



RES-002

MYCOBACTERIOSIS IN BREEDING SOWSW. Pendl¹, T. Sydler², X. Sidler¹.¹ *Division of Swine Medicine, Zurich, Switzerland;* ² *Institute of Veterinary Pathology, Zurich, Switzerland.***Introduction**

A breeding farm with 150 sows reported of anorectic sows with unspecific disturbed general conditions. After site visits, necropsies, molecular biological and microbiological testing, an infection of the herd with *Mycobacterium* ssp. was diagnosed.

Case Description

The present report describes an infection of breeding pigs with a *Mycobacterium* ssp. On the farm problems have occurred in sows after farrowing since several months. Affected sows showed mild depression, a reduced feed intake, teeth grinding and rough hair coat. About 10% of the sows were affected, mortality was around 1%. A site visits was done and four affected sows were euthanized and necropsied. Three of the four examined sows had massively enlarged mesenteric lymph nodes and a caseous lymphadenitis. The gross lesions and the histopathological findings were typically for an infection with mycobacteria. A smear of affected mesenteric lymph nodes was done. After Ziehl-Neelsen staining of the smears very few acid fast rods were found. Using PCR mycobacteria specific 16S rRNA was found. A Tuberculin-Skin-Testing (TST) of all pigs older than 3 months was performed. In this TST 43 % of the animals showed a positive reaction. All responders were older than 20 months. For eradication of mycobacteriosis on this farm, all TST-responders were replaced with gilts continuously.

Conclusion

Mycobacteria are an important issue for food safety and public health. The current prevalence of mycobacteriosis on pig farms is unknown and may be higher as generally considered. Especially in herds with a weak immunological status and unexplainable clinical signs mycobacteriosis should be considered as one potential differential diagnosis.

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