"HOGG SENSE . . ."

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Solution to "16-Week Wall": 1. Check the genetic line. 2. Be sure there is enough square footage in the barn (over crowding?). 3. Check a representative of the pigs to determine if diseases are playing a role in the stall-out. 4. Check feed and diets. Be sure the feeding system doesn't run empty. Make sure the diets are formulated for your pigs' weight, consumption pattern, sex, disease levels and weight variation. 5. Increased feed and water space can improve stall-out performance. 6. Provide cold water in warm weather to cool pigs down and spur appetite. (Jim Dick, DVM; National Hog Farmer, September 15, 1999, p. 16).

USA: Diverse industry panel offers recipe for change: The US pork industry needs to shift its focus from leanness to meat quality and employ more savvy marketing techniques to increase market share. (Pig Progress, Vol. 15, 1999, p. 3).

Clinical Expression of Porcine Circovirus: Post-weaning Multisystemic Wasting Syndrome (PMWS) is caused by type-2 porcine circovirus (PCV-2). The clinical signs of PCV-2 are, in descending frequency, wasting/unthriftiness, dyspnea, enlarged lymph nodes, diarrhea (profuse/watery), pallor, and jaundice (icterus). PMWS is an emerging syndrome of growing prevalence worldwide in both PRRS-positive and PRRS-negative herds. (Harding, J. C. S., DVM, MSc; et al; Proceedings, Al Leman Swine Conference, University Mn., 1999, pp. 252-254)

Long Term Survival and Infectivity of *Salmonella cholerasuis* in Swine Feces: In a study by Jeffery T. Gray, PhD and P. J. Fedorka-Cray, PhD, swine feces were stored in a wet and a dry form and survival was measured over 13 months. *S. cholerasuis* survived in wet swine feces for at least 3 months after being shed from infected animals. The organism survived for 2 months when stored in wet fecal slurry. The survival of *S. cholerasuis* in feces shed from infected swine and allowed to desiccate (dry thoroughly) was more prolonged, surviving for at least 13 months. (Department of Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebraska).

Mycoplasma Vaccination and Immunology: *Mycoplasma hyopneumoniae* (MH) remains a challenge to producers, veterinary practitioners and researchers. MH has successfully survived in the pig respiratory tract for a long time. With the advent of PRRSV and our highly intensive production systems, MH has become a major pathogen in the swine industry. Eliminating and controlling this simple, yet ubiquitous pathogen will remain a challenge until we understand how it causes diseases and successfully evades the immune system. (Thacker, Eileen L, DVM, PhD, ACVM; Proceedings, Iowa Veterinary Medical Association, 117th Annual Meeting, September 16-18, 1999, pp. 41-44)

Field experience with the new strains of swine influenza: Beginning in 1998, sow herds in a practice area were swept with swine influenza. Duration lasted approximately two months and involved over 10,000 sows. Clinical picture: severe lethargy, fever often over 104°F, some approaching 107°F, anorexia, dyspnea, nasal discharge, abortions, barking cough, and sow mortalities. (Wagner, M., DVM; 1999 Leman Conference, pp. 268-69). (Editor's comment: This case is compatible with the H3N2 strain of swine influenza. The high fevers are characteristic of H3N2. Abortions are caused by the hyperthermia, not directly by the swine influenza virus).