



PORK BRIEFS

THE LATEST INFORMATION ON SWINE NUTRITION



Corn Quality Worsens

By Ken Palen



As summer nears completion the corn quality coming out of the storage bins seems to be getting worse. The energy content has been lower for this year in most areas of Ontario but the bottom of the bins seems to be even lower. Summer heat, can make the problem worse with more deterioration occurring and lower

intake of pigs due to the weather. Mycotoxin problems are also increasing, with more swollen vulvas in the female pigs indicating the toxin Zearalenone present. Gibberella mould on corn in the field can result in several toxins being produced. Signs of this mould are: pink mould growing mostly on the cobs of the corn where there has been some bird damage or the inside very tight cobs shoot straight up on the stock where water has entered. The hot and humid weather encourages the mould to grow. In Ontario we mainly see the toxin Vomitoxin (DON) produced. This can affect feed intake in pigs. Last year we seen a small amount of Zearalenone show up. This toxin also called by some the "storage toxin" because it seems to like to grow in the storage bins in damp corn. With lots of fines compacted in the bottom of the silo's and bins, I expect there is damp corn in the bottom of some bins due to lots of high moisture corn harvested last year that didn't dry uniformly. Zearalenone can also cause abortions in sows, prolapses in female pigs of all ages, and swollen vulva's even on the newborn pigs, due to sows being fed high levels of Zearalenone. This toxin is not a good one to deal with. Other toxins show up at times in corn but in small quantities in Ontario.

cont. on pg 3>>

Inside this Issue:

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Get your piglets off to the right start with firstSTART[®] P piglet milk replacer.



A mildly acidified milk replacer designed to supplement or replace nutrition for young piglets.

Helps to increase weaning weights and prevent growth reduction at weaning with:

- Dairy products of the highest quality
- A high concentration of protein
- Easily digestible fat
- Essential amino acids
- Minerals and vitamins

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Fresh and ready feed

Ray McNichol of Blyth roasts all of the soybeans required for his farrow-to-finish rations. He has observed definite benefits from weekly versus monthly roasting.

"We get better performance by keeping feed fresh," he explains. "KenPal has worked with me to provide premixes as I need them to make up feed."

"Thanks to the KenPal program, I'll wean more pigs per sow this year than ever before," adds McNichol. "Pigs in our starter area have never looked so good. And while the inclusion rate per tonne of complete feed is higher with KenPal premixes, I find their programs to be more economical than the competition's." ■

Source: Feeder's Digest, Mid 1980's

The McNichol Family - Then and Now

For the McNichol's, the swine business is a family business. Brian McNichol grew up carefully watching his father, Ray McNichol (left) on his farrow-to-finish operation. Brian now owns and operates RMB Farms in Blyth, Ontario, with his father, brother Mike and the help of his three sons Tyler, Kal and Louis. Brian has been a customer of Kenpal since he began farming and Ray started with the company in the mid 1980s.

Brian and his family have recently taken on a new farm, new pigs and a new challenge with Kenpal at their side. This past October, they expanded from a 300 sow farrow-to-finish operation to 800 sows and are finishing about a third of the pigs on their own. They are currently using a variety of Kenpal and STARTline® products including drySTART®, farrowSTART®, firstSTART®P, leanSTART®, and Lacta Fat® along with a full line of Kenpal premixes for all of their feeds. They also make all of their own feed right on farm.

Excellence in farm management, in combination with quality feed products, create exceptional results and the proof is in their records (right).

Kenpal looks forward to working with the McNichol family at their new location and with the generations to come.

RMB FARMS PERFORMANCE DATA

March 15/15 - May 24/15

FARROWING

Farrowings	322
Average parity farrowed	1.0
Total born per farrow	15.4
Liveborn per farrow	14.4
Farrowing rate	96.3

WEANING

Pigs weaned per female	12.9
Average weaning age	19.7
Weaned/mated female/year	32.5



Brian McNichol & Sons
RMB Farms
Blyth, ON

June 2015

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So what do we do? Several actions can be taken to improve the problem, as shown below.

Low Energy Corn

- Add fat to the ration to increase energy
- Feed more volume and weight of ration to pigs and nursing sows
- Keep water running, ventilation operating, and temperatures correct in all barns to encourage the highest intake of feed possible



Toxins in Corn

- Dilute with clean corn, wheat or barley to reduce the total intake of the toxin
- Add a toxin binder to the ration
- Screen corn to take out fines that may contain higher levels of toxin

Let's hope this year's corn crop is more mature at harvest than last years. When first harvested the immature corn has higher sugar and less starch so pigs love it. Over time in storage this advantage seems to go away. Please keep safe at harvest time and enjoy the great fall weather. Thanks

VITAMIN/MINERAL PREMIXES & SPECIALTY PRODUCTS FOR SWINE

the **START** line.

farrowSTART.

To help prepare for the increased nutrient demands due to farrowing

litterSTART.

Extra nutrition fed from weaning to breeding

sowSTART.

To help boost nutrient intake during lactation

firstSTART. P

A high quality milk replacer for young piglets

drySTART.

A drying agent for all stages of pork production

WE TAKE BIOSECURITY SERIOUSLY

At Kenpal we take all the precautions into consideration when it comes to biosecurity. For the benefit of our customers, we make sure our equipment is as clean as possible.

- We wash our trucks everyday in our onsite washbay, which was built in 2001.
- Drivers wear clean disposable boots whenever appropriate.



WE APPRECIATE YOUR BUSINESS

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