

Enzymatic hydrolysis – improving water stability of the shrimp feed



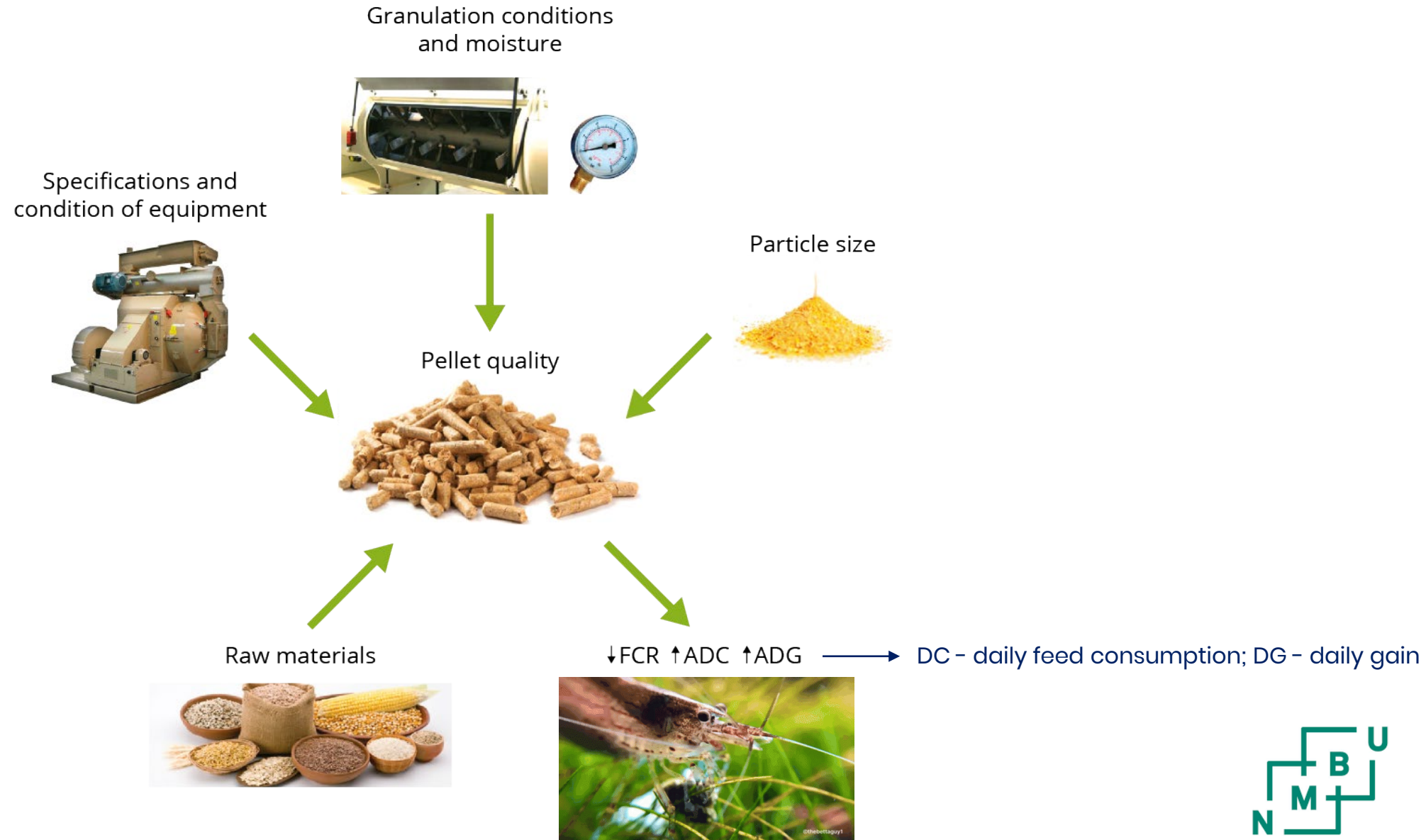
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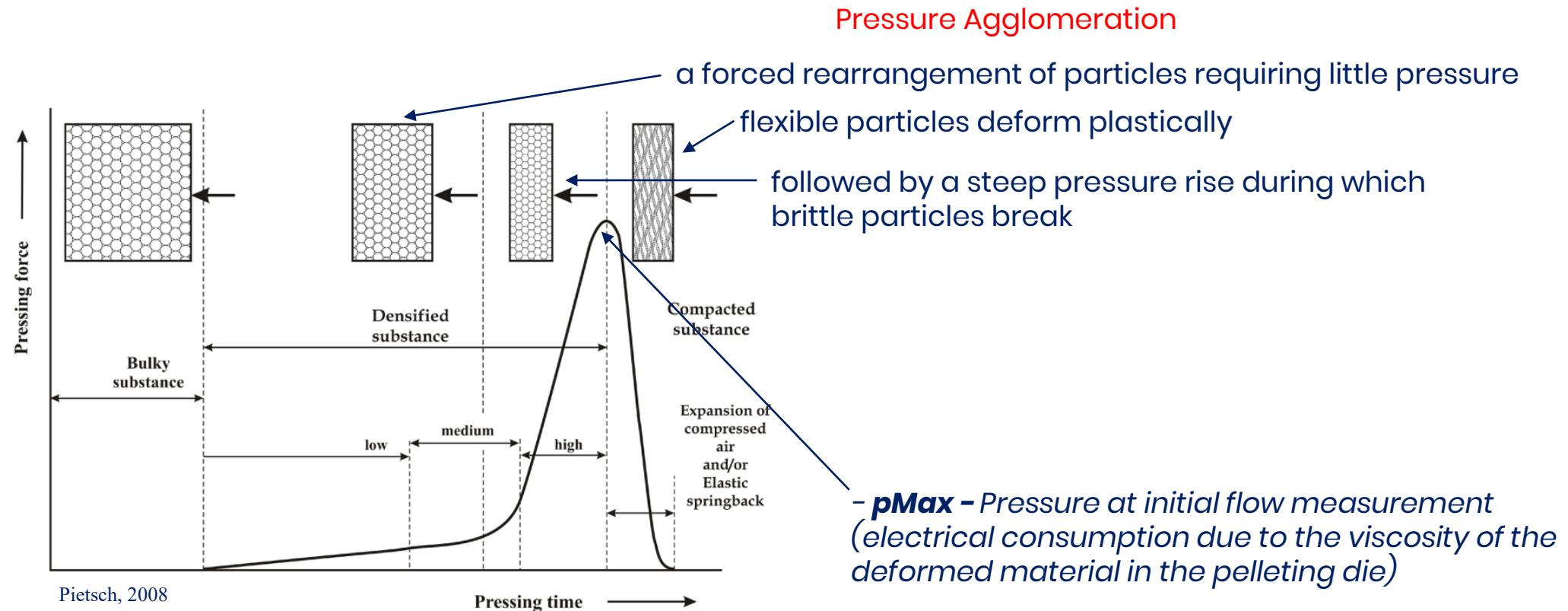
Importance of water stability in shrimp feed: Overview of enzymatic hydrolysis as a solution



