

**TITLE**

PRESENTATION OF A 4-YEAR MONITORING OBSERVATORY FOR 2424 BATCHES OF PIGS IN FATTENING FARMS AS A TOOL TO DEMONSTRATE THE TECHNICAL AND HEALTH BENEFITS OF ANTIBIOTIC DEMEDICATION FOR VETERINARIANS

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**CONTENT**

In a regulatory context of reducing the use of antibiotics with the first “Eco-antibio” plan in France, the veterinarians of Socavet wanted to set up and validate the interest of an antibiotic demedication observatory in particular farms: fattening units under integration contracts.

**Materials and methods**

Over 4 years, the data and results of 2424 batches of pigs were recorded; 843,000 pigs followed by the entry for fattening up to the slaughterhouse.

For each batch, zootechnic, health and economic criteria shall be indicated. For health criteria, all pigs were vaccinated against Mycoplasma. However, depending on the farms, a plus-vaccination program (Circovirus, and/or PRRS virus, and/or ileitis), and/or antibiotic supplementation may have been introduced. The classical technical and economic criteria to evaluate the performance of each batch was recorded. All data were analyzed by Atlanstat.

**Results**

The first aim of reducing antibiotic supplementation has been largely achieved: 50% of reduction in the number of supplemented batches. The value of certain zootechnic practices, as heating at arrival, has been widely demonstrated. This observatory shows that the results on ADG and FCR are comparable between batches that received a plus-vaccination program and antibiotic supplementation and those that received a plus-vaccination program only. The batches that received PRRS vaccine associated with the Mycoplasma and Circovirus vaccines in comparison to the batches that received the Mycoplasma alone have a statistically improved FCR and ADG: 2.719 versus 2.783 and 828.92 gr versus 810.357 gr respectively (p < 0.001 value, Anova test)

**Discussion**

This observatory has allowed to identify relevant indicators for technical and health monitoring to convince farmers and technicians of the value of antibiotic demedication, even in difficult situation as fattening farms. It is shown that a vaccination program with tri-vaccination: Mycoplasma-Circovirus-PRRS (mainly Porcilis PRRS) stands out from other vaccine programs.