



# Press Release

For Immediate Release

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## **Arbion Completes Aquaculture Trials of SylPro®**

*Agriculture-biotechnology company passes significant milestone toward commercialization of novel protein ingredient for aquaculture feed with demonstrated results from first scientific studies*

**Durham, N.C. – July 18, 2019** – [Arbion](#), an agriculture-biotechnology company developing solutions to convert wood into food, today announced the results of recently completed scientific studies evaluating Arbion’s product as a high-quality alternative protein ingredient for use in aquafeed. The studies, conducted in collaboration with researchers at Texas A&M University, one of the leading aquaculture programs in the U.S., were designed to compare Arbion’s protein product SylPro® to conventional plant and animal protein sources, evaluating both its material handling properties and nutritional performance.

“The results of these studies are a critical and promising step in validating the effectiveness of SylPro as we continue to scale-up Arbion’s Wood to Food platform and bring our first commercial product to the market,” said Ricardo Ekmay, PhD, Vice President of Nutrition for Arbion.

SylPro is a yeast single-cell protein (SCP), that is produced using wood-derived media in fermentation and final downstream processing to achieve appropriate properties as a viable replacement for fish meal or plant protein concentrates. Arbion’s product has been developed to solve the challenges of protein sourcing and gastrointestinal health for aquaculture and livestock producers.

An initial trial assessing the material handling characteristics of SylPro suggest that it performs well in a range of extrusion conditions at varying inclusion levels in extruded feed. Results also highlighted additional functional binding properties conferred, which suggest SylPro could reduce the need for binding agents. The study concludes that Arbion’s protein ingredient behaves similar, or superior, to conventional protein ingredients in extruded feeds. The results were also presented at the 2019 World Aquaculture Society conference in New Orleans, Louisiana.

In a second study, the nutritional performance of SylPro was evaluated in hybrid striped bass. Feeds were formulated with Arbion’s high-protein ingredient at various inclusion rates. Growth (body weight), body composition, nutrient digestibility and general gastrointestinal health were evaluated over the course of a 60-day period.

The study results showed no differences in mortality or feed intake across all diets. There was no statistical difference in body weight gain or feed intake up to the 20 percent inclusion level of Arbion’s protein compared to the control diet. Further, SylPro showed an exceptional crude protein digestibility of 97%. These findings indicate that SylPro can be used to replace fish meal or plant-based proteins in hybrid striped bass diets and deliver equivalent nutritional performance as conventional protein sources up to 20 percent inclusion level.

“We believe SylPro will make a valuable contribution to addressing the challenges faced by aquaculture producers and feed formulators. The results from recent and future trials will continue to demonstrate science-backed performance of SylPro and accelerate our efforts to bring this superior protein source to the market,” said Marc Chevrel, Arbion CEO.

## **About Arbiom**

Arbiom is committed to meeting the sharp increase in global food and resource requirements with technology that transforms the most sustainable and readily available carbon source in the world – wood – into intermediate materials for a range of applications in the feed, food, and chemicals industries. Arbiom’s technology platform integrates the company’s proprietary enzyme technologies and biomass processing expertise to convert wood into food. Arbiom is partnering with biomass stakeholders and leading firms in aquaculture, biotechnology and bio-based industries to continue developing and scaling up its technology. Headquartered in Durham, North Carolina, Arbiom has offices in Paris, France, and Norton, Virginia, where it operates a pilot plant. To learn more about Arbiom, visit [www.arbiom.com](http://www.arbiom.com)

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