
“HOGG SENSE...”

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Protein Regulates Zinc: A naturally occurring protein, called metallothionein, regulates zinc uptake in pigs. Metallothionein keeps pigs from getting too much or too little zinc. It binds up excess zinc and prevents zinc from becoming toxic. Pigs should be fed supplemental zinc (3,000 ppm zinc oxide) for at least the first two weeks after weaning. Then the pigs are "zinc loaded" and excess zinc is discarded in the feces. (Carlson, M., University of Missouri, National Hog Farmer, June 15, 1998, p 42). (Editors note: Be sure you are using zinc oxide and not zinc sulfate).

Feeding Sows for High Performance: If sows are not properly fed the first few days after farrowing, the size of the next litter will be smaller. In addition to litter size, nutrition is believed to play a role in the secretion of hormones, primarily luteinizing hormone (LH), that control estrus. Sows should be in good condition so they will breed back quickly. The new Farmweld Labor Saver Sow Feeder is a single hole, stainless steel feeder that is mounted on one end of the farrowing crate, four inches from the floor. An agitator at the bottom of a 40 lb feed bin allows the sow to control how much feed she gets so she can eat as much as she wants, when she wants it. Labour savings from the use of the Farmweld Sow Feeder is calculated to be \$13,104. per year. (International Pig Topics, 3:5 1998 p 27).

Implications of Fecal Shedding of *Salmonella* in Barns with Open-flush Gutters: Achieving frequent and effective removal of feces from the flush gutters by increasing the frequency or volume of flushing with recycled liquids may be as effective in controlling *Salmonella* transmission as substituting recycled effluent with fresh water for flushing. Facilities should be designed to enable effective removal of fecal material from pens to control *Salmonella* in barns with open-flush gutters. When constructing facilities with open-flush gutters, carefully design gutter volume, gradient, and flush volume to ensure effective removal of feces from all pens. (Davies, P., BVSc, PhD; North Carolina State Univ., Raleigh North Carolina, SH&P, 1998, 6:3, pp 101-106).

***Actinobacillus pleuropneumoniae*, Biotype 2, and *Actinobacillus suis*:** *A. pleuropneumoniae*, biotype 2, is biochemically and morphologically similar to *A. suis*, indicating that some of the recently reported cases of pleuropneumonia associated with *A. suis* may actually be *A. pleuropneumoniae*, biotype 2. *A. pleuropneumoniae*, biotype 2, does not require the V factor as does *A. pleuropneumoniae*, serotypes 1, 5 and 7. (Frank, R., DVM, PhD; AASP Newsletter, 4:3, May/June 1992, pp 21-23).

Recognizing Postweaning Multisystemic Wasting Syndrome (PMWS): PMWS was first described in 1996. Clinical signs, including wasting, dyspnea and icterus, are particularly suggestive. A group of 8-12 affected pigs should be necropsied. Some of the prominent gross lesions are: icterus, marked enlargement of all lymph nodes, yellow-orange liver and enlarged spleen. (Harding, CS, DVM, MS; et al: SH&P, 5:5, pp 201-203).