Claims

1. The non-therapeutic use of at least one population of at least one Archaebacteria species in the preparation of an enriched animal feed composition characterized in that, said enriched animal feed composition comprises at least 10^8 Archaebacteria cells per gram and wherein said enriched animal feed composition increases animal growth rates and/or ameliorates the animal faecal waste impact on environment compared to standard non-enriched animal feeds.
2. The non-therapeutic use according to claim 1, characterized in that said enriched animal feed composition is for animal farming.
3. The non-therapeutic use according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the at least one Archaebacteria species is a methanogenic Archaebacteria species.
4. The non-therapeutic use according to claim 3, wherein the methanogenic Archaebacteria species is a *Methanosphaera stadtmanae* species or a *Methanobrevibacter smithii* species.
5. The non-therapeutic use according to any of claims 1 to 4, characterized in that the enriched animal feed composition is in a solid form.
6. The non-therapeutic use according to any of claims 1 to 5, characterized in that said at least one population of at least one Archaebacteria species is obtained by isolation from a rumen extract.
7. The non-therapeutic use according to claim 2, wherein the animals are birds, mammals or aquatic animals.
8. An enriched animal feed composition characterized in that it comprises 107 Archaebacteria cells per mill of said composition for use in reducing susceptibility to parasitic infections of animals wherein the Archaebacteria is a methanogenic Archaebacteria species.
9. The enriched animal feed composition for use according to claim 8, wherein the animals are birds, mammals or aquatic animals.

10. The enriched animal feed composition for use according to claim 8 or 9, wherein the methanogenic Archaebacteria species is the *Methanosphaera stadtmanae* species or the *Methanobrevibacter smithii* species.

11. The enriched animal feed composition according to any of claims 8-10, characterized in that said enriched animal feed composition is in a solid form.

12. The enriched animal feed composition according to any of claims 8-11, characterized in that said Archaebacteria is obtained by isolation from a rumen extract.