

## HHM-PP-07

### TITLE

CASE REPORT: PIGLET PRRS-VACCINATION IN COMBINATION WITH PIG FLOW IMPROVEMENTS GIVE BETTER FINISHING RESULTS

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### CONTENT

#### Background and Objectives

At a 5000 heads finisher site in the Netherlands problems due to *Actinobacillus pleuropneumoniae* (APP) were observed. PRRS was diagnosed as primary infection. This case report describes the finishing production results of variable interventions consecutively implemented to improve the health of the pigs, under field conditions.

#### Materials and methods

Over a 2 year period four strategies were used in the sow-farm from which the piglets at 9-11 weeks of age were sourced. The strategies were evaluated at the finishing farm. In chronological order:

1. Porcilis PRRS piglet vaccination at 23 days of age (doa)
2. PRRSFLEX piglet vaccination at 23 doa
3. PRRSFLEX piglet vaccination at 23 doa combined with improved pig-flow and stocking density reduction
4. Improved pig-flow and reduced stocking density without PRRS vaccination

All data were calculated as averages per room.

#### Results

Feeding conversion rate (FCR) kg/ kg, Average daily gain (ADG) gr/ day, Antibiotic use (DDD)

Period 1: 6527 pigs, mortality 1.3%, FCR 2.40, ADG 810 g/d, DDD 7.8

Period 2: 5434 pigs, mortality 0.7%, FCR 2.50, ADG 813 g/d, DDD 5.4

Period 3: 3498 pigs, mortality 0.7%, FCR 2.41, ADG 853 g/d, DDD 7.2

Period 4: 2469 pigs, mortality 1.6%, FCR 2.53, ADG 806 g/d, DDD 15.1

#### Discussion & Conclusion

Controlling APP problems by controlling PRRS-infection was the main focus in this case. Additional management improvements next to PRRS vaccination of the piglets gave the best finishing results. After stopping PRRS vaccination, there was a remarkable increase in antibiotic use. In combination with the reduced production results this suggests a return to poorer pig health.

The combined interventions of management and vaccination proved only sufficient to control disease, not to eradicate PRRS. For that, a total and integrated PRRS approach for both the sow herd and the finishing farm is needed.