

Comparison hygiene powders

MS DryCare vs Stalosan F



■ Goal:

MS DryCare and Stalosan F are both hygiene powders or active drying agents used in all kinds of animal pens. Stalosan F claims that it can absorb up to 400% when the moisture is an ammonia solution. Because ammonia is naturally present in all animal pens/stables/boxes, we wanted to test the claims made by Stalosan F. This is then compared with MS DryCare and its ability to absorb an ammonia solution.

■ Methods:

When testing the ability to absorb moisture, the standard way to do this is by measuring the mass of moisture the drying powder can absorb. This translates to 50g of powder in a filter completely submerged for a good 10 minutes. After that we let the filter drip out for 2 minutes and the net weight can be measured. Because we used 50g of powder at the start, we know that the extra weight in the end is all moisture that has been absorbed. In this test we use a 1% and a 5% ammonia solution. The normal amount of ammonia found in a stable is 1%, but the maximum in urine goes up to 5%.

■ Results:

	MS drycare + water	Stalosan + water	MS drycare + 1% ammonia	Stalosan + 1% ammonia	MS drycare + 5% ammonia	Stalosan + 5% ammonia
Massa sample (g)	49,97	50,00	50,02	50,00	50,05	49,98
Massa moisture (g)	104,23	29,45	145,53	33,39	142,53	36,32
% absorption (%)	208,59%	58,90%	290,94%	66,78%	284,77%	72,67%

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■ Conclusion

We can confirm that Stalosan F indeed absorbs more moisture when it is an ammonia solution, however, the amount it can absorb is significantly lower than our compared powder MS DryCare and also what is claimed on their own website, which is 400%. This is true for both water and the ammonia solutions of 1% and 5%.

Both powders can almost completely remove the smell of ammonia in the animal pen and where MS DryCare stays nicely granular, Stalosan F becomes a hardened cake which would stick to the animal's skin and can even be harmful.

In the end we want to point out that these experiments have been done in a laboratory and actual results in the stable can differ.