

## VVD-PP-06

### TITLE

EVALUATING THE OUTCOME OF ADVANCING PIGLET VACCINATION WITH SUVAXYN® PRRS TO 8 DAYS OF AGE ON A FRENCH FARM

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### CONTENT

Porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome (PRRS) control strategies rely on a combination of acclimation, vaccination and internal biosecurity measures. On French family farms, both the herd veterinarian and the farmer would benefit from an accurate assessment of the impact of any change in the farm routines. Zoetis has developed tools to support such an approach, including IPC ABATTOIR (analyses slaughter results at batch level) and qPCR DIVA PRRS (discriminates the PRRS virus strain in Suvaxyn® PRRS MLV from wild European strains).

These tools were deployed on a 160-sow farrow-to-finish farm located in Brittany (France), with a weaning age of 28 days, where changes were implemented in the PRRS vaccination protocol in April 2018. The time of piglet vaccination against PRRS was advanced from weaning to 8 days of age. The vaccine was also changed to Suvaxyn® PRRS MLV both for piglets and quarterly mass-vaccination of sows. The herd veterinarian monitored the vaccinated piglets for clinical signs during regular visits, and blood samples of piglets were taken at 31, 49 and 70 days of age.

Preliminary results show that the respiratory health of pigs was markedly improved during post-weaning and finishing. Also, average losses ascribed to respiratory diseases decreased (from 2% before to 0.3% after the change in vaccination). Preliminary results of the IPC ABATTOIR analysis showed an average wean-to-slaughter daily weight gain of 707 g/d and an average 94.5 kg carcass weight. Analysis with qPCR DIVA PRRS detected presence of the vaccine strain genome in piglets at 31 and 49 days of age, and to a lesser degree at 70 days of age. No PRRSV field strain was detected. Further batches have been included in the follow-up to corroborate the preliminary zootechnical results.