



PORK BRIEFS

THE LATEST INFORMATION ON SWINE NUTRITION



Ramp up the Breeding

By: Ken Palen

Pigs, pigs and more pigs! That is what we need now to satisfy the high demand and high prices of pork. Take it while it lasts I say! You have all waited so long for this spike in price to finally happen. Could there be \$100 profit made per pig this summer? Uh huh! I think so, maybe, could be, hope so, wow, uh huh! I started speaking gibberish about these exciting prices that may hit soon.

So! Let's get back at it because it all starts with breeding the sows. I have used the breeding target chart below for years, it shows an aggressive breeding approach with a high farrowing rate of 92% in December and March when mother nature wants to breed for spring pigs, to a low rate of 70% in August when mother nature does not want to have winter pigs. But, February and March also start to show some seasonal infertility on the chart, so developing a plan using your own monthly farrowing rates along with this example chart as a guideline could capture some opportunities for more pigs born. See table I below.

Table I. Planning for Seasonal Infertility (Based on 100 Sows)

Month Bred	Target Sows to Farrow	Sows & Gilts to Breed	Expected Farrowing Rate
January	20	22	92%
February	20	23	89%
March	20	24	85%
April	20	25	82%
May	20	26	79%
June	20	27	75%
July	20	28	72%
August	20	29	70%
September	20	26	77%
October	20	24	85%
November	20	23	88%
December	20	22	92%

This chart could be modified to reflect the normal farrowing rate on your own farm and adjusted accordingly by month shown.

cont.>>

Inside this Issue:

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A ready-to-use drying powder for use in all stages of pork production. Easy to use and handle.

Use drySTART® in all stages of pork production from farrowing and nursery barns right through to finishing.



drySTART® helps to absorb moisture. Use drySTART® as part of your livestock facility management program to help maintain a dry environment between bedding and/or washing.

Reducing odours helps maintain a positive environment for the livestock and the people working with the livestock.

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69819 London Road, RR #1, Centralia, Ontario, Canada, N0M 1K0

Tel: (519) 228-6444 or 1-800-265-2904 • Fax (519) 228-6560 • Email kpalen@kenpal.on.ca • www.kenpal.on.ca

Feed them to Breed

New feed technologies can also be used to help improve farrowing rates and total piglets born. The list below shows what should be tried on farms depending on challenges and your take on the opportunities.

Before Farrowing

- Increase (bump) feed by 10% to 20%, depending on genetics, 3 weeks before farrowing.
- Feed special designed rations to better meet the nutrient needs of this stage of production, 3 weeks before farrowing.
- Top-dress sows 5 days before and 5 days after farrowing with farrowSTART®.

After Farrowing

- Boost ration of first litter gilts and sows with large litters with sowSTART® high nutrient supplement.

After Weaning

- Feed sows litterSTART® supplement to help from weaning to breeding.

Keep them Clean

drySTART® Drying Powder - The use of these products have sky rocketed over the past couple of years. They are used in breeding pens, behind gestation sows, in farrowing crates to keep baby piglets warm and dry, nurseries, finishers, loading chutes, livestock trucks and barn entrance ways. drySTART® is best used after washing or between washing with the goal of drying the facility and helping reduce odours.



A ready-to-use, drying powder that can be used with all classes of livestock facilities. Easy-to-use and handle. Using drySTART® wherever you have damp and/or dirty floors helps dry the environment where livestock are housed. drySTART® may also help reduce unpleasant ammonia odours in livestock bedding. Using drySTART® is an economical way to help create a better environment for your livestock and staff.

TYPICAL USE: Use drySTART® in all stages of pork production from farrowing and nursery barns right through to finishing.

DIRECTIONS:

Farrowing Sows, Dry Sows, Nursery and Grower/Finisher Units: Apply drySTART® at 100 to 150 grams/m² (4 to 6 oz/10 ft²) after the room is cleaned, before filling with pigs. Repeat as required.

Farrowing Crates/Pen: Continue using drySTART® daily at 50 grams/m² or (2 oz/10 ft²) for the first 7 days after farrowing. Repeat as required.



Deal with the Diseases

Every year, especially in the winter, we deal with diseases in livestock production. Sometimes it is just the old standbys, and sometimes new ones, but always something. This year's new disease is PED, which is of the same family as TGE. TGE has been around for years in Ontario and usually hits each year between December and April. The disease's effects last for 6 weeks and then go away, but it is probably the most emotionally draining disease a pig farmer can get resulting in all the baby pig deaths, deaths of the animals they love. I have spent many hours on the phone getting updates from farms breaking over the years on week one, week two, week three etc., just comforting them that there is life after TGE. To our surprise during the following 12 months of the TGE outbreak we found a number of pigs sold to market that year to be the same or even higher after the devastating baby piglet losses during the outbreak. This was confirmed with research when the Prairie Swine Centre broke with TGE. They documented and showed similar results that we had seen in the field. Will PED act the same as TGE? To the best of my knowledge this is not known yet. But if it does there are two results to be considered. One would be to drive on, infect the herd as fully as possible as quickly as possible, get it over and breed, breed, breed. The second could be a lot of pork on the market 8 to 12 months from now especially in the USA where the breaks started back in April 2013 and are peaking now. Dealing with these new diseases while emotionally draining can be done with post disease success.

