
"HOGG SENSE"

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Vaccination Against *Escherichia coli*: The average swine producer who does not currently vaccinate against *E. coli* can expect to generate \$5.51 per sow in annual profits by implementing a vaccination program. Investment in a sow *E. coli* vaccination program is expected to generate a 124% return on investment. (TE Wittum, PhD & CE Dewey, DVM, PhD; Swine Health and Prod., 4:1, pp. 9-13).

Gleanings about Fostering Piglets: 1. Most fostering is done in the first 24 hours after birth. In the NAHMS National Swine Survey, fostering failed to significantly affect preweaning mortality when the data was subjected to multivariate analysis.

2. In some mammals, probably including swine and cattle, the newborn offspring gets activated lymphocytes in the colostrum from its mother. The activated lymphocytes are necessary for the development of the newborn's immune system. However, activated lymphocytes from a cow or sow that is not the mother or sister of the mother will not be recognized as "self" and will be rejected by the immune system. (Julie Weikel, DVM, Boardman, Oregon; 1996 NVMA summer meeting, Nebraska City, NE.).

3. It seems reasonable that newborn piglets should receive a good dose of colostrum from their own mother before cross-fostering is done.

4. Split suckling (removing the big half of the litter for one to two hours to allow the smaller pigs to nurse) may be the only effective way to insure that smaller piglets receive a good dose of colostrum. (Editor).

Proper Feed Sampling Techniques: If using a grain probe/trier to obtain samples from a mixer or bagged feed, take at least 10 0.5-lb samples per ton of feed from different locations and combine them into one composite sample for analysis. If sampling from an unloading auger, take at least 10 0.5-lb samples, split them in half, send half of the composite sample for analysis and store the properly labeled and dated other half in the freezer for reference. For mycotoxin analysis send the sample to the laboratory in paper or cloth sacks. Plastic bags or metal cans may cause mold growth in transit. (DM Iverson, DVM & RC Thaler, PhD; Swine Health & Production, 4:1, pp.15-19).

***Actinobacillus suis* septicemia:** An emerging disease on high-health herds: In the past, *A. suis* was principally a disease of pigs between 2 and 28 days of age. Now it is evident that *A. suis* infection also occurs in grow/finish and adult pigs in high-health herds. *A. suis* septicemia may be confused with APP or erysipelas (in particular, when rhomboid skin lesions occur). Laboratory confirmation will establish a definitive diagnosis. Autogenous bacterins have been used with success. (MJ Yaeger, DVM, PhD; Sw. Health & Prod., 3:5).