
"HOGG SENSE"

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Edema of the Mammary Gland: A sodium/potassium (Na/K) ratio wider than 3:1 in sow diets will cause edema of the mammary gland and also the placenta. This results in weak and stillborn piglets and agalactia in newly farrowed sows. The 3:1 Na/K ratio can usually be achieved by adding 7 1/2 lbs. of NaCl per ton (most sow diets recommend 10 lbs. of NaCl per ton). Get a chemical analysis of a composite sample of the sow diet if edema of the mammary gland or weak/stillborn piglets is a problem. (Rodney Johnson, DVM, Morris, MN.).

Gleanings from ISU Swine Disease Conference

R. Glock, DVM, PhD, CSU: 1. Don't be afraid of being fired by a client - think about firing clients that can't be helped! 2. Early weaning is more important than the medication part of Modified Medicated Early Weaning (MMEW).

D. L. Harris, DVM, PhD, CVM, ISU: 1. Wean into all-in, all-out (AIAO) nurseries by age, not size (weight).

Mark Engle, DVM, Audubon, Ia: 1. Endotoxins from gram negative bacteria on dust particles are the cause of respiratory problems in swine confinement workers. (Editors Note: What about the pigs?) 2. Don't use fly screen on swine buildings, use screen with a minimum 1/4" mesh. 3. Carbon monoxide (CO) is a common problem in winter when non-vented or improperly ventilated gas heaters are used. (Editors Note: Increased incidence of stillborns is a CO tip off). 4. Can use inexpensive 100 ml plastic syringe plus commercially available glass indicator tubes. Use ultra-low tubes for CO₂ and CO, low tubes for NH₃. 5. Slow farrowing and increased stillborns occurs with 50-100 ppm CO.

R. F. Ross, DVM, PhD, CVM, ISU: Mycoplasma hyopneumonia: Incubation is 10 to 20 days. Coughing starts after 5-7 weeks and peaks at >100 to 120 days.

Pat Halbur, DVM, MS, CVM, ISU: 1. It is impossible to eliminate PRRS virus from continuous flow nurseries. 2. Histopath: Peribronchiolar and perivascular lymphoid cuffing are observed in both M. hyopneumoniae and PRCV infections. 3. Nasal swabs are better for the isolation of PRCV than lung.

Brad Bosworth, DVM, PhD, NADC: Feedback of E. coli to sows did not produce passive antibody in the colostrum and milk as one would expect in TGE feedback.