- Pelleting
- Water stability for the shrimp pellets
- Enzymatic hydrolysis – benefits in digestibility and physical quality
- Improved digestibility and reduced leaching of nutrients
- Decreased water solubility and environmental impact
- Future perspectives

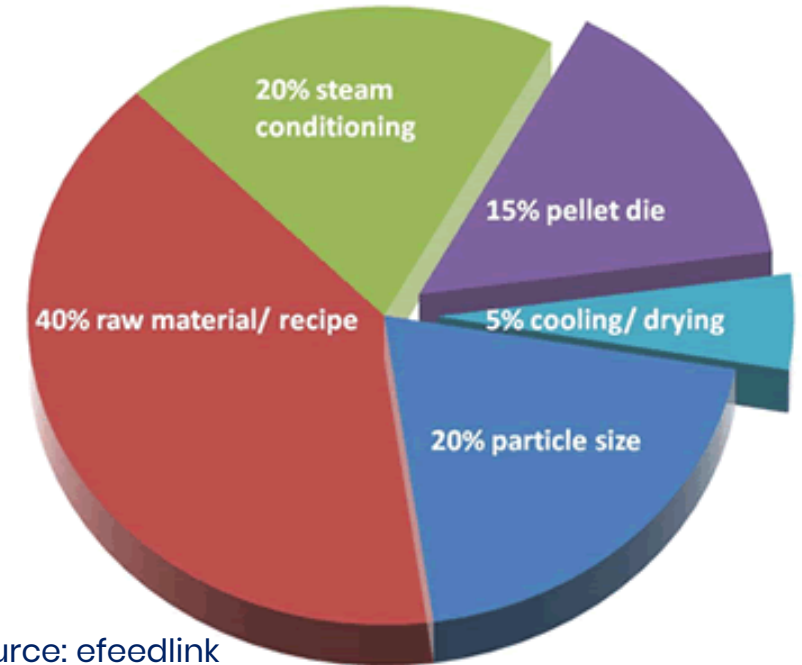


The Mechanism of Pelleting and its Rheology



- Ensuring consistent nutritional content with the correct technology;
- Cost-effective raw materials;
- Quality control issues – Preserving the technical quality of pellets:
 - Hardness (tensile stress)
 - Durability (attrition, feeding, deterioration)
 - Density (sinking)
 - Water stability

Influencing factor (technical quality)



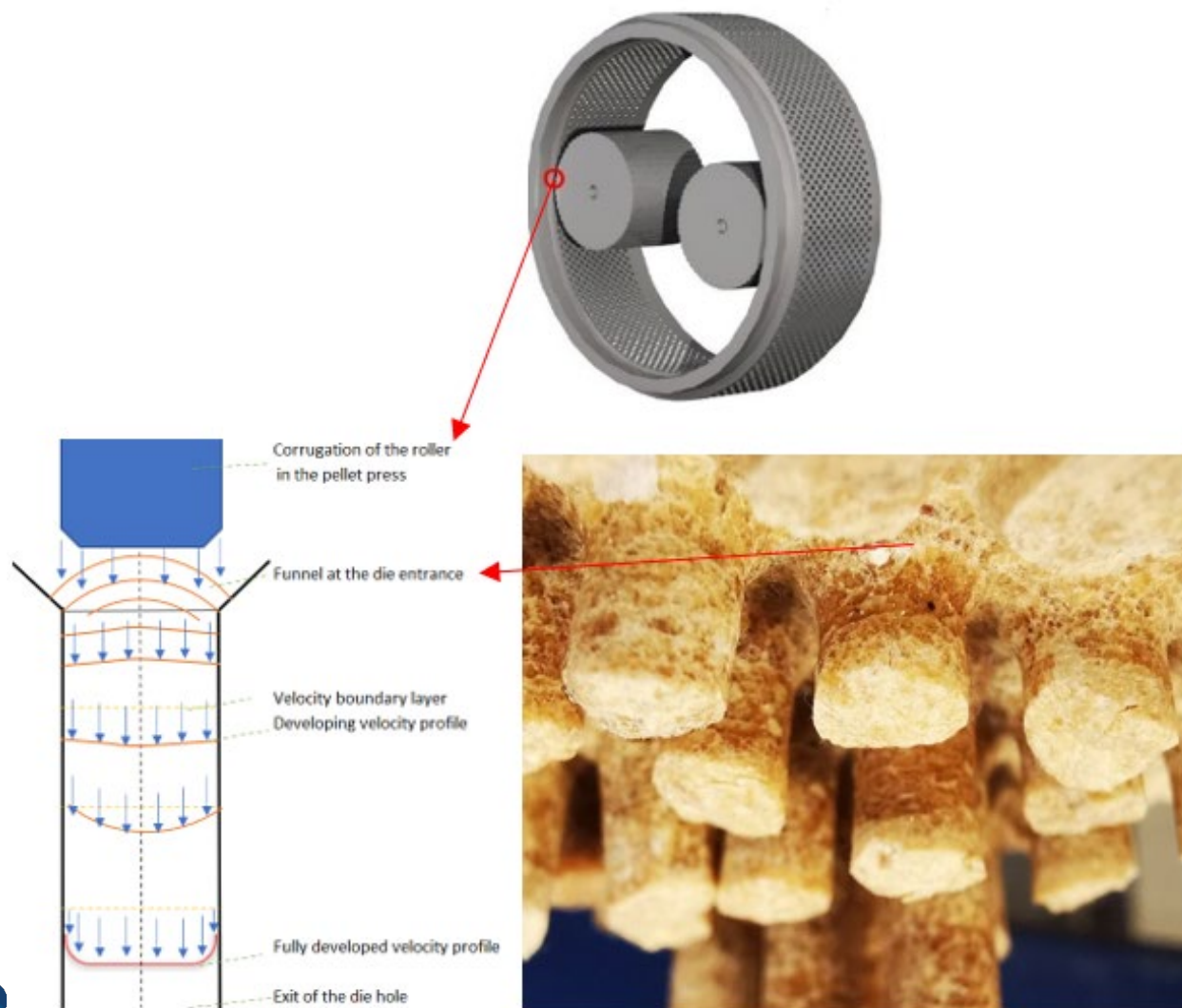
Source: efeedlink

The question that is often asked is...

A pile of pellets or... A valuable pile of pellets?

