
"HOGG SENSE"

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INCREASED LITTER SIZE: In 8 field trials in the USA and Germany, sows injected with 5 ml of beta carotene micellar solution at weaning farrowed an additional pig per litter over non-injected control sows. (Jack Britt, PhD., N.C. State Univ. In HogVet. Vol 6, No. 1).

FOLIC ACID INCREASED PIGS BORN ALIVE: Sow reproductive performance was improved by supplementing gestation/lactation diets with folic acid at the rate of either 1.65 or 6.62 mg/kg diet. This improvement was due to increasing the number of pigs born alive. Conception rate was unaffected. (Thaler, R.C., et al; Jr. Ani Sci (1989) Vol. 67, pp 3360-3369).

AUTOGENOUS BIOLOGICS: A new APHIS-VS regulation requires that the use of autogenous biologics be by, or on the order of, a veterinarian. A veterinarian-client-patient relationship is required for autogenous vaccine preparation and dispensing. (Vet Med Extension Newsletter, ISU, Jan. 1993).

MASTITIS AND OVERFEEDING: Increasing feed intake after farrowing by 2.5 to 3.0 lbs. per day to reach full feed (12 to 16 lbs) within 5 or 6 days postfarrowing will cause a major increase in mastitis and mammary gland edema. Better to increase feed intake by one lb./day when feeding high-milk producing breeds or strains of sows. (Dale McCarty, Nat'l Hog Farmer, April 15, 1993, p. 13).

FUMONISIN TOXICITY: This mycotoxin, produced the *Fusarium moniliforme*, was first recognized in 1988. Clinical signs: dyspnea, cyanosis and weakness 4-10 days after consumption of contaminated grain. Mortality: 50-90% within one or two days. Abortions in pregnant sows. Gross lesions: cyanosis, hydrothorax and interlobular pulmonary edema are prominent lesions. Other lesions and findings: icterus, orange/yellow colored livers. A lot of high moisture corn was harvested in 1992. Be careful! (Swine Diseases, 7th edition, p. 740).

LOW PROTEIN AND BOAR LIBIDO: Boars fed a low protein diet have a reduced libido. It is recommended that adequate protein intake (.70 pound of crude protein/day from a corn-soybean based diet for a 400 lb. boar) is maintained for adult breeding boars. (Louis, G.F., et al. 1993 Nebr. Swine Report, pp 5-7).