

## First Feed Supplement Based on Endomicrobial Ecology to Hit Market in 2018

30 Nov 2017 Source: Feedinfo News Service

30 November 2017 - US endomicrobial ecology pioneer Ascus Biosciences is planning to introduce the first endomicrobial feed supplement based on endomicrobial ecology in 2018, following regulatory approvals.

Established in 2015, Ascus is based in San Diego, with commercial operations headquartered in Indianapolis. Ascus has combined high throughput sequencing methods with proprietary computational methods to illuminate the inner workings of an animal's microbiome. Ascus has identified 50,000+ unique microbial strains from more than 4,500 dairy cow rumen samples. Analysis of these samples allowed the identification of a core set of common microbial strains distinguishing high performing dairy cows from their lesser performing peers. Ascus researchers then analyzed the relationships between these microbes and how they affect dairy cow functions and health. Based on this proprietary discovery platform, Ascus has built new tools supporting the animal with solutions tailored to the animal's natural biology.

"There is no other technology or product that uses novel beneficial microbes derived from the animal's own GI system to improve gastrointestinal health and performance. When used as the basis for feed supplements, the science of endomicrobial ecology is distinct from other additive technologies currently used in animal health and nutrition", says Dr. William Weldon, chief operations officer at Ascus.

Mike Seely, CEO and co-founder of Ascus, adds: "There is a tremendous demand for more natural products that help solve some of the most important problems within animal systems. We believe that identifying the right microbes from the ground up represents the next wave of innovation for our industry".

Ascus has a broad pipeline of all-natural, endomicrobial products in development across livestock and companion animals. 'Galaxis' is the company's flagship product and is expected to launch as early as H1 2018 in select international dairy markets.