



BBD-053

**REPORT OF A *MYCOPLASMA HYOPNEUMONIAE* ELIMINATION PROJECT IN AN OUTDOOR UNIT IN OXFORDSHIRE USING AIVLOSIN® 42.5 MG/G PREMIX**

R. Pearson<sup>1</sup>, J. Mora<sup>2</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> *The George Pig Practice, Malmesbury, United Kingdom;* <sup>2</sup> *Eco Animal Health, Ltd., Southgate, United Kingdom.*

**Introduction**

A *Mycoplasma hyopneumoniae* (Mhyo) elimination program is described in one 800-sow, 3-week batch outdoor unit which had been introducing Mhyo negative replacement stock.

The unit was considered Mhyo negative; however, during slaughterhouse inspections (summer 2016), lung scores in pigs supplied from the farm were incompatible with this status. Serology confirmed the positive status of the sow herd.

**Material and methods**

Replacement was interrupted in April 2016 to stabilise the herd, ensuring that no breeding animals younger than 9 months of age were present. The last 2 batches of gilts delivered received Draxxin® (1ml/40kg IM) and MycoFLEX® (1ml IM) 14 days before beginning the medication programme.

Starting on August 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016 (155 days after the last gilt introduction), all sows were medicated for 6 weeks in-feed with Aivlosin 4.25% premix (ECO Animal Health Ltd.) at an inclusion rate of 212 ppm tylvalosin. Treatment began one week before farrowing and finished one week post-weaning for each batch.

Sucking pigs were not treated and back-fostering was prohibited. Sows 'off-feed' were identified and, if inappetence persisted, they were administered an injectable macrolide (Draxxin®, Zoetis, Inc.) once. The number of sows treated in this way was minimal.

**Results**

Upon completion, the replacement program was restarted and first gilts used as sentinels, being tested every quarter until a year after the program was finished. The sample size aimed to ensure a 90% certainty of detecting Mhyo prevalence of ≥10%. The IDEXX® ELISA test was used; a blocking ELISA (OXOID Ltd UK) confirmed any positives.

**Discussion and conclusion**

All samples were negative, suggesting successful elimination which was further supported by frequent slaughter inspections of finishers.

This report demonstrates that it is possible to eliminate Mhyo using Aivlosin, even when Mhyo negative replacements have been supplied, given adequate planning, including a relatively short period of herd closure.

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