
“HOGG SENSE...”

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Water and Pigs: 1. Most drinkers are rarely adjusted to permit adequate consumption of water without wastage. This can lead to problems with slurry production. 2. An average of 20 gallons of fresh water are pumped daily for each sow. Cost of water: water costs for each sow range from 20 to 36 cents per sow per day (\$73 to \$131/year). (Glen Almond, DVM; CVM, NC State University).

Leg Problems in Young Gilts: To prevent leg problems late in pregnancy and during lactation in replacement gilts, aim to achieve 100 kg (220 lb) live weight in 170-180 days. Gilt growth rate should be 550 grams/day (1.2 lb), rising to 600g/day (1.3 lb) toward puberty. This regimen of holding back service of modern high lean-gain gilts should reduce leg problems late in pregnancy and during lactation. (John Gadd, PIGS, Vol. 13, No.4, 1997).

Herd Specific Mycoplasma Combination Vaccines: Because of the numerous strains and serotypes of swine pathogens in which there is little or no cross-protection from commercial vaccines, many practitioners are turning to herd specific autogenous vaccine combinations. MVP Laboratories, Inc. suggests the following combinations as being compatible with vaccination schedules: 1. M. hyo/Strep suis. 2. M. hyo/Hps. 3. M. hyo/Hps/Strep suis. 4. M. hyo/A. suis. MVP's microbiologists are well qualified in the accurate identification and serotyping of all the common swine bacterial pathogens. (Editor).

Combined Control of Porcine Proliferative Enteropathy (Ileitis): Work at the University of Edinburgh by Dr. Steven McOrist has confirmed a broad spectrum disinfectant, Virkon 'S' is effective in a 1% solution against *Lawsonia intracellularis*, the causal agent of ileitis. Virkon 'S' is a virucidal and bactericidal disinfectant/cleanser. Dr. McOrist recommends cleaning the pig environment with known effective disinfectants plus the use of appropriate antibiotics as the best regimen for controlling ileitis. (PIGS, Vol. 12, No. 5, p. 41, '96).

Mycoplasma hyopneumoniae Vaccination: "Once the decision to vaccinate is made, justified by a sound analysis and monitored by clinical examinations as well as by slaughter checks, the control program must be continued at least for several months. Any control program against multifactorial infectious diseases needs time to show its benefits." (Blaha, Thomas, et al; CVM, Univ. of Mn., 1996 Allen D. Leman Swine Conf. Proc., pp.190-192).

Feeding Gilts to Increase Litter Size: Gilts should be fed at relatively high levels (2.0 x maintenance or higher) until puberty. At puberty, feed 1.5 to 2.0 x maintenance until breeding. Energy intake should be reduced immediately after breeding and kept low (about 1.0 x maintenance) for at least two weeks. This should permit the higher ovulation rate associated with feeding at higher levels before puberty and mating to be accompanied by higher embryo survival rates and larger litters. (Britt, Jack H., PhD, N. C. S. Univ.; Proc. of Swine Repro. Symp., Amer. Col. of Therio. and AASP., Aug. 1996, p. 104).