



VVD-024

ERADICATION OF PEDV INFECTION FROM 7 FARROW TO WEAN FARMS IN CROATIA

D. Hizman.

Belje Agro-vet, Darda, Croatia.

Introduction

Agrokor is the largest swine producer with 16.500 farrow to finish sows in Croatia.

Late January 2017, 3 finisher farms, reported an outbreak of profuse yellowish diarrhea, quickly spreading. PEDv was diagnosed after 7 days, with PCR on feces and intestines. In the next 10 days the virus spread to 7 farrow to wean farms. The finisher farms suffered high morbidity (approx. 95%), no increase in mortality. The farrow to wean farms suffered 100 % morbidity in all categories, 55%-75% mortality in 1-9 days old sucklings, no increase in mortality in other categories.

Material and methods

An eradication program was implemented with four major goals:

1. Stop spread: increase farm and feedmill biosecurity, reorder truck movements, improve disinfection.
2. Control inside farms: separation of stables, employees, equipment.
3. Stabilization: gilts introduced and farm closed; sows, gilts and weaners received feedback once.
4. Eradication: 10 days after feedback inoculation, strict McRebbel and high-level hygiene applied with the major goal: newborns need to suckle colostrum ASAP. Pigs were weaned off-site at 28 days, directly to finisher site. Minimizing shedding on the sow farm and eliminate the virus from the environment with daily washing and disinfecting.

Infected animals shed the virus for 7 weeks, active immunity lasts 6 months and colostral immunity 6 weeks.

10 weeks after feedback, 30 pooled feces samples PCR tested from two oldest suckling pig groups. After receiving 3 consecutive biweekly negative PCRs, sentinel gilts were introduced and serum and feces were PCR tested every week.

Results and conclusion

From all 7 sow farms PEDv was successfully eradicated during a period of 19 to 26 weeks.

It has been proven in Agrokor that under european circumstances with a very intense and strict protocol PEDv can be eradicated from a large swine production.

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