

The PorcLine

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This is our first issue...

This first issue highlights select presentations made at this year's AASV annual meeting.

PRRSV Inoculation. Many people are now using this method to control PRRSV within herds. Presentations focused on principles, methods, results and regulatory concerns. The take home: This can be an effective means of mitigating the effects of PRRSV compared to other existing methods.

Parity Segregation. There was an entire pre-conference session devoted to this topic. More and more systems are utilizing this production practice to improve system throughput. Nutrition and labor inputs can be more efficiently applied. It has been successfully used as a precursor to PRRS and mycoplasma elimination.

"Quote of the meeting"

"Mass inoculation (*of wild type PRRSV*) and unidirectional pig flow is an effective means of PRRSV control." Dr. Mark FitzSimmons, Swine Graphics Enterprises

American Association of Swine Veterinarians Annual Meeting. March 4-8, 2005 in Toronto, Ontario

Aerosol Transmission of Swine Pathogens. Dr. Robert Desrosiers reviewed the literature and presented convincing evidence for the role of aerosol transmission of Foot & Mouth Disease, Mycoplasma hyopneumoniae and PRRSV. The literature suggests that aerosol spread within 2 km is a common route of disease transmission.

Hepa Filtration of Boar Studs. Dr. Andy Holtkamp of Iowa Select Farms gave a presentation detailing how the retrofitted an existing stud in Central Iowa to positive pressure hepa filtered ventilation. It has been in place three months. Experiences from France indicate this is a highly effective means of protecting pigs in pig dense areas. Cost is around \$1000 per boar to retrofit existing facilities.

Potentiation of Circovirus by Commercial Oil & Water Vaccines. Convincing evidence now exists that commercial oil & water vaccines can potentiate Post Weaning Multisystemic Wasting Syndrome (PMWS). This complex disease is also made worse by the presence of other infectious disease agents. If you are facing PMWS, look at vaccine timing & product.

Flies, Flies, Flies! Several presentations were devoted to the role that flies can play as a mechanical vector for PRRSV. There are numerous types of flies that can be vectors for PRRSV and other diseases. Each has its own breeding grounds and preferred resting areas. If you are in an area near PRRSV infected pigs, it is worthwhile to develop an integrated fly control program consisting of screening, elimination of breeding areas and chemical control.

Treatment of Ear Hematomas. A student paper compared treatment of hematomas vs. leaving them alone. They found faster healing when the pigs were left alone than if they were treated.

Early Detection of PRRSV. A presentation by Dr. Darwin Reicks shared the data from his comparison of methods to detect PRRSV in boars. The take home message: Serum is better than blood swabs; blood swabs are better than semen.

Multilateral collaborative PRRSV research efforts. There is great interest in correlating gene maps with PRRSV resistance. If you have thoughts on a project, let's get in touch with the researchers who can help direct funding to your advantage. This meeting also revealed a need to determine the amount of PRRSV needed to infect a population of previously exposed animals. This is important for the development of entire population immunity, a prerequisite to virus elimination.

Biosecurity Compliance & Regional Perspectives. Dr. Jean-Pierre Vaillancourt used several examples from the poultry industry to detail the value of bio-security compliance and regional cooperation.

Reprints



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We have an index of the proceedings from the 2005 AASV meeting held March 4-8th in Toronto, ON. If you would like full reprints of any articles of interest, contact us and we will fax, email or mail these to you!