

## HHM-PP-57

### TITLE

#### BUSERELIN-TREATMENT OF GILTS/SOWS COMBINED WITH FTI REDUCED WEANING-TO-FARROWING INTERVAL

Michael Agerley<sup>1</sup>, Gitte Blach Nielsen<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Svinevet*

<sup>2</sup> *MSD Animal Health Nordic*

### CONTENT

#### Background and Objectives

Synchronization of ovulation with buserelin combined with fixed-time artificial insemination (FTI) allows for potential savings on labor and semen doses. The study objective was to assess if buserelin-treatment (Porceptal® (0.004 mg/ml), MSD Animal Health) of sows/gilts combined with FTI significantly differed from non-treated sows/gilts inseminated throughout estrus for the parameters: pregnancy rate, weaning-to-farrowing interval and total born.

#### Material & Methods

In a Danish 2100-sow herd, weaned sows of three consecutive batches (and heat-synchronized gilts of two) were equally allocated to two groups (P and C). Sows in heat prior to 86 h post-weaning were excluded in both groups. P sows received 2.5 ml Porceptal® 86 h post-weaning (gilts 118 h post last progestin heat-synchronization) and were inseminated once 30-33 h later, if in heat. P sows/gilts not in heat at this time were excluded. C sows/gilts were inseminated every 24 h throughout estrus. C sows/gilts not inseminated day 4-7 were also excluded. Time of farrowing was registered by 4 daily checks, 6 h apart.

#### Results

Average weaning-to-farrowing interval was one day shorter for the P group compared to the C group (121.4 vs. 122.2,  $p < 0.001$ ). Pregnancy rate (99% vs. 95%), total born (20.8 vs. 20.5) and percentage of sows inseminated day 5 (P) or 4-7 (C) (75% P vs. 77% C) did not differ between the groups. However, only 47% of P gilts were inseminated day 5 versus 94% of C gilts inseminated day 4-7. By day 7, also 94% of P gilts had, however, shown estrus.

#### Discussion & Conclusion

In this herd, pregnancy rate and total born did not differ between buserelin-treated sows/gilts including FTI and control sows/gilts inseminated according to estrus (2-3 times). For buserelin-treated sows/gilts, farrowing occurred one day earlier than control sows/gilts, ultimately resulting in a one-day longer lactation period.