So! Let's breed, feed, dry and deal with the diseases and go shopping for a big frame to put that \$300 cheque for a pig in uh huh! I think so! Maybe! Could be! Hope so! Wow! Uh huh! This summer and BANK THAT \$100 PROFIT PER PIG with a little spent on a party to celebrate these great prices. Thank you.

Meets the sow's need for additional nutrients shortly before and after farrowing



farrowSTART® Sow Top Dress Supplement is designed for individual gilts/sows that require higher nutrient intakes to prepare them for farrowing and lactation. farrowSTART® provides an available source of vitamins, minerals and electrolytes.

POTENTIAL BENEFITS

EASY & SAFE TO USE - farrowSTART® is a free-flowing product that is available in pails. A scoop is provided with each container that measures approximately 60 grams per scoop.

- There is no withdrawal period.
- farrowSTART® is extremely stable and heat tolerant.

VERSATILE - farrowSTART® can be topdressed or used:

- In complete mash or pelleted feeds
- In liquid feed systems
- In vitamin/mineral premixes and supplements
- With other STARTline® products

ADDED SELENIUM & VITAMIN E - Helps to strengthen immune system response.



An easy-to-use nutritional top dress for sows and gilts to help improve reproductive performance.

FEATURES

- Contains specialty ingredients essential to the reproductive functions such as Omega 3 fatty acids and sugars.
- A significant source of energy.
- Contains nature's major antioxidant – Vitamin E.
- Contains organic trace minerals.

POTENTIAL BENEFITS

- Decrease in weaning-to-estrus intervals.
- Improved conception rates.
- Maximized litter size.
- Increased farrowing rate.
- Superior reproductive performance.



Specially formulated to boost the nutrient intake of individual high-producing sows, especially first-litter gilts, during lactation



sowSTART® sow supplement is designed for individual sows and especially first-litter gilts needing higher nutrient intakes during their lactation. sowSTART® provides a high energy, high protein supplement for sows and gilts with low intakes or extra large litters.

KEY INGREDIENTS

ENERGY, AMINO ACIDS AND VITAMINS

- Provide the extra nutrients required to maintain and rebuild the health of the animal after a period of stress.

ORGANIC TRACE MINERALS

- sowSTART® contains highly-available forms of minerals that help to maximize nutrient utilization in today's high producing animals.

POTENTIAL BENEFITS

sowSTART® provides the nutrition necessary to:

- Optimize sow body condition during the lactation period.
- Maximize lactation sow feed intake.
- Minimize lactation sow weight loss.
- Minimize weaning-to-estrus interval.
- Maximize piglet litter weight gain.
- Maximize pigs/sow/year.





KENPAL PREMIX + THE STARTLINE® = THE RIGHT COMBINATION TO HELP MAINTAIN A HEALTHY SOW HERD

PRODUCER JOHN VAN DORP PULLS OUT ALL THE TOOLS NECESSARY TO MAINTAIN HEALTHY SOWS, USING A COMBINATION OF KENPAL PREMIX & THE STARTline® SPECIALTY PRODUCTS



John and Karen Van Dorp and sons operate a 180 sow farrow-to-finish operation near Woodstock, ON. They started feeding with Kenpal in 2006, and quickly began to notice some major improvements.

John started with Kenpal by feeding Kenpal's Sow Premix. Previously they were experiencing some breeding problems, but once they started feeding the Sow Premix, with the first group in only 10 days they noticed a big change in the sows in breeding. Weaning-to-ostetus interval (days) within each group quickly improved, in addition to bigger litter sizes as well.

Because the Van Dorp's had such great results with Kenpal premixes they decided to try some of the STARTline® swine specialty products, once again John was happy with the results. These products include:

firstSTART®P – Piglet Milk Replacer

John first started using this for the simple reasons, helping to feed large litter sizes and the runts of the litters. It was soon after when John realized the benefits to feeding firstSTART®P to every litter, no matter the size. The Van Dorp's are seeing a consistent average of 5 lbs gain before weaning at 28 days. Also, when certain challenges arise they are able start feeding it at 2 days of age to assist the sow in keeping its condition.

sowSTART® – Sow Supplement

This is another product John uses on a daily basis on his farm. "With a big litter size you need to help the sows maintain body condition while nursing. sowSTART® helps for that specific cause as well as resulting in a timely rebreed back time in the sows."

farrowSTART® – Farrowing Sow Top Dress Supplement

farrowSTART is a product that John only uses when certain situations arise. He says "It's a good tool to have in your tool box when you need it; it works well to get the job done when you know there is an issue."

"I look forward to maintaining the great results I get when using Kenpal products, the relationship I have with my salesmen Andy, and the friendly delivery team. It makes your day when you work with happy and friendly people like the Kenpal crew!"



John Van Dorp
Woodstock, ON

WE APPRECIATE YOUR BUSINESS

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