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# "HOGG SENSE".....

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**Prepare for Puberty:** Guidelines for sexual stimulation of young gilts are: 1. Boar exposure should be delayed until the gilts are at least 150 days old. 2. Two or 3 weeks before that, move them to a new pen for the stimulus of new surroundings. 3. Boar exposure should always involve bringing the gilt to the boar, not the reverse and should last for about 10 minutes daily. 4. Provide good ventilation to eliminate ammonia which may inhibit estrus in gilts. 5. For boar exposure, use a pen large enough to permit the gilt to move freely. 6. Afterwards, place the gilt in a pen where she has not less than 16 hours of light per day. The light should be bright enough to permit reading a newspaper without difficulty. (Pig International, May 1993, p. 18).

**Haemophilus parasuis:** There are numerous serotypes of *H. parasuis*. There is variable cross-protection between serotypes. On many farms, autogenous bacterins need to be used because of low efficacy of commercial bacterins which may not contain the right serotype for the herd in question. MVP Laboratories has the capability of serotyping about 66% of the common pathogenic serotypes found in the midwest. This serotyping service can greatly improve the efficacy of *H. parasuis* control in problem herds. (Editor).

**Feed Linked to Ear and Tail Biting:** In Malaysia 3 to 4% of diets are animal protein for all classes of pigs from starter through grow/finish and breeding/lactation. The animal proteins used are either fish meal or meat-and-bone meal. When vegetable proteins were substituted for the 3 to 5% animal protein, the pigs become very aggressive and start fighting and biting ears and tails. (Dr. V. Raghaven, Selangor, Malaysia, Pig International, May, 1993, p. 41).

**Abortion in Sows:** Severe sunburn in white sows (aren't all sows white?) increases prostaglandin. This results in abortion at 35-42 days of gestation. (Donald Levis, PhD, University of Nebraska).

**Farrowing Rate:** Farrowing rate is highest at first service and decreases rapidly after first and second return. First service = 83.6%; first return = 65.6%; second return = 44.8%. (Pig Farming Supplement 1984).

**Time of Mating:** Breed gilts 12 hours after standing estrus begins. For sows, breed 24 hours after the beginning of standing estrus. (Donald Levis, PhD, Univ. of NE).

**Collecting Boars:** Wear vinyl (not latex) gloves. Grasp penis on 1st and 2nd spirals. (Editor)