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# "HOGG SENSE" .....

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Editor  
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**Vitamin E/Selenium Deficiency:** The presence of several ingredients may inhibit the uptake of vitamin E from the diet. These ingredients are high fat levels (especially polyunsaturates), mold contamination, acid treatment before storage and high levels of copper. Signs of deficiency occur even when the pig's diet appears to contain adequate vitamin E. (Pig International, June 1993, p. 14).

**Ventilation:** A sow and litter produce one pound of moisture per hour or 3 gallons per day. The ventilation system must remove this moisture or condensation will occur. (Dr. Bynum Driggers, North Carolina State University).

**Increasing Birthweights:** Because birthweight has a low heritability, remedial action must be directed toward management procedures. Two remedies seem to stand out: 1. Not letting the sows body condition take a lactation 'nose-dive'. 2. Keeping the sow comfortable and unstressed during the 3 weeks immediately after breeding. (Editor's Note: Gestation crates??) Six other remedial actions are listed in the entire article. (John Gadd, Misset PIGS, Jan./Feb. 1993, p. 31).

**Ear and Tail Biting:** Feeding 4 or 5% animal protein (fishmeal or meat-and-bone meal) reduces or prevents aggressive behavior such as ear and tail biting. The palatability over straight vegetable protein sources such soybean meal, sesame or canola meal is greatly improved. (Dr. V. Raghaven, Selangor, Malaysia, Pig International, May 1993, p. 41).

**Grow/Finish Records:** Growth and feed conversion are often more important than reproductive efficiency. Grow/finish records provide basic reproductive information as well as grow/finish data. (Dr. Al Leman, AASP Newsletter, Vol. 2, No.2, March/April 1990).

**Stress Blood Test Available:** The University of Minnesota has licensed the University of Guelph DNA blood test for the presence/absence of the stress gene. This test allows differentiation between normal carriers and stress prone genotypes. Sample sizes of 5-10 ml of whole blood (EDTA or heparinized) should be submitted to Dr. Jim Mickelson, Dept. of Vet. Pathobiology, Rm. 295, Ani. Sci./Vet. Med. Bldg., 1988 Fitch Ave., St. Paul, MN. 55108. Current cost: \$50.00/sample. (ISU Vet. Med. Ext. Newsletter, May 1993).

**Call for Contributors:** All readers of Hogg Sense are invited to contribute practice tips and treatment/prevention tips that would benefit your colleagues. Send to MVP Labs.: sponsor.