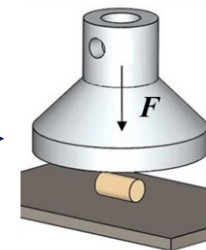


Quality Control Measurements

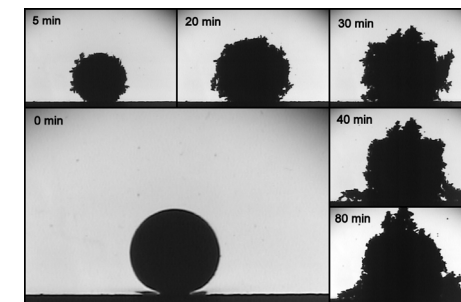


Pelleting

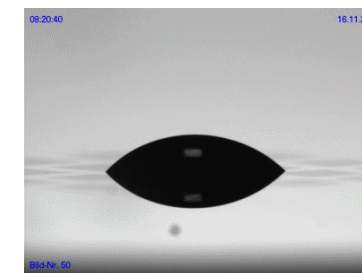
Tensile strength



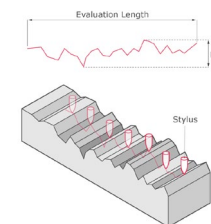
Water stability



Contact angle



Surface roughness

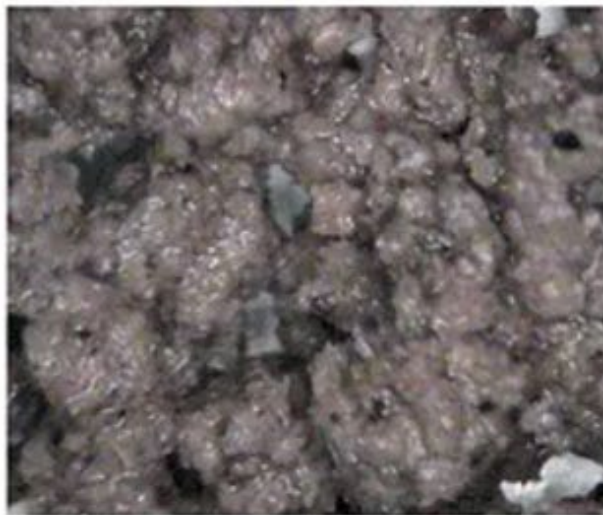


Analyses

- Definition of water stability (WS) in shrimp feed:
 - High WS ensures that the feed pellets do not disintegrate rapidly upon contact with water



Control Feed (No Binder)



After 30 Minutes in Water



Feed With Synthetic Binder



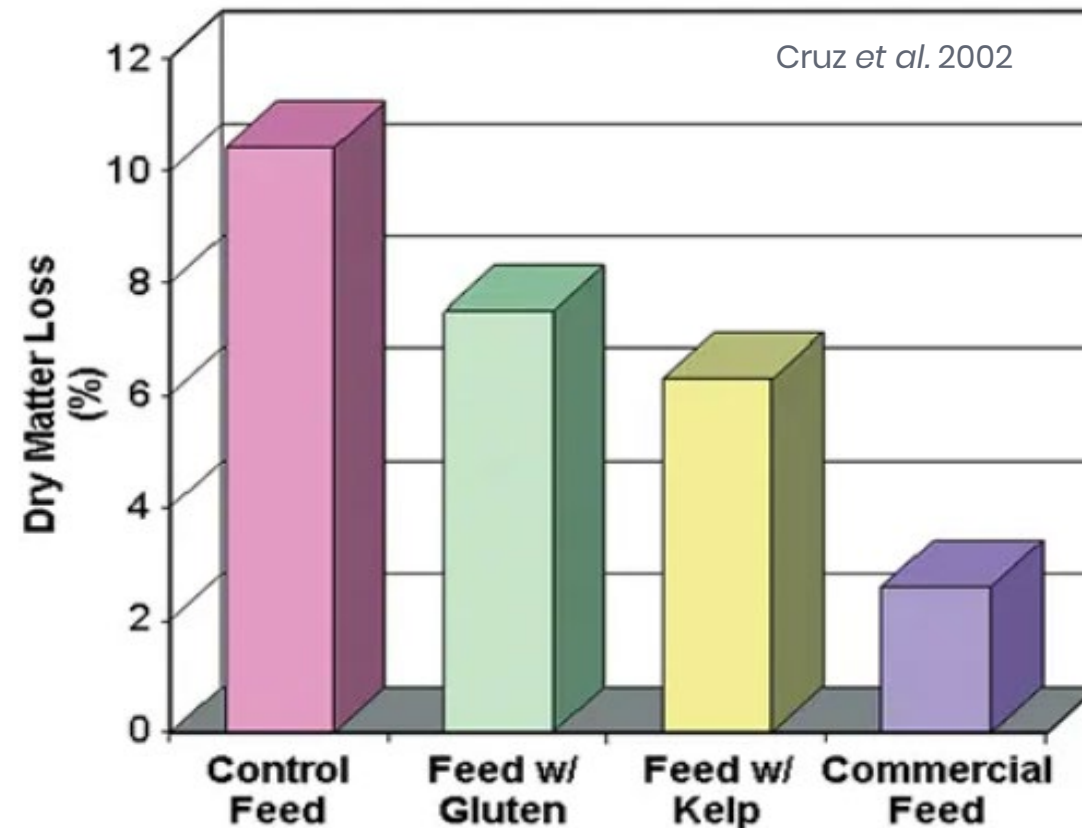
After 30 Minutes in Water

Feeds with a synthetic binder had the highest water stability, followed by kelp meal (Cruz *et al.*, 2002)

Importance of Water Stability for Aquaculture Production

- Reduces wastage and pollution in the aquatic environment
- Allows sufficient time for shrimp to locate and consume the feed
- Maximization of feed utilization and reduction of nutrient-loss

Leaching of dry matter after immersion of experimental shrimp feed pellets in seawater

