

The PorcLine

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In this issue...

This issue highlights select presentations made at this year's ISU Swine Disease Conference. This conference is focused on practical pig health applications.

"Quote of the meeting"

"Industry is data rich and analysis poor. Academia is data poor and analysis rich."

-Dr. Locke Karriker, Iowa State University.

In the next issue...

We will highlight papers presented at the 2006 Annual Meeting of the American Association of Swine Veterinarians to be held in tropical Kansas City in March, 2006.

Iowa State University Swine Disease Conference. November 10 & 11, 2005 in Ames, Iowa

Swine Medicine & Production at Iowa State University. Dr. John Thomson, Dean of the ISU College of Veterinary Medicine reviewed some of the factors affecting swine veterinary medicine. Key points were that food animal agriculture is underserved, student debt averages \$81K, salaries are escalating at near double digits per year and there is a shortage of students interested in servicing this area in the near future.

Evidence-Based Medicine. Dr. Mike Apley of Kansas State University gave an overview of Evidence-Based Medicine. This is a new approach beginning to be utilized in food animal medicine. It requires a whole new level of critical appraisal and review, coupled with clinical monitoring of outcomes. It offers tremendous potential to improve our problem solving speed.

Needle-Less Injections—Good, Bad or Ugly? Dr. Scanlon Daniels gave a review of needle free injection devices. It is now possible to completely replace needle use in swine production. While significant hurdles remain for industry adoption, this is a significant advancement.

Circovirus and PMWS. Dr. John Ellis of the Western Veterinary College and Dr. Pat Halbur of Iowa State University reviewed the current knowledge of Circovirus. It is important to know that there is a severe outbreak of PMWS in eastern provinces of Canada, primarily affecting Quebec and Ontario. Spread of the agent via semen is a concern researchers are wanting to explore further. Management efforts to control the severity of the disease have not been fruitful.

It's Wintertime! Time to review how easily disease can be transmitted in the winter and what steps everyone in your operation can take to minimize the risk of disease outbreaks. Let us know if we can help.

Reprints



I can be reached on-line: scanlon@circleanimalhealth.com

We have an index of the proceedings from the 2005 Iowa State University Swine Disease Conference. If you would like full reprints of any articles of interest, contact us and we will fax, email or mail these to you!