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SURVEY OF PORCINE LUNG LESIONS AT SLAUGHTER WITH THE CEVA LUNG PROGRAM IN GERMANY AND AUSTRIA

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Introduction

Lung scoring at slaughter is a useful method to gather information about respiratory health in a herd. Although lung lesions caused by various pathogens are not pathognomonic, the results can indicate previous affections due to Enzootic pneumonia (EP) or pleuropneumonia (APP). The aim of this study was to show lung lesions in different parts of Germany and Austria.

Material & Methods

The Ceva Lung Program is a slaughterhouse adapted method to assess lung lesions and implies a software to display or share the data. Altogether 24575 lungs belonging to batches of 80 or more lungs from four geographical regions were assessed and the median values compared: North Western Germany (NWG) (n=10058), Eastern Germany (EG) (n=7422), Southern Germany (SG) (2610) and Austria (A) (n = 4485).

Results

In terms of EP-like lesions, batches from A scored highest with a median value of 2.249, followed by NWG with 2.045, SG with 1.620 and EG with 0.924. Scars were found most in A (11.68%), followed by SG (10.30%), NWG (9.00%) and EG (5.97%). Batches from NWG had the highest median APP-index with 0.605, followed by EG (0.590), SG (0.495) and Austria (0.281).

Discussion & Conclusion

Despite a very high vaccination rate against *Mycoplasma hyopneumoniae*, pigs from A and NWG had the highest median EP-index. For the same parameter, lungs from EG scored lowest, probably reflecting the high health status of large and isolated herds. The APP-index was found highest in NWG, reflecting the concerns expressed by practitioners from the region. Import of piglets from abroad, transport, genetics and the production way are some of the possible reasons for this.

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