
"HOGG SENSE"

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PRRS: Serum samples from cull sows are not a good indicator of the number of positive animals by immunofluorescence assay (IFA). Use of IFA as a test to detect herd infection should be done with sera from young pigs (late nursery or early grower) or breeding animals that have had recent signs. (Dr. Merwin Frey, NVSL).

PRRS: It is estimated that 50 to 80% of the herds in the swine belt have been infected with the PRRS virus. (Dr. Jeff Zimmerman, ISU).

✓ **GREASY PIG DISEASE:** Add zinc sulfate at the rate of 1 lb./ton of complete feed in gestation and lactating sow and nursery diets. In one case the dose had to be raised to 3 lbs./ton of complete feed. Toxic reactions can result if the dose is set too high. (Dr. James Dick, Fairmont, MN.).

MICROSPORUM NANUM: Ringworm in swine caused by *Microsporium nanum* is characterized by crusty lesions on the sides and especially behind the ears. The lesions can be quite large and are sometimes mistaken for Sarcoptic mange. Ringworm is common in sows during the lactation period. Control: Wash sows before entering the farrowing house with a Weladol solution, one gallon of Weladol in 50 gallons of water. (Dr. Duane Seehusen, Sheldon, Iowa).

POST-WEANING DIARRHEA: Add zinc oxide to creep and weaning diets at the rate of about 6 lbs./ton of complete feed. To reduce the risk of toxicity, the zinc oxide must be properly pre-mixed to improve distribution, fed no longer than 3 weeks, and by increasing calcium levels to 1.1% to reduce the absorption of zinc. (Dr. Noel Kavanagh, Oldcastle Co., Meath, Ireland. Ref: Pig International, Feb. 1993, p. 11) (Editors note: This is zinc oxide not zinc sulfate).

POST-WEANING DIARRHEA: Excess iron in the creep and post-weaning diets can be the cause of chronic post-weaning diarrhea. Excess iron favors the over-growth of E. coli bacteria. The published requirements for iron in post-weaning diets is 100 ppm. It is not uncommon to find diets containing 700 ppm or more. This excess iron can be due to various add-on pre-mixes being added to a base diet. Get a laboratory analysis of a good composite feed sample (20 small samples taken directly out of a number of feeders). I use A & L Laboratories, Omaha, NE. There are several other reliable laboratories available. It might be necessary to test the iron content of the drinking water. (Alex Hogg, Unpublished data).