CONGENITAL TREMOR-ATYPICAL PORCINE PESTIVIRUS (CT-APPV) OUTBREAK IN A MULTIPLYING FARM: ESTIMATION OF THE EFFECT ON PERFORMANCE AND ECONOMICS

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Introduction

Congenital-tremors (CT) type A-II outbreaks occur in new born piglets. CT-APPV was identified by next generation sequencing platform VIDISCA and proven as causative agent in an infection trial. This study describes technical and economic impact of a CT-APPV outbreak.

Material and methods

In Q1-2016, CT-APPV was diagnosed as causative agent in a 570 sow farm with a CT outbreak. Prevalence was determined via detailed examination of 120 litters. As number of sold piglets can be influenced by CT outbreaks, production data was analyzed in farrowing/nursery. Technical data of the prior and following 3 quarters of 2016 served as baseline to assess technical impact. Economic impact per sow and farm was estimated by using the average Dutch piglet price in Q1-2016.

Results

CT prevalence at litter level varied from 5% in 4thparity-sows to 55% in 1st/2nd parity-sows. Mortality

in CT litters of 2nd parity-sows was 25% and 69% in 1st parity-sow litters.

Total litters(TL), pre-weaning mortality (MF), weaned/litter (WL), post-weaning mortality (MN) and sold/litter (SL) were: Baseline: TL 1,397; MF 14,4%; WL 11.6; MN 2.3%; SL 11.3; Q1-2016: TL 298; MF 25%; WL 10.9; MN 16%; SL 9.1.

Financial impact of losing 2.2 piglets per sow and 6% extra non-sellable piglets was € 74.12 / sow and in total € 22.087.

Conclusion

CT prevalence during an outbreak was up to 55% at litter level and 69% within litters with young parity sows at higher risk, indicating that the virus was already present in the farm. Reduced

colostrum and milk intake and a persistent viremia explain the high mortality of CT piglets. During the outbreak, weaned piglets/sow dropped with 0.7 and sold piglets/sow with 2.2 piglets. The financial impact of a CT outbreak can be high. Epidemiology can be studied when CT-APPV antibody and PCR test are available.