### SCIENTIFICALLY SHOWN HEALTH BENEFITS FOR DOGS

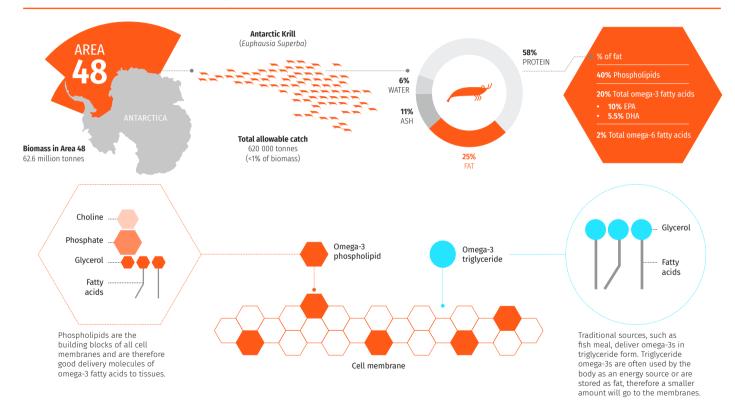
THE QRILL PET SCIENCE GUIDE



 $\langle \overline{} \rangle$  AKER BIOMARINE



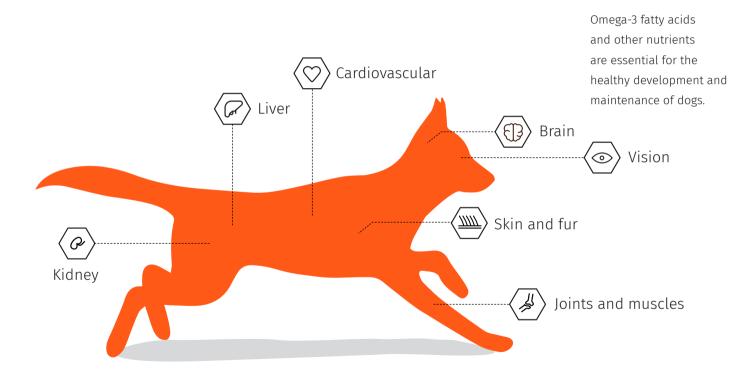
### The power of QRILL Pet - a unique functional marine ingredient



### The krill advantage - a combination of important nutrients

Phospholipid Omega-3s	<ul> <li>A lipid consisting of a phosphate, glycerol group and two fatty acids</li> <li>One of the most efficient source of EPA &amp; DHA</li> <li>Represent the building blocks of all cell membranes</li> </ul>
Marine proteins	<ul> <li>Krill is rich in highly palatable and digestable marine proteins</li> <li>The marine proteins in krill offer a complete amino acid profile</li> <li>100% sustainable &amp; traceable</li> </ul>
Astaxanthin	<ul> <li>A powerful antioxidant that acts as a natural preservative</li> <li>Supports immune function and protects all body cells from oxidative stress</li> </ul>
Choline	<ul> <li>Phosphatidylcholine - a natural source of the essential nutrient</li> <li>Important for muscle function, memory and liver health</li> </ul>

### Omega-3s and other nutrients are shown to have positive effects on vital organs of dogs



#### Scientific research on dogs

Aker BioMarine embraces research and is commited to document the effects of krill feed inclusion. Studies were performed to ensure and understand the advantages and mechanisms of dietary krill meal inclusion in dog diets.

<b>Study 1</b> Palatability study	6	
<b>Study 2</b> Omega-3 Index study	7	
<b>Study 3</b> Inflammation & muscle damage study	8	
<b>Study 4</b> Choline study	10	
<b>Study 5</b> Comparison study: Phospholipids vs. Triglycerides	12	

## Research has shown that the majority of dogs prefer QRILL Pet

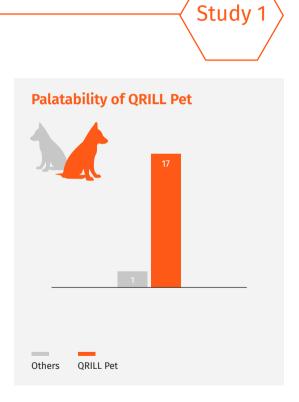
#### 18 Dogs - introduction to QRILL Pet

#### BACKGROUND

The objective of this study was to investigate the palatability of a QRILL Pet rich diet. 18 dogs were introduced to pet food containing QRILL Pet.

