



PORK BRIEFS

THE LATEST INFORMATION ON SWINE NUTRITION



PINK MOLD SHOWING IN SOME CORN

By Ken Palen



Pink pigs are pretty, but pink kernels in corn are not. They can turn into mycotoxin producing machines. Pink mold is a fusarium fungus also called Gibberella mold in corn and are usually present somewhere in Ontario each year. Some years it shows up, and when the corn husk dries out and opens up, it allows the wind to blow away most of the problem.

Less weather stress also results in less mycotoxin production. The bottom line is, testing some samples of corn may be the only way to confirm if toxins were produced by the pink fusarium fungus or Gibberella mold. If pink mold is there just beware it could be a problem.

The two most common mycotoxins produced in Ontario are Vomitoxin (DON or Deoxynivalenol) and Zearalenone (ZEN). Vomitoxin is usually the most prevalent. Other toxins we see, at times, are Fumonisin, T-2 Toxin, and Ochratoxin A (OA) in corn. Some actions that can be taken to reduce the impact of mycotoxin producing pink mold are as follows.

Before and During Harvest

- Check all storage bins for damage or leaks were moisture can help further the growth of mold.
- When combining try to blow out small and bird damaged kernels back into the field.
- Use a cleaner when unloading corn into bins or silos to clean out red dog, bits of cob etc. that can create hot (moisture) spots in storage.
- Test field corn right away to target the best corn to the sows and nursery pigs and the other corn to older grower finisher hogs.

Feed Corn Right Away to Test

- Try feeding some corn to immature gilts (female pigs) to see if swelling occurs in vulvas.
- Feed some corn to nursery pigs and finisher pigs to see if feed intake is reduced right away or within two or three days or not at all.
- Test corn again coming out of storage for mycotoxins, usually vomitoxin and zearalenone.

cont. on pg 3>>

Inside this Issue:

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



FEATURES

- Safe to handle
- Easy to use - just top dress on feed.
- Contains specialty ingredients essential to the reproductive functions such as Omega 3 fatty acids and sugars.
- A significant source of energy.
- Contains organic trace minerals.

POTENTIAL BENEFITS

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

Volume 11, Issue 7
October 2018

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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-ostetrus 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
May 10, 2012



Vomitoxin (DON) Effects

- Reduced feed intake and/or vomiting pigs.
- More aggression and tail or flank biting.
- Lower immune systems resulting in more disease and poorer response to vaccines and treatments.

Zearalenone (ZEN)

- Swollen vulvas in growing female pigs
- Abortions in sows, false pregnancies, poorer breeding
- Slower farrowing, more stillborns, more prolapses
- Reduced immune system and vaccine treatment response

Action if Mycotoxins are Present

The best approach is to dilute corn with 100 kg to 250 kg of clean wheat or clean corn per tonne of finished feed depending on the severity of the toxin load or add a mycotoxin binder to the ration. There is lots of clean wheat in Ontario this year. Talk to your feed supplier about this option.

In summary, we have been through this before, the secret is to not sit back but to take action quickly to minimize the financial impact. Good luck with the harvest and please be careful out there.

Thank you.

VITAMIN/MINERAL PREMIXES & SPECIALTY PRODUCTS FOR SWINE

the STARTline.

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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