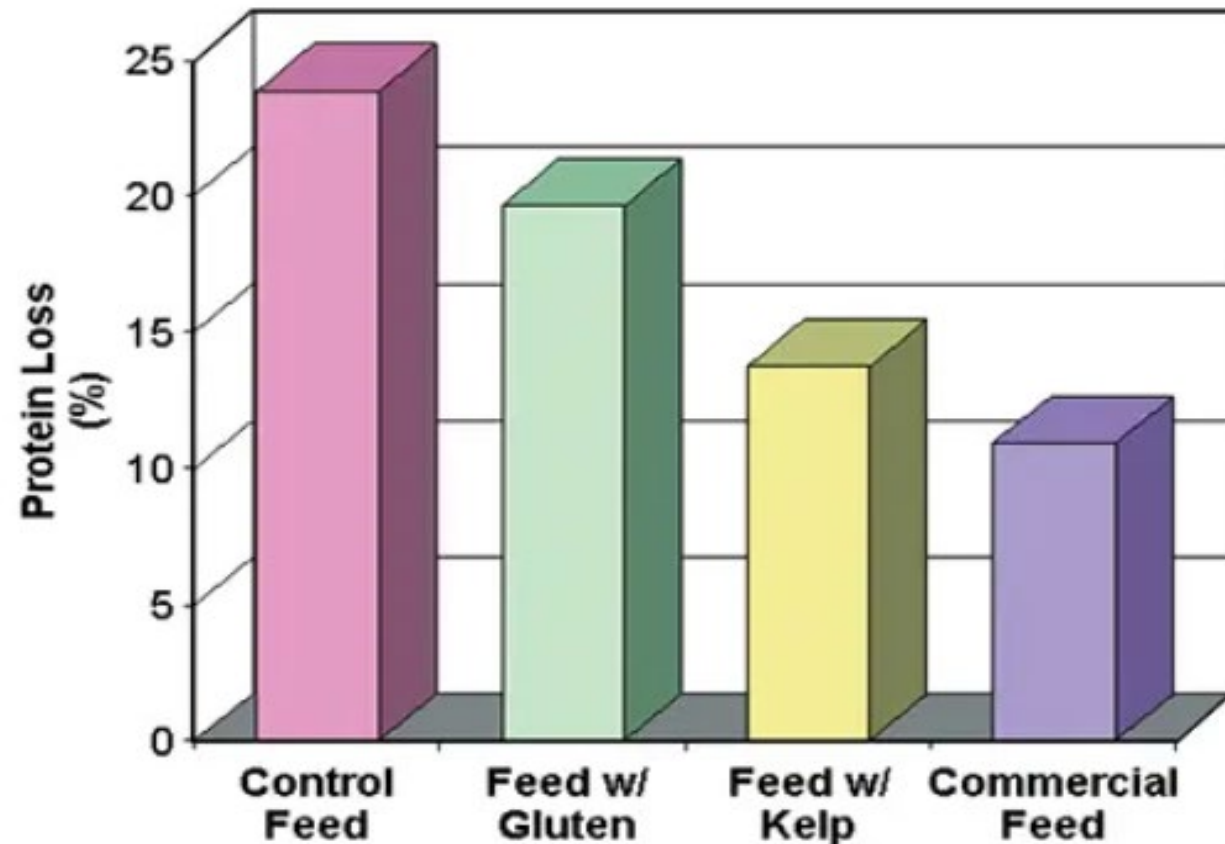


Challenges of Maintaining Feed Integrity in Aquatic Environments

- Feed management
- Water stability and dissolution of the nutrients
- Physical abrasion
- Feed wastage

Protein Loss (%) from the shrimp pellets underwater

Cruz et al. 2002



Enzymes Used in the Feed Manufacturing (a few examples)



- Enzymatic hydrolysis: biological breakdown under enzymatic influence:
 - Protease (proteins),
 - Xylanase (NSP),
 - Phytase (phosphorous),
 - Exo/Endo-1,3 β -glucanases (unicellular organisms – a cell wall)
- How enzymes break down complex molecules
 - Protease + Xylanase cleaves protein peptide bonds and releases phosphate (Bae *et al.*, 2013)
 - Cleaves xylan into xylose (Hardt *et al.*, 2014),
 - β -glucanases break down β -glucans attached to the cell wall and produce shorter oligosaccharides (Miladinovic *et al.*, 2022; Jin *et al.*, 2023)

Enzymes need enough free water to react to the substrate! What if you have a critically low a_w ?

Benefits of Enzymatic Hydrolysis in Shrimp Feed

- Improved digestibility
 - Increasing nutrient availability (Fabrini *et al.*, 2022; Hlordzi *et al.*, 2022)
- Enhanced binding properties
 - Lower viscosity in the upstream processes (Miladinovic *et al.*, 2015)
 - Better physical properties of the final product (Miladinovic *et al.*, 2021)
- Reduced leaching of nutrients (Hlordzi *et al.*, 2022)
- Decreased water solubility (Miladinovic *et al.*, 2021; 2024)



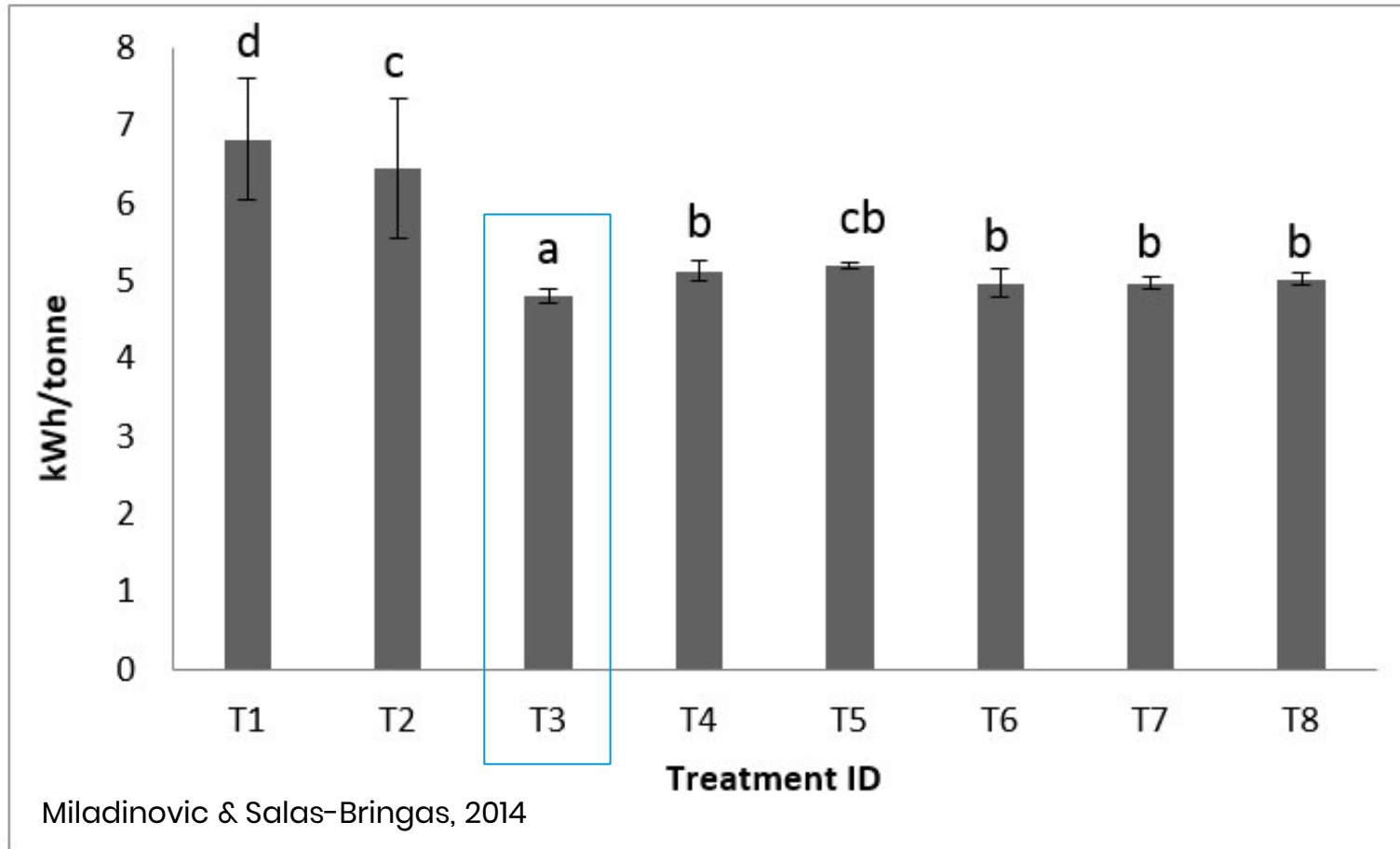
Source: Skretting

Enhanced Binding Properties (example: protease + phytase)

