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# "HOGG SENSE".....

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**Salmonella Update:** 1. *Salmonella choleraesuis* and *Salmonella typhimurium* are the most common *Salmonella* serovars found in swine. 2. *Salmonella derby* and *Salmonella agona* are emerging serotypes in swine. 3. A lot of *Salmonella* are isolated in nurseries. 4. High pressure washing may aerosol *Salmonella*. 5. Bronchiolar and ileocolic lymph nodes are good tissues to culture for the isolation of *Salmonella*. 6. High doses of *Salmonella* appear to cause immunosuppression. 7. Co-infection with PRRSV and *Salmonella* produces more clinical signs than *Salmonella* alone. 8. *Salmonella* species are often found in swine barn dust and in ventilation fans. 9. *Salmonella choleraesuis* is not a frequent pathogen for humans but when it occurs the mortality rate is high. (Paula J. Fedorka-Cray, BS, MS, PhD, Lead Scientist, NADC, Ames, Iowa).

**Artificial Insemination Update:** 1. It is estimated that AI is used in 25% of U.S. sows (1994). 2. The farrowing rate from AI ranged from 78% to 89% and was highest in 1,200 sow farms. 3. If everything is done correctly the reproductive performance achieved with AI is as good as that with natural service. 4. The farrowing rate achieved by different breeding technicians ranges from 67.8% to 90.6%. (technician effect). 5. There was no difference in farrowing rate when sperm motility was 95.2% or 62.1%. 6. Poor estrus detection causes farrowing rate to decrease by 10% to 20%. 7. The minimum insemination volume should not be less than 75-80 ml. 8. The commonly accepted minimum number of sperm cells per insemination is 2 billion. 9. Using a boar for natural mating on the first day and AI on the second day provides the advantages of superior heat detection with the labor-saving and reduction in boar inventory benefits of AI. (W.H. Flowers, PhD, Dept. of Ani. Science, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, N.C.).

**Split Weaning:** Split weaning (weaning the largest pigs in the litter first and then the smallest pigs later) seems to increase the reproductive performance of early-weaned sows. However, the interval between the two weanings should only be two days. If the interval is three days or longer, the split-weaning effect on the sow is compromised by the remaining pigs nursing the vacated teats. (Steve Sonka, DVM, *Pork* 96, June 1996, p. 96).

**Empty Days Shut Down Profits:** In 1995 U.S. costs for sow empty days (not pregnant/lactating) above the target of 30 days per year was \$2.32 per sow or \$60.00 per sow kept. Herds that exceed the target of 30 empty days usually fail in the breed-to-rebreed or breed-to-cull sectors. (*Pigs Misset*, No. 3, Vol. 12, 1996, pp 15-17).

**Immunosuppressive Viruses (ISVs):** Important immunosuppressive viruses are PRRSV, PRV and SIV. (J. Waddilove, MA, VetMB, MRCVS, *Pig International*, Aug. 1996, p.27).