



# **HERD HEALTH MANAGEMENT & ECONOMY**

HHM-031

### **ECOPORC SHIGA® VACCINATION AND PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT**

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#### Introduction

Edema disease (ED) is a disease due to an enteric bacteria, E. coli producing Shiga toxin 2e (Stx2e). Since October 2013, Ecoporc SHIGA®, a vaccine against Stx2e is available in France. The vaccine reduces mortality and clinical signs due to ED, but users observed that vaccinated pigs were in general healthier and showed better performance. This study was conducted to scientifically verify these observations.

### **Material and Methods**

Inclusion criteria of the farms (n = 5) were:

- Clinical ED post weaning and implementation of Ecoporc SHIGA® for over 1.5 year.
- Performances registered every trimester and piglets weighted when entering fattening.
- No significant changes in genetics or animal management, and no concomitant disease incident.

The comparison was made between 1 year before vaccination (trimester T-4 to T-1) and 1 full year after vaccination (T2-T5). The trimester when vaccination had been implemented (T0) and the following (T1) were excluded; therefore the effect of the ED crisis itself was not evaluated.

## Results

Over all farms, losses were reduced in post weaning (-2.2%) and in fattening (-0.9%). Standardized ADG was improved (ADG 8-30 kg: +5.2g; 30-115 kg +26.5g). Standardized economical FC was reduced (FC 8-30 kg: -0.11; FC 30-115 kg: -0.12). This represents a gain of  $6 \in \text{per pig}$ , reduction of losses representing only a third.

At farm level, two farms improved standardized ADG 8-30 kg, three their fattening losses and standardized ADG 30-115 kg and four economical FC 30-115 kg. All farms improved their post weaning losses and economical FC 8-30 kg.

### **Discussion and Conclusion**

The results presented here support the observations of the users: Ecoporc SHIGA® not only controlled the clinical effects of ED but also improved performance with an excellent return on investment. The specific mechanism behind this effect will be investigated in further studies.