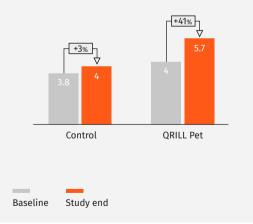
#### CONCLUSION

17 out of 18 dogs preferred the food that contained QRILL Pet.



# Study 2

Omega-3 Index (%)



#### A krill-rich diet increased the Omega-3 Index of active dogs by 41%

#### 30 Huskies - 52 Days



#### STUDY BACKGROUND

The objective of this study was to investigate the Omega-3 Index in Husky dogs with an inclusion of 8% QRILL Pet.

The Omega-3 Index was investigated in a 52-day randomized study with 30 dogs. 16 dogs received a diet with 8% QRILL Pet inclusion, while 14 dogs were in the control group. Blood samples were taken of all dogs at the beginning and the end of the study.

#### CONCLUSION

Results showed that dogs on a diet that contained 8% QRILL Pet had their Omega-3 Index increased by **41%**. There was no significant increase in the control group.

Iditarod race - QRILL Pet supports sled dogs during ultra-endurance race in Alaska

#### 32 Huskies - 5 weeks

#### **Omega-3 Index (%)**

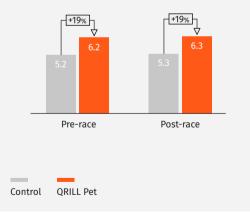
#### BACKGROUND

The effect of QRILL Pet on the **Omega-3 Index, inflammation and muscle damage** were investigated in a 5-week study with 32 dogs. 16 dogs received a diet with 8% QRILL Pet inclusion, while 16 dogs received a control diet. Blood samples were taken from all dogs at the beginning and the end of the 1000 miles/1600 km race.

#### OMEGA-3 INDEX RESULTS

Dogs in the QRILL Pet group had a significantly **higher Omega-3 Index** at the start (6.22% vs. 5.05%) and end (6.25% vs. 5.14%) than the dogs in the control group.

There was no significant difference in each group in the Omega-3 Index between the start and end of the race. However, EPA was increased during the race in all dogs participating, while DHA was decreased.

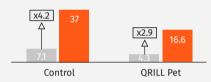


Study 3



#### Iditarod race - QRILL Pet supports sled dogs during ultra-endurance race in Alaska

#### C-reactive protein (µmol/L)



#### Creatine kinase (IU/L)



#### 32 Huskies - 5 weeks



#### SECOND OBJECTIVE

Another objective of the Iditarod study was to investigate the effect of 8% inclusion of QRILL Pet on **inflammation and muscle damage** of these highly athletic dogs during the long-distance sled dog race. The 1000miles / 1600km race spreads over 8-15 days.

#### PROMISING RESULTS

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- 55% less inflammation in dogs with krill inclusion
- Creatine kinase (marker for tissue damage) has a higher increase in the control group than the QRILL Pet group

#### Dogs on a krill diet had their choline plasma levels increased by 52%

20 Huskies – 6 weeks



#### Choline levels (µmol/L)

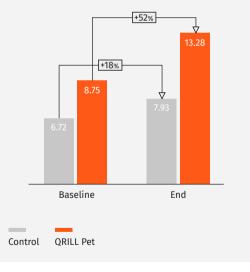
#### BACKGROUND

The study investigated if 8% dietary krill meal inclusion for six weeks can increase the concentration of choline and its metabolites in plasma of Alaskan Huskies in comparison to a control group.

#### CHOLINE RESULTS

Plasma Choline concentrations increased in the 8% QRILL Pet group. After 6 weeks, the dogs which received a QRILL Pet diet have an average **increase of 52%**.

The results demonstrated that a nutritional strategy, such as the addition of phosphatidylcholine to the diet, can help to significantly increase plasma choline concentrations.



Study 4



## Krill supplementation significantly changed important choline metabolites of dogs

#### **Dimethlglycine\* Betaine\*** (umol/L) (umol/L) 429.6 34.1 230.1 14.8 Baseline End Baseline End **Methionine** Homocysteine\* (umol/L) $(\mu mol/L)$ 10.1 114.7 8.3 106.2 Baseline End Baseline End

#### MORE POSITIVE RESULTS

Correlations of metabolite changes of QRILL Pet supplemented dogs show increases for betaine, dimethylglycine (glucose metabolism) and methionine (methyl donor) and a reduction for homocysteine (heart disease risk factor).

