

TITLE

ASSESSMENT OF LUNG LESIONS IN SLAUGHTER PIGS IN BELGIUM IN 2017-2018, SCORED WITH THE CEVA LUNG PROGRAM

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CONTENT

Background and Objectives

Lung scoring at the slaughterhouse is a valuable tool for the assessment of the respiratory health status of pigs. The aim of this study was to investigate the prevalence and the extension of lung lesions suggestive for *Mycoplasma hyopneumoniae* (M.hyo) and *Actinobacillus pleuropneumoniae* (A.p.) infections observed in slaughter pigs in Belgium.

Material & methods

Between January 2017 and November 2018 a total of 142 batches included 21.981 lungs from different Belgian farms were scored at the slaughterhouse, using the Ceva Lung Program (CLP) scoring methodology. In the Ceva Lung Program, bronchopneumonia which is suggestive for enzootic pneumonia (EP) caused by M.hyo, including scarring and cranial pleurisy is quantified. Dorso-caudal pleurisy which is suggestive for previous A.p. infections is scored and APP index is calculated.

Results

The median % of bronchopneumonic lungs was 20,78%, with the Q1= 10% and Q3=32,98%. The median % of affected surface of the bronchopneumonic lungs was 5,47%, with the Q1=3,7% and Q3=7,41%. The median % of scarring was 6,98% with the Q1=2,57% and Q3=13,82%. The median % of cranial pleurisy is 2,32%, with the Q1=0,84% and Q3=4,91%. The median % of lungs with dorso-caudal pleurisy is 16,2%, with the Q1= 4,12% and Q3=33,46%. The median APP index is 0,46, with the Q1=0,11 and Q3= 0,92.

Discussion & Conclusion

These results show a high rate of EP-like and A.p.-like lesions which is in accordance with earlier published data. Therefore, it remains important to optimize M.hyo and A.p. control measures. The CLP methodology is a valuable tool to evaluate the success of current and future management changes.