well-being of the fish.

Latin America

A thriving shrimp farming industry continues to be built in Latin America, with players seeking high quality nutritional ingredients.

In order to maintain this level of growth, AKBM Latin America suggests including three-to-five percent krill meal in the shrimp diet (for example, 50 kg/MT in starters and 30 kg/MT in grower feeds), farmers can improve shrimp culture performance without adding cost.

When the diet is low in fishmeal, krill meal's feed attractants increase palatability and improve growth performance of shrimp. The omega-3 phospholipids present in krill meal assure that fats (cholesterol and triglycerides) are efficiently emulsified and digested, stored in the hepatopancreas, and mobilised when needed.

Southeast Asia

A strong market for both shrimp and marine fish, Southeast Asia has flourishing hubs in both Thailand and Vietnam. AKBM Southeast Asia offers a global recommendation for sustainable development, which is to include marine ingredients from a lower

trophic level in aquaculture feeds.

Krill is a sustainable and pure alternative to fish meal and is characterised by a high content of omega-3 phospholipids, as well as a healthy biomass. Krill meal can be used as a formulation tool to decrease the reliance on fishmeal, which helps improve the cost efficiency and sustainability of feeds.

Norway

When speaking with the AKBM Norway team, the country's feed manufacturers want to know why krill meal is a superior alternative to fishmeal, and how it meets the strong sustainability standards trending in today's aquaculture supply chain.

The team response is that Qrill Aqua has biological benefits and improves your production. It can compensate for weaknesses in other feed ingredients by adding taste and essential nutritional components. Krill meal is commonly used and scientifically proven to be beneficial for the fish and the environment.

During its 15 years as feed supplier, Aker BioMarine has overcome many of the challenges new raw material suppliers face today, including traceability, scalability, and setting up a strong supply chain.

Krill is known today as a well-documented, natural, and highly sustainable ingredient source.

AQUAFLEX