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TITLE

ERADICATION PROGRAM FOR PROGRESSIVE ATROPHIC RHINITIS (PAR) IN A SPANISH FARM

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CONTENT

Introduction

PAR is a respiratory disease caused by toxigenic strains of *Pasteurella multocida* (Pm), alone or in combination with *Bordetella bronchiseptica*, which can result in total disappearance of the nasal turbinates and stunted nasal development. PAR reduces growth rate and feed conversion efficiency and may facilitate the entrance of other pathogens through the nasal cavity. Pm may be transmitted directly from infected sows to piglets or horizontally between piglets during growing period.

Material & Methods

The program was implemented in a multisite farm. Site 1, with 2,900 productive sows, buys replacement females at 20 kg (PAR negative), and raises them in the sow farm but in separated buildings. Site 2, located 500 meters away, is a continuous flow (9,000 piglets 6 to 20 kg). Site 3, located 1 km away, is an AI/AO production system (12,800 pigs 20 to 110kg). PAR was diagnosed by clinical signs, lesions, Pm toxigenic PCR (nasal swabs) and nasal turbinates check (slaughterhouse). The program included vaccination (Porcilis® AR-T DF, MSD A.H.) of replacements with two doses at 5 and 6 months of age (off label use) and two additional doses to all pregnant sows (7 and 3 weeks prior to farrow) for 2 years. After that period, only one dose in multiparous sows (pre-farrowing) and three doses for gilts were maintained (last one pre-farrowing).

Results

Five years after the start of the program, vaccination was stopped. Since then, clinical signs, Pm toxigenic positive PCR (30 piglets of 9 weeks of age have been sampled, 3 times three months separated) or turbinate lesions at slaughter check were no longer found.

Discussion & Conclusion

PAR can be eradicated from pig production units with the correct vaccination protocol, introduction of negative replacements at the correct time, in order to acclimatize them, and establishment of good biosecurity practices.