



BACTERIAL DISEASES

BBD-020

ERADICATION OF *MYCOPLASMA HYOPNEUMONIAE* IN AN OUTDOOR HERD USING AIVLOSIN®

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Introduction

The objective of this project was to eradicate *Mycoplasma hyopneumoniae* (*Mh*) from a 400 outdoor sow farm, using antibiotic treatment in the breeding animals and offspring and with a partial depopulation. Tylvalosin was selected as the preferred antibiotic to perform this *Mh* eradication program, as it shows mycoplasmacidal activity and has been proven effective in other *Mh* eradication protocols.

Material and Methods

Eradication was set up in a commercial outdoor herd. Piglets are weaned at 28 days of age and sent at 70 days to external sites. Free *Mh* pregnant gilts are introduced 6 weeks before farrowing in the herd. The farm was *Mh* positive but the situation was stable (in 2014, PCR assay results from trachea-bronchial swabs were negative at 28 and 70 days of age). Sows were vaccinated against *Mh* 3 weeks before farrowing but not piglets. The protocol consisted in emptying the nursery and medicating all gilts, sows and boars with 2.125 mg tylvalosin (Aivlosin® 42.5 mg/g medicated premix for pigs) per kg of body weight (bw) per day during 28 days. Suckling piglets received from the first day of the protocol and every 10 days thereafter an intramuscular injection of 2.5 mg tulathromycin per kg bw. *Mh* vaccination was stopped right after the end of the treatment. Replacement gilts were reintroduced in quarantine 7 days after the end of the protocol. Serological monitoring has been performed on these sentinel gilts 12 and 33 weeks after their arrival, and on old finishers born after the end of the protocol.

Results

20 months after the eradication protocol, all tested samples have been negative.

Conclusion

The farm is now considered as *Mh* free. This protocol with a treatment with Aivlosin® and a partial depopulation has been proven to be effective in the eradication of *Mh* from this unit.