
"HOGG SENSE"

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Phytase for Phosphorus: Phytase reduces phosphorus excretion in manure by 20-25%. Phytase costs about \$2.30/ton and replaces inorganic phosphorus, which costs \$2.38/ton. This means that you can use phytase without increasing the cost of the diet and still reduce the amount of phosphorus in the environment. In growing-phase pigs (50-230 lb.) both growth performance and bone strength were increased by feeding microbial phytase and by decreasing the calcium to phosphorus ratio from 1.5:1 to 1:1. (T. Veum, PhD and J. Liu, PhD., Univ. of MO., National Hog Farmer, Oct. 15, 1996, p. 34.).

Feeding to Maximize Sow Productivity: 1. Feed 4 to 4.5 lb/sow/day in gestation. 2. Maintain a sow condition score of 3.0. 3. From the time sows are moved to the farrowing house through 2 days pre-farrowing, feed 4 lb/day of lactation diet. 4. The day before farrowing, reduce the lactation diet to 2 lb/day. 5. After farrowing, feed the sow 3 lbs. at 7:00 AM and 3 lbs. at 4:00 PM. 6. On day 2, feed 6 lbs. at 7:00 AM and again at 4:00 PM. 7. From day 3 to weaning, feed 6 lbs. 4 times per day at 7:00 and 10:00 AM and 1:00 and 4:00 PM. **Note:** If a sow has not consumed most of her feed from the previous feeding (less than half a pound left in the feeder), do not feed her at the next scheduled feeding time. (Newsham Hybrids, Colorado Springs, CO).

Failure of APP Bacterins: APP, biotype 2, produces gross and microscopic lesions that resemble those caused by APP, biotype 1 (serotypes 1, 5 and 7). Isolates of APP, biotype 2, (serotypes 8 and 12) have been found to agglutinate with hyperimmune rabbit antisera to APP, biotype 1. Herds experiencing intractable APP problems should be aware of the existence of APP, biotype 2, in the USA. Steps should be taken to ensure that this strain of APP is correctly identified and may require vaccination with an autogenous bacterin. Commercial bacterins containing APP, biotype 1 (serotypes 1, 5 and 7), are not likely to produce protection. (Editors Note: MVP Laboratories, Inc. has good capability of identifying APP, biotype 2, isolates. Telephone: 402 331-5106).

Urogenital Infections in Gilts and Sows: Postparturient and peri-estrus vulvar discharges are usually normal in the sow. However, postparturient sows must be carefully observed for infectious/toxic metritis or retained pigs. Elevated serum estrogen levels associated with the onset of estrus contribute to vulvar discharges in peri-estrous animals. The result is a mucopurulent clear to yellow/brown discharge at the time of estrus. Post-breeding purulent vulvar discharge 14 to 20 days (> 10 days) after breeding may indicate metritis or endometritis. Sows bred late in estrus (often the third mating) are susceptible to discharge problems. (G. Almond, DVM, PhD, Proc. Swine Repro. Symp., Aug. 1996, pp. 113-121).