

TITLE

VACCINATION AGAINST SWINE ENZOOTIC PNEUMONIA WITH HYOGEN: PREVALENCE AND SEVERITY OF LUNG LESIONS IN A COMMERCIAL FARM.

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CONTENT

Controlling enzootic pneumonia (caused by *Mycoplasma hyopneumoniae* and other co-infections) remains a challenge in current commercial farms worldwide, although vaccines have demonstrated their effectiveness in reducing clinical signs and lung lesions.

The purpose of this retrospective study was to compare the efficacy of Hyogen ® against a competitor vaccine (Combined Mh and PCV2 RTU vaccine) in reducing the prevalence and severity of Enzootic pneumonia-like lesions in finishing pigs.

A total of 852 pigs from a Portuguese commercial farm infected with *Mycoplasma hyopneumoniae* (Mh) were monitored at slaughter for lung lesions (Hyogen® – 427 pigs, Vaccine A – 425 pigs). All the pigs were vaccinated with a single shot at 3 weeks of age and reared under similar conditions. The lung lesions were evaluated according to the CEVA Lung Program criteria (Modified Madec System + Modified SPES).

The prevalence of bronchopneumonic lesions was significantly lower in the Hyogen® group (26% vs. 55%; $p < 0,01$), as well as the average Madec scoring ($1,07 \pm 2,52$ in Hyogen vs. $2,31 \pm 3,38$ in Vaccine A; $p < 0,01$). The severity of the lesions in the bronchopneumonic lungs was lower in the Hyogen group ($4,08 \pm 3,47$ vs. $4,22 \pm 3,58$; $p > 0,05$).

The vaccination of 3-week-old piglets with Hyogen significantly reduced the prevalence and the severity of lung lesions at slaughter in pigs reared under commercial conditions in comparison with a competitor vaccine.