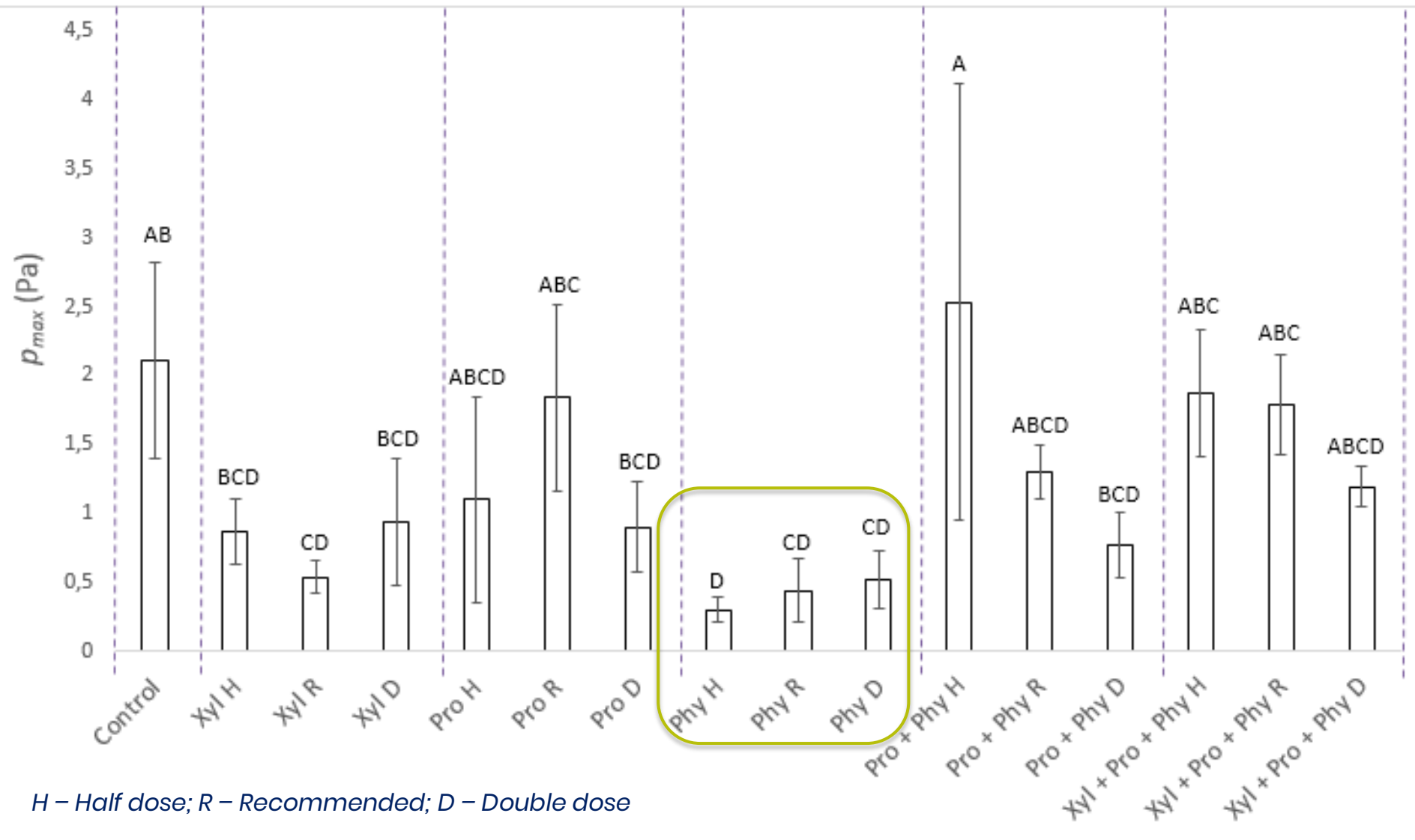


- Modification of molecular structure:
 - Protease catalyzes hydrolysis reactions (H_2O cleaves the peptide bonds and proteases breakdown complex protein molecules into smaller peptides)
 - Phytase (releasing inorganic phosphate and inositol)
- Improved adhesion between smaller feed particles,
- Maintenance of pellet integrity in water.

Xylanase can Reduce 28% Power Consumption During Pelleting of High Fibrous Materials

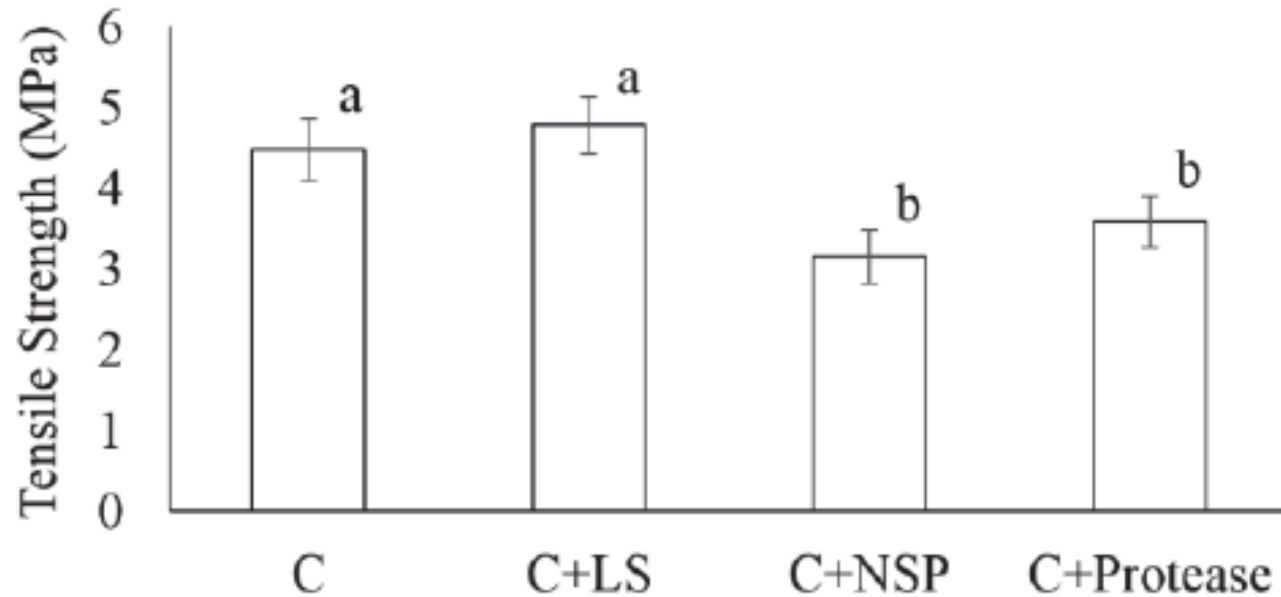


Effect of Phytase and its Dosage on Flow Resistance of Pellets (p_{\max}) in the Die During Microalgal Pellet Discharge