All changes, except for methionine, are significant.

\*Statistical significant results

## Comparison study - Omega-3 attached to phospholipids vs. triglycerides

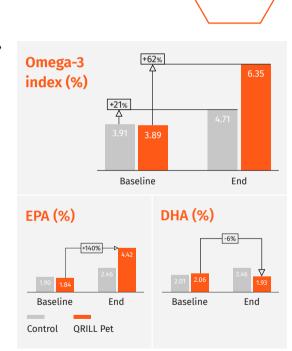
20 Huskies - 6 weeks

#### BACKGROUND

The objective of this study was to compare **Omega-3 Index** concentrations when provided in phospholipid versus triglyceride form. 20 dogs were involved in a 6-week study. 10 dogs received a diet with 8% QRILL Pet inclusion, while 10 dogs in the control group received a diet that included omega-3 triglycerides (Appetitt Adult). Blood samples were taken at the beginning and after 6 weeks.

#### PROMISING RESULTS

The main increase was seen in EPA. Results showed that dogs on a diet that included 8% QRILL Pet had their Omega-3 Index **increased by 63%**. Dogs on triglyceride omega-3s had a lower increase.

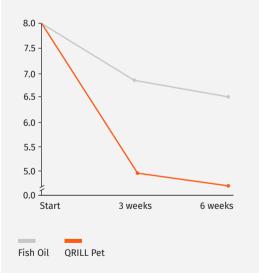


Study 5



### Dogs receiving a krill diet showed reduced Omega-6 to omega-3 PUFA ratio

#### n-6/n-3 PUFA Ratio



#### STUDY RESULTS

EPA and DHA can only increase in red blood cell membranes, when the relative amount of other fatty acids decreases in parallel and thereby also their bioactive derivatives.

This study found that there was a compensatory decrease in omega-6 fatty acids, i.e. arachidonic acid decreased by 8.1% in the krill meal group, which contributed to a reduced omega-6 to omega-3 PUFA ratio.

The results of the study suggest that phospholipids are efficient delivery molecules of omega-3 fatty acids.

### All studies were done in collaboration with champion sled dog teams



### Team Sigrid Ekran

Sigrid Ekran and her dogs are two times world champions in long distance sled dog racing (2011 and 2015). She started her professional career in the Iditarod Race in Alaska.

Today, she and her dogs live in Alvdal, Norway on a big farm. Her dogs play an important role in her life. During the studies her dogs continued with their daily routines as professional sled dogs.



### Team Thomas Wærner

Thomas Wærner is a professional long distance musher. He won the Finnmarksløpet in 2019 and 2013, as well as the Femundløpet in 2019. In 2015 he was crowned as "Rookie of the year" at the Iditarod race, where he finished 17th.

He owns and runs the Berserk kennel in Synnfjell, Norway. During the study his dogs continued with their daily activities and training as professional sled dogs.

#### Why choose QRILL Pet? One ingredient with many benefits



#### **Unique Distinction**

Omega-3s come in different forms. The majority of ORILL Pet omega-3s are in the phospholipid form.



#### **Palatable proteins**

Marine proteins - A healthy and at the same time tasty ingredient choice for pets.



#### **Powerful Astaxanthin**

No additives required, since the omega-3s are naturally protected by astaxanthin.



#### **Additional nutrients**

Choline, containing phospholipids, is a natural component in krill, allowing pets to benefit from this nutrient.

#### **Responsible fishery**

From one of the most sustainable fishery in the world, with 100% traceability guarantee.

Aker BioMarine is a leading biotechnology company developing and supplying krillderived products for consumer health and animal nutrition. Dedicated to improving human and planetary health, the company has a strong position in the industry. Our functional marine ingredients come from a 100% traceable and sustainable supply chain.

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QRILL Pet is a 100% natural product made only from whole Antarctic krill. When developing this functional marine ingredient, we kept our focus on the needs of pets and pet food formulators. Aimed at keeping pets healthy, QRILL Pet delivers long-chain omega-3 fatty acids, marine proteins, choline and the antioxidant astaxanthin. The unique distinction of krill omega-3s is that they are mainly bound to phospholipids. "Aker BioMarine is committed to continuously increase scientific documentation of health and nutrition benefits throughout the Superba and QRILL product segments – whether for people, pets, or aquaculture."

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