
"HOGG SENSE"

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✓ **Exudative Epidermitis (EE) (Greasy Skin Disease):** EE is an acute generalized disease of suckling and weaned pigs. The etiology is *Staphylococcus hyicus*. Treatment is a problem because of frequent antimicrobial resistance. Thirteen antimicrobial agents were used against 100 *S. hyicus* strains. Novobiocin and sulfadiazine-trimethoprim were the most active compounds tested followed by Enrofloxacin, ampicillin and ceftiofur in that order. (Wegener, H. et al., J. Clin. Microbiol. 32 (1994) p. 793-795) (Vet. Med., ISU. Vol.1:1).

Fostering Newborn Pigs: Best to foster at 2 hours of age, not to exceed 9 hours of age. Pigs fostered at 2, 4 and 7 days of age did not adapt well to fostering. The foster mother's own pigs already had preferred teats 9 hours or more after birth. (Nat'l Hog Farmer, (11:56).

Flooring for Pigs: Use round rod for pig flooring instead of tri-bar. More economical and less lameness in the pigs. (Tim Loula, DVM, St. Peter, MN.).

Anestrus in Gilts: Ninety-nine percent of anestrus problems in gilts is due to lack of feed. Solution: increase feed and provide boar exposure. (Tim Loula, DVM, St. Peter, MN.).

Particle Size/milled Grain: Master Mix analyzed particle size on 60 samples of feed at the 1994 World Pork Expo. Less than 20% had a particle size <900 microns. The remaining 80% had particle size ranging from 900 to 1,500 microns, too coarse for appropriate mixing and utilization. Optimum grain particle size is <700 microns for starter diets; 700 to 800 for grow-finish; and 800 to 900 for sow and boar diets. (Editors Note: This is a good area for practitioners to advise their clients of an opportunity to reduce feed costs. (Swine Line; 1994; Vol. 10, No. 5).

Benefits of Early Weaning: 1. Seventeen day weaning can reduce the amount of disease in piglets. 2. Range: 10 to 14 days (12 day weaning). 3. Wean twice per week. 4. Seventeen day weaning = range of 15 - 19 days. 4. Less reaction to soy protein at 17 days than at 12 days. (John Deen, DVM, PhD, CVM, NCSU, Raleigh, NC.).

Swine Reproduction: 1. Not enough reproductive slaughter checks are done. 2. Sows that have weaning to estrus interval >7-8 days should not be bred; breed on the next estrus. 3. Seventeen days is the magic number for weaning. (i.e; 17 day lactation + 4 days weaning to estrus = 21 days.). 4. The third mating during a single estrus is likely to be contraindicated (more chance for uterine infection because estrogen is declining and progesterone is rising. (Glen W. Almond, DVM, PhD, CVM, NCSU, Raleigh, N.C.).