
“HOGG SENSE...”

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Drug Combination for Use in Caesarean Section of Sows: Procedure: Clip hair and scrub and disinfect the skin over the lumbosacral area. Desensitize the skin with 2 ml of 2% lidocaine. A 16-gauge 0.5 in. needle is used as a guide needle to penetrate the skin. A 20 ga., 6-in. needle is inserted through the guide needle and advanced until the tip reaches the epidural space. Use the "hanging drop" technique to ensure proper epidural needle placement and drug injection. Dose of drugs: 1 mg/kg of 10% xylazine (AnaSed - Lloyd Labs.) is added to enough 2% lidocaine to make a 10 ml injection. Inject this mixture into the epidural space at the rate of 1 ml every 2 or 3 seconds. (Ko, JCH, DVM, MS, et al; Vet. Med./May 1993, pp 466-72).

Bacterial Resistance in Five Commonly Used Antibiotics: A study at the University of Tennessee looked at the resistance of *E. coli* to five antibiotics. The antibiotics studied were apramycin, carbadox, gentamicin, neomycin and tetracycline. Apramycin had the lowest incidence of resistance; tetracycline the highest. In 63-day-old pigs incidence of resistance neared 100% for tetracycline. This study indicates widespread resistance to commonly-used antibiotics. (Matthew, AG; Hogs Today, July/August 1998, p 38).

Cup Waterers vs. Nipples: In an Iowa study, cup waterers were compared with standard nipple waterers. Two adjoining finishing rooms that had approximately 350 pigs in 16 pens per room were utilized for the test. In one room the pigs used cup waterers, in the other room, standard nipple waterers were used. The pigs entered the test rooms on the same day at a starting weight of 45-50 lbs. The trial ended when all the pigs went to market at 250-260 lbs. In the 3 month test period, 10,000 fewer gallons of water were used in the room with the cup waterers compared with that in the room with the nipple waterers. The difference is mainly attributed to much higher water wastage in the nipple waterer room. (Vansickle, J; National Hog Farmer, August 15, 1998, p 36).

Practice Tip--Lung Tissue for Bacteriologic Studies: Submission of one entire lung, if not too large, is preferred. This gives the diagnostician a better picture of the problem and allows for optimum sampling for both bacteriologic and virologic studies. Large samples for bacteriologic culture allow the contaminated surface to be seared before culturing without cooking the entire sample and thus killing the bacteria. Antimicrobial therapy, autolysis and overgrowth of contaminants should be avoided in specimens selected for bacterial isolation attempts. Tracheobronchial lymph nodes also can be cultured. (Janke, B., DVM, PhD, AASP 1998 Necropsy Path. Wet Lab, Diagnostic Lab, CVM, ISU).

The Future of Antibiotics: Increasing concerns on issues such as drug residues and antibiotic resistance could mean more and more drugs being withdrawn from use. Time is running out for pig producers to convince the consumer lobby that medicines are used responsibly. Drugs can be saved if their use is controlled by the veterinarians and farmers do not experiment on their own. (International Pig Topics, Vol. 13, No. 4 (1998) p 5).