Miladinovic et al. 2021

Enzyme Addition Decreased the Tensile Strength of the Microalgal Pellets

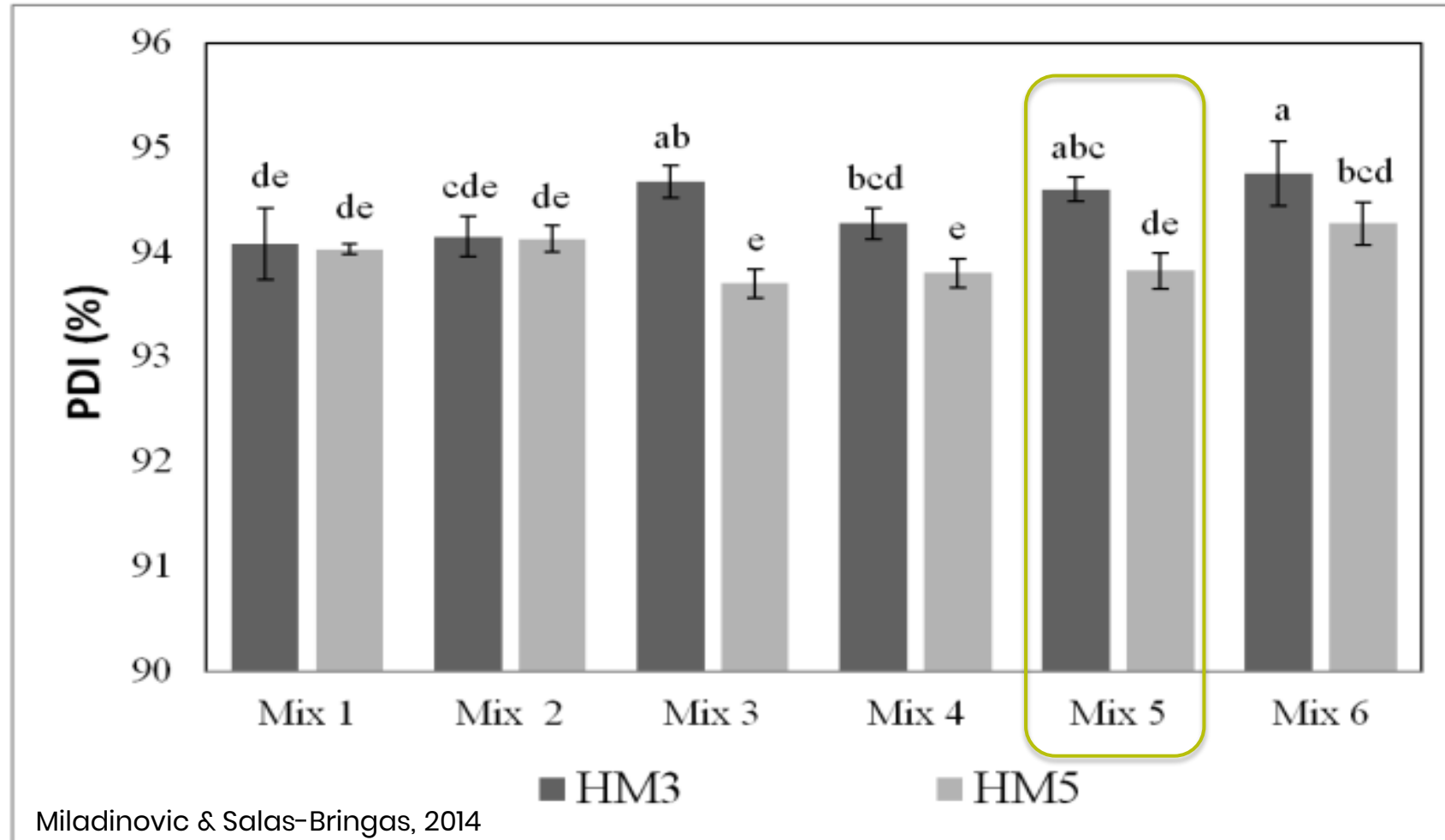


C – control; LS – lignosulphonate; NSP – xylanase

Miladinovic *et al.* 2015

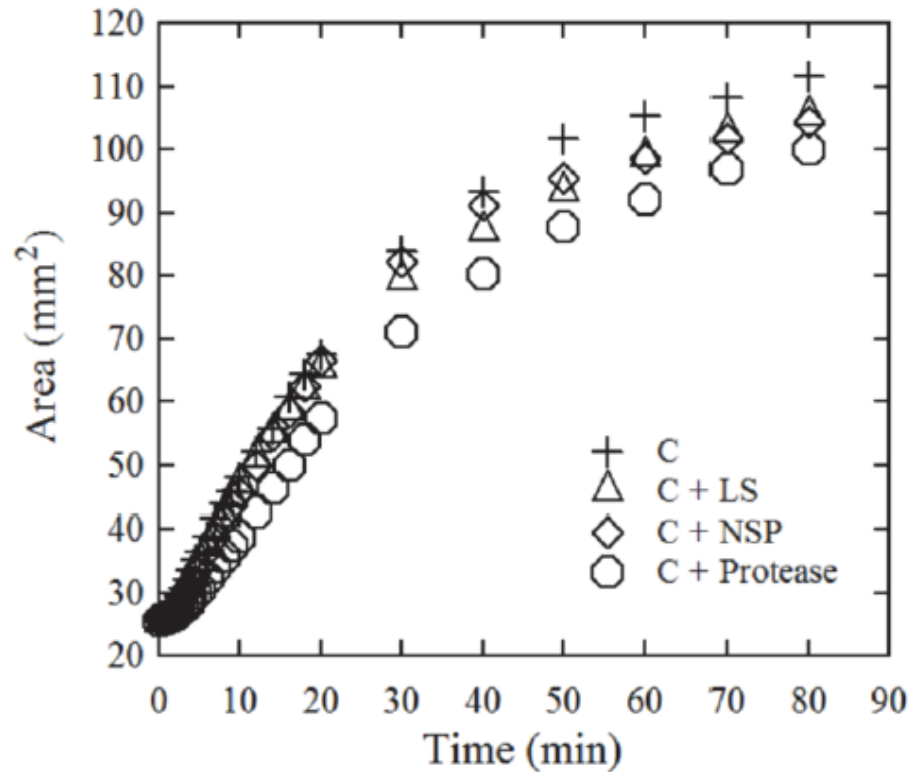


However, LS (0.5%) as a Binder can Repair the Physical Property of the Pellet (Xylanase + LS)

