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MONITORING PIGLETS' QUALITY VACCINATION

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Introduction

Nowadays, vaccines represent about 60% of health cost in farms. Due to the restriction of the use of antibiotics this percentage is going to increase. Nevertheless, this task is often considered as a painful chore for farmers who usually want to perform as quickly as possible. However, the vaccination of piglets brings together the main concerns of current pig farming: productivity and comfort of the workforce, animal welfare and economic efficiency. Therefore, piglets' quality vaccination is a major issue. To date, there is no guarantee to carry out the vaccination properly so as its monitoring.

Material and Methods

The study focused on the follow-up for 5 months of 8500 piglets vaccinated at the age of 28 days, by 3 employees, with a 2 ml vaccine injection against *Mycoplasma hyopneumoniae*. The duration of the vaccination and the number of good injections (at first time) - among others - were the chosen criteria to evaluate the quality of the vaccination. This was studied and compared both from one session to another and also during a same session. The registration and monitoring of these criteria were achieved through the use of the Smartvac[®] injector and its Vaccinomics[®] app.

Results

It has been demonstrated that the measure of the quality of vaccination makes it possible to rapidly improve the rate of good first injections (from 90% at first session to 96% at 3rd session) and to maintain it at a high level (98%). In addition, we proved a correlation ($R^2 = 0.6323$) between the vaccination time and its quality: after one hour and a half, the quality was severely degraded.

Discussion and conclusion

Being able to measure the quality of vaccination highly contributes to maximize the vaccine investment for farmers. In addition, this restores the interest in the vaccination act with the operators.