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TITLE

RESULTS OF THE SEROLOGICAL MONITORING OF SWINE PROLIFERATIVE ENTEROPATHY (ILEITIS) IN SWINE BREEDING FARMS OF UKRAINE

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CONTENT

Background and Objectives: Swine proliferative enteropathy (SPE) is understudied in our country. Detecting this disease is problematic for veterinary professionals, resulting in economic losses. For SPE early diagnostics and differentiation the possibility of using different test systems is relevant. The objective of our work is to study SPE spread in swine breeding farms in Ukraine.

Material & Methods: For serological test, we used a bioScreen Ileitis Antibody ELISA – kit for demonstration of specific antibodies against *Lawsonia intracellularis* in porcine sera. Totally, we made 167 studies of swine blood serum samples of all ages from 13 farms of 7 regions of Ukraine (Donetsk, Kyiv, Dnipropetrovsk, Poltava, Kirovohrad, Cherkasy, Kharkiv) during the period 2010 –2011.

Results: The experiment revealed that the disease affects mainly piglets aged from 35 to 100 days. For the first time in Ukraine the presence of antibodies to the ileitis agent has been serologically confirmed using ELISA methodology, and, therefore, the circulation of the pathogen among swine population in Ukraine. 36.5% of samples of blood serum of pigs (mostly sows, breeding pigs and pigs for fattening) gave a positive reaction for antibodies against *Lawsonia intracellularis*.

In swine breeding farms the infection tends to be widespread among pigs for fattening (28.9%). Source of infection is the main herd (boars - 90.0% seropositive, breeding pigs - 65.9%, sows - 42.1%).

Discussion & Conclusion: Studies have shown that the disease is widespread among swine population. For the first time in Ukraine the presence of antibodies to the ileitis agent has been serologically confirmed using ELISA methodology, and, therefore, the circulation of the pathogen among swine population in Ukraine.