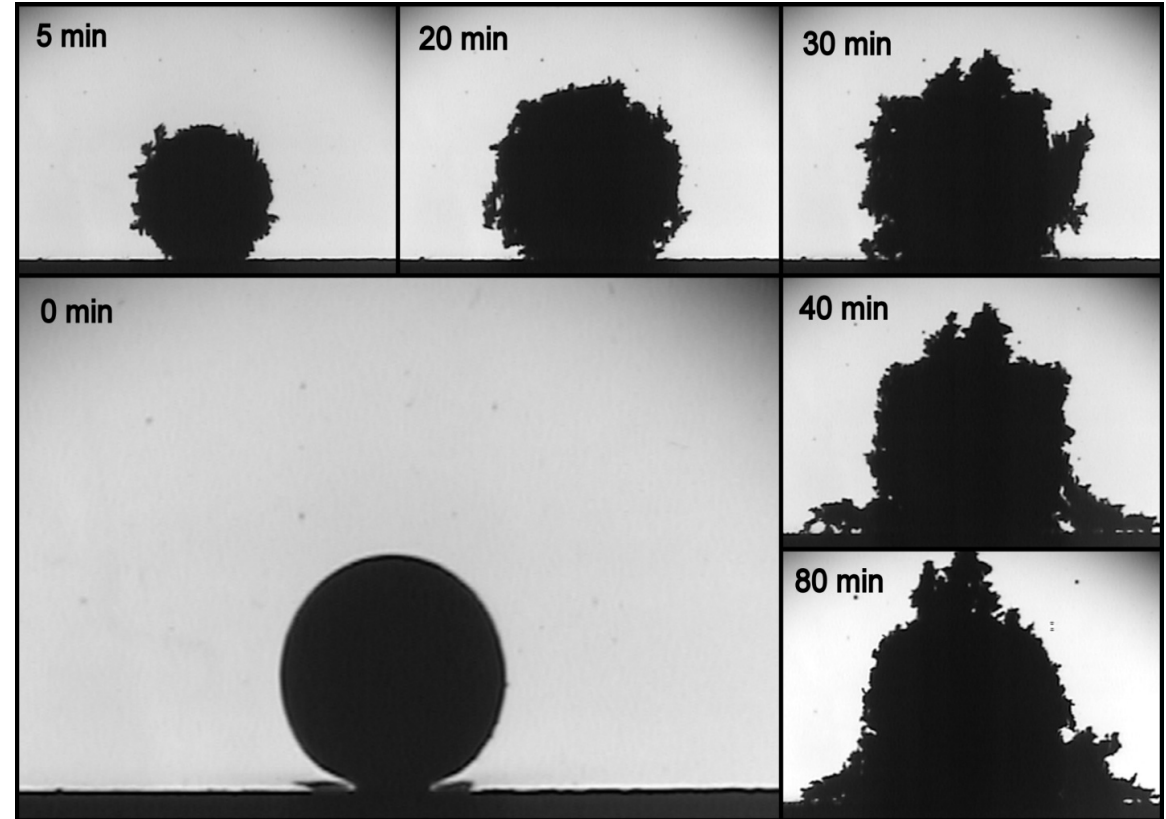


Protease Contributed to Reduced Microalgal Pellet Swelling

Average cross-sectional area of pellets placed underwater



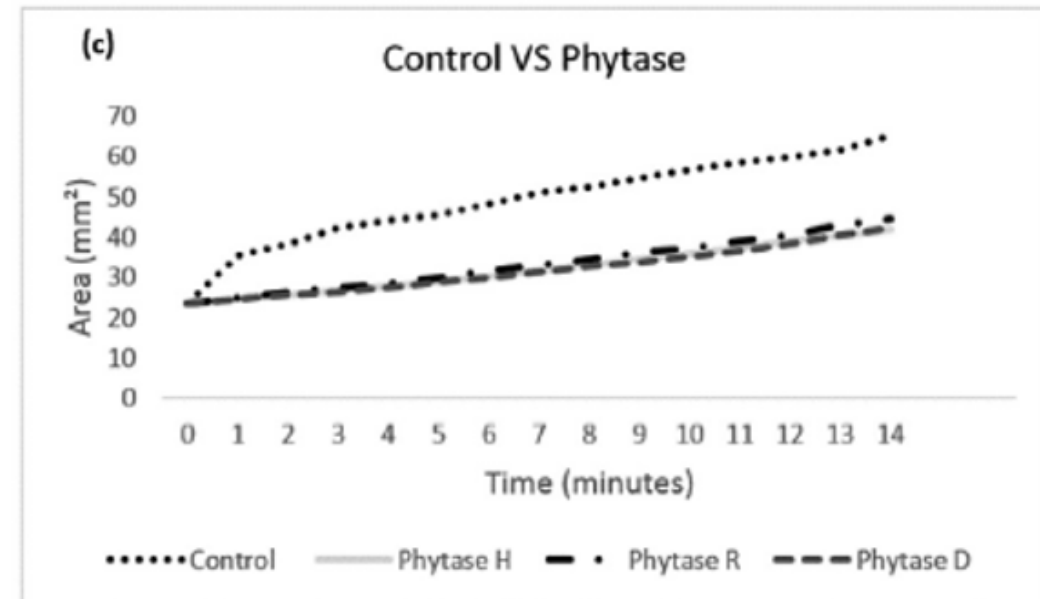
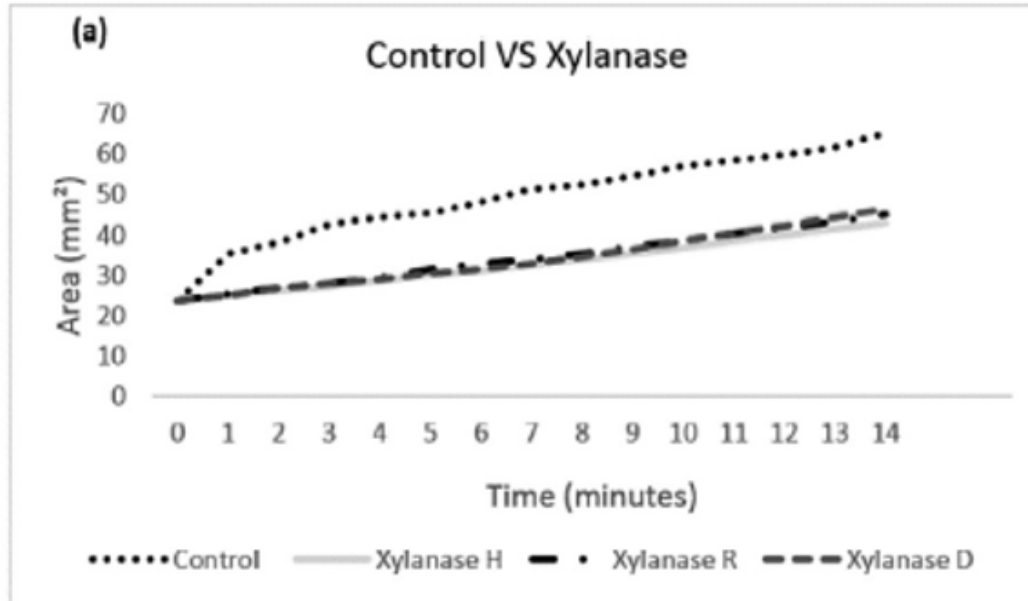
C – control; LS – lignosulphonate; NSP – xylanase



Miladinovic *et al.* 2015

Protease extends the usage time of the pellets underwater, thus allowing the farmed shrimps to find the pellet and consume it!

