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TITLE

ASSESSMENT OF EP-LIKE LESIONS IN SLAUGHTERED PIGS FROM FARMS WITH DIFFERENT MYCOPLASMA HYOPNEUMONIAE VACCINE PROGRAMS.

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CONTENT

Background and Objectives

Enzootic pneumonia (Ep) causes economic losses in swine production due to its negative impact on productive parameters. Vaccination of piglets against *Mycoplasma hyopneumoniae* (Mh) is an effective way to reduce lungs lesions induced by Mh infection, and lung scoring at slaughterhouse is a valuable tool for the assessment of the respiratory health status. The aim of this study was to investigate the prevalence and extension of lungs with Ep-like lesions observed at slaughter in pigs vaccinated with either Hyogen®, Ceva, other 6 commercial *Mycoplasma hyopneumoniae* vaccines or unvaccinated pigs.

Material and Methods

Between January 2016 and October 2018, 1.413 batches within 212.519 lungs from different farms from Spain were scored at the slaughterhouse using the Ceva Lung Program (CLP) score methodology, to assess the incidence and severity of Enzootic pneumonia (EP)-like lesions.

For each batch the following parameters were calculated:

- Percent of affected lungs with Ep-like lesions
- Average percent of affected surface out of all lungs
- Average percent of affected surface of pneumonic lungs
- Average percent of scarring lungs
- Percent of cranial pleurisy

Results

Lungs from vaccinated pigs showed statistically ($p < 0.001$) lower lungs with EP like lesions and affected surface out of all lungs than lungs from unvaccinated pigs.

Lungs from farms vaccinated with Hyogen® had less lungs with EP like lesions ($p < 0.001$, vs vaccines 1,3,5,6) and statistically lower affected surface ($p < 0.001$ (Vaccine 1,3,5) and $p < 0.05$ (Vaccine 2,4,6)) than average of the set of others vaccines.

Conclusions

Vaccination of piglets against *Mycoplasma hyopneumoniae* reduced the severity of Ep-like lesions in slaughtered pigs.

Lungs from farms vaccinated with Hyogen® showed less EP-like lesions than the average of farms vaccinated with other vaccines.

In this study the vaccine Hyogen® showed its superiority in the reduction of lung lesions over the rest of the vaccines included in the study.