"HOGG SENSE".....

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Sow Abortion and Mortality Syndrome (SAMS): The acronym SAMS had a short life of a few months, mainly in southeast Iowa. The present consensus is that SAMS is caused by the same virus as PRRS and is not a new disease. The clinical signs of "SAMS" are 1. Acute onset; 2. Clinical signs occur over a 2- to 4-week period; 3. High mortality (>5%) in sows and boars; 4. High rate of abortions (>10%); 5. Abortions in all parities and in all stages of gestation. (AASP survey, December 20, 1996).

More About PRRS: PRRS may be the most economically important swine disease in this decade. Losses of $150 - 350 per inventoried sow have been estimated. The most important step in an effective PRRSV management program is to determine the PRRSV status of each stage of production (i.e.; breeding/gestation, weaned pigs, nursery, grower and finisher) by IFA or ELISA serology. PRRS tests that are currently available measure IgG antibody which is not protective. A positive test result indicates exposure only and is not an indication of immunity. There is currently no test available to distinguish between vaccine and field virus produced titers. (Allan Carlson, DVM, Morris, MN.; Proceed. IVMA, Ann. Meet., Jan. 24-26, 1997, pp 73-83).

Role of Swine Influenza Virus (SIV) in Finisher Stallout: Eighty to 90% of swine herds are serologically positive to SIV. An immunoperoxidase test for detecting SIV in formalin-fixed sections of lung has recently been developed. Most cases of swine influenza occur in October-December and the most common age of infected pigs is 9-14 weeks (39%) and 4-8 weeks (28%). (Bruce H. Janke, DVM, PhD, ISU Diagnostic Lab., Proceed of IVMA Ann. Meet., Jan. 24-26, 1997, pp 85-87).

The Role of Mycoplasma hyopneumoniae in Finisher Stallout: It is estimated that 70% of all slaughter pigs have lesions of pneumonia. M. hyo as a pure infection (rarely occurs) reduces growth rate in finishing pigs during the typical 6-8 week coughing period. If mycoplasmal pneumonia or any other respiratory disease occurs in the late growth period, stallout can be dramatically enhanced. (L. Kirk Clark, DVM, PhD, Purdue Univ.)

Secondary Bacterial Infections that Cause Finisher Stallout: The five most common bacterial isolates that cause chronic pneumonia and stallout in finishing swine are: *Pasteurella multocida (61%), Streptococcus suis (45%), Hemophilus parasuis (41%), Bordetella bronchiseptica (33%),* and *Actinomyces pyogenes (22%).* (M. Yaeger, DVM, PhD, ISU).

"No man should be allowed to be president, who does not understand hogs", Harry Truman.