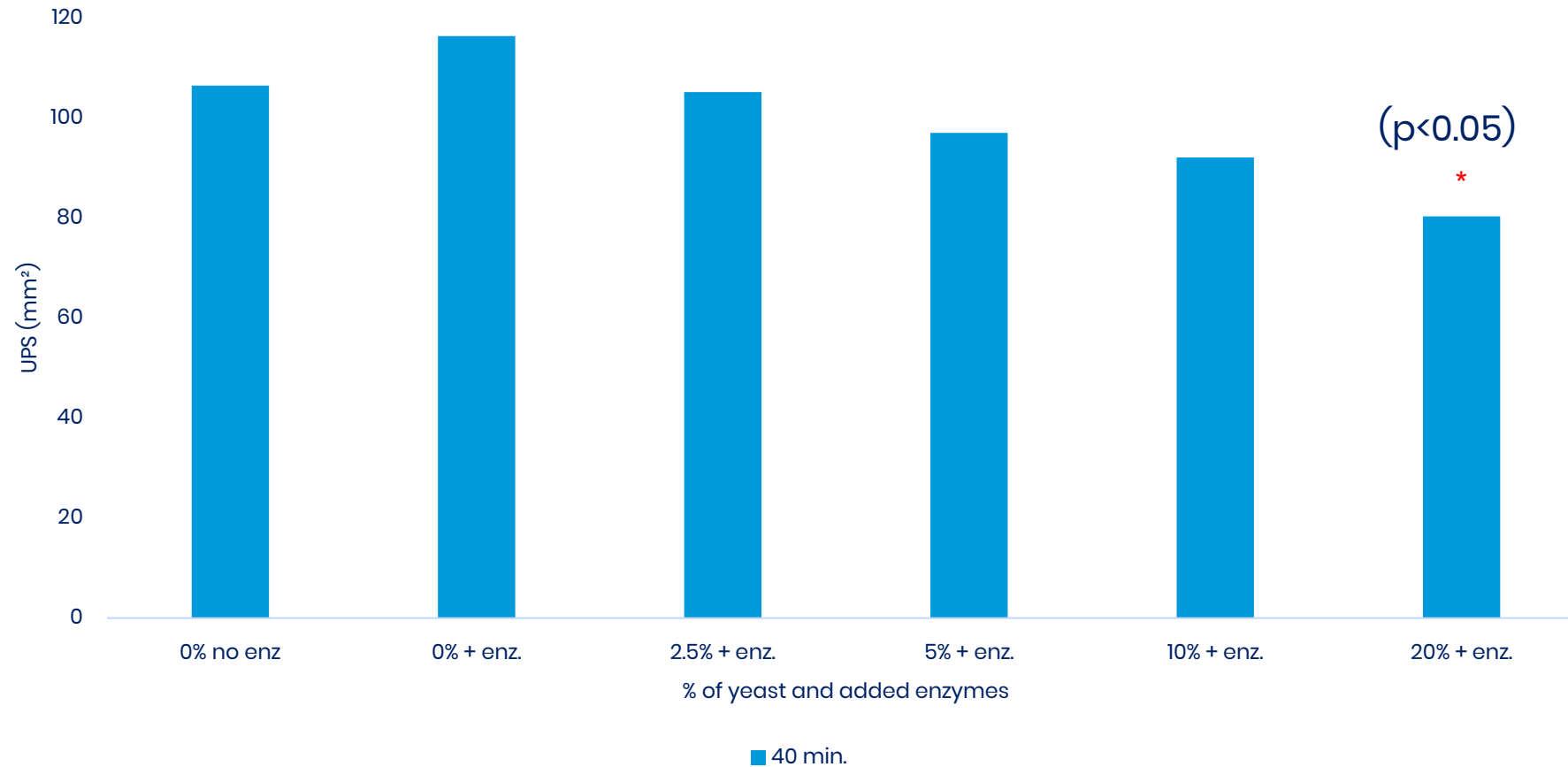
Underwater Pellet Swelling Decreased by Adding Xylanase or Phytase



H – Half dose; R – Recommended; D – Double dose

Miladinovic et al. 2021

Correct Formulation and Enzymes can Reduce Underwater Pellet Swelling



Miladinovic *et al.*, n.d.

Conclusion: Enzymes can Decrease Water Solubility of the Shrimp Feed Pellets

- Mechanism of reducing feed pellets water solubility through enzymatic hydrolysis;
- Importance for maintaining pellet structure;
- Extended longevity of feed pellets in water.



Conclusion: Good Pellet Integrity Underwater can Reduce Leaching of Nutrients (eutrophication)

Prevention of nutrient runoff (retention of valuable nutrients within feed pellets)



Positive impact on water quality and the aquatic environment



Conclusion: Enzymes as a Tool for Better Physical Pellet Quality can Help Environmental Impact of the Shrimp Feed

- Role of water-stable feed in minimizing environmental impact;
- Reduction of pollution and sedimentation;
- Contribution to sustainable aquaculture practices.



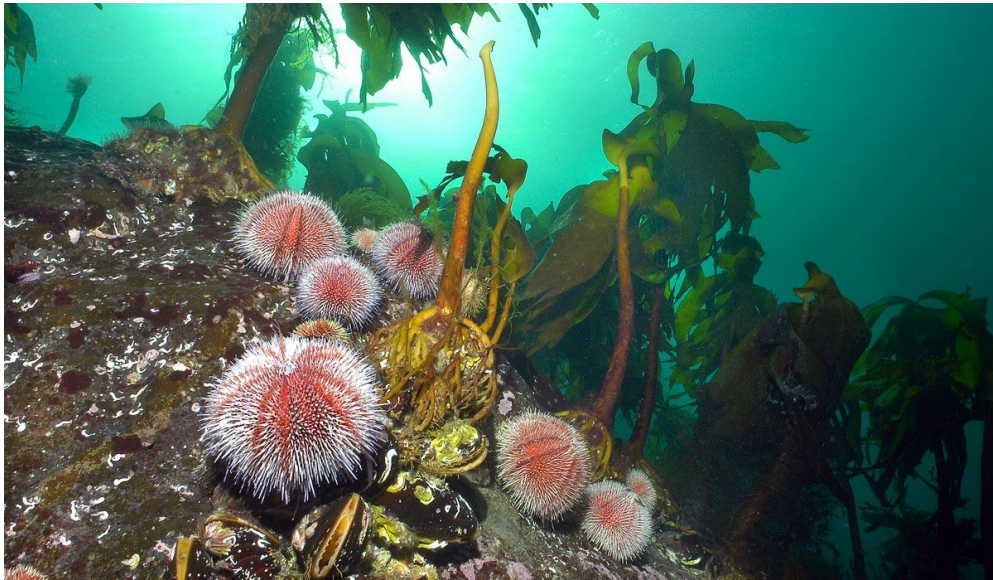
- Example of aquaculture operations implementing enzymatic hydrolysis in shrimp feed production (South America)
- Positive outcomes in terms of feed performance and environmental sustainability

"Incorporating **enzymatically treated shrimp feed** into our commercial operations has yielded remarkable results. Not only have we observed **significant** improvements in shrimp **growth** rates and overall health, but also notable **reductions in feed waste** and environmental impact."

- Benefits of enzymatic hydrolysis:
 - Enhanced water stability of the feed pellets,
 - Improved nutrient retention,
 - Preserving ecosystems for future generations,
- Transform shrimp farming with enzymatic hydrolysis;
- Enhance efficiency, boost shrimp health, and lead the way to sustainable aquaculture.

Future Directions and Opportunities

- Potential for further research and innovation in enzymatic hydrolysis technologies,
- Expansion of water-stable feed solutions for other aquatic species (sea urchins, abalones, etc..)



Thank you!

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