



PORK BRIEFS

THE LATEST INFORMATION
ON SWINE NUTRITION



Getting it Right Routinely

By: Ken Palen

Every year it seems that more people are expecting a perfect world with everything done in a perfect way or the blame games starts to happen. Trying to micro analyse everything to the exact degree can often confuse people more than target perfection to the people trying to perform the duties. Before the age of volumes of information, systems were routinely followed on farms especially livestock farms with great success. Routine procedures done the same way day after day allowed the jobs to be done about as perfectly as possible by humans. I guess that is why robots and assembly lines were created to make many of the things perfectly the same each time. Problem is animals are not a piece of steel and do not respond or perform perfectly to a procedure, vitamin level, temperature level, disease level or anything else the same each time. Actually there may be more difference within the population on a farm (i.e. genetics) than between the same livestock on different farms. So why is it important to know all this?



Just recently I have been looking at the farms that I have worked with for many years to see why they have been successful. Of course, every farm is different and every situation is different so you can take this observation with a grain of salt if you like. But many of these successful farms have had the same good systems in

place for countless years. Expansion has been done slowly but steadily and the buildings have been kept tidy and clean inside and out. Many of these farms have not repopulated their herd in the past 20 or 30 years or more, but have kept up with the new genetics to meet what the market is asking for on weight of market hogs and leanness. Some farms have a good set of manual records on the basics like how many sows bred per week, weaned per week, piglets weaned per sow, piglets died in nursery,

cont.>>

Inside this Issue:

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IRON PEP™



Advantages of Iron Pep™

- Helps prevent iron deficiency in baby pigs.
- Highly palatable source of iron.
- Supplies nutritional source of iron.
- Feed free choice or top dress.
- **Well-tolerated**
 - Labor saving
 - Flexible use
 - Generally increases creep feed consumption
 - Attracts baby pigs to creep feed

A PRODUCT OF 

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For Sows

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To help prepare for the increased nutrient demands due to farrowing

sowSTART®

To help boost nutrient intake during lactation

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A high quality, slightly acidified milk replacer for young piglets

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Extra nutrition fed from weaning to breeding

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A drying agent for all stages of pork production



pigs died in finisher and pigs shipped or a full blown computer set of production records on their own or at a record service bureau. We have calculated their feed cost, conversions and meat per tonne of feed and per sow per year for many of these farms year to year.



Sows may be medicated twice per year, spring and fall. Vaccines and vet advice are used but routines are followed with very little change unless something

flares up, then a treatment is used, followed by right back to the normal practice and good communication between farm owners and staff.

Following is a set of real records from a real farm that has not depopulated his herd for 22 years when he took over from his parents. Herd size is 206 sows which have decreased to make room for the extra pigs being produced per sow and heavier weight of pigs being shipped. This farm owner refused to overcrowd pigs due to his past experiences of poor health and performance when overcrowding.



FARM RECORDS

Start Date 1/1/2014

End Date 12/31/2014

Sows in Herd = 206

<u>Pigs Sold</u>	<u># Pigs</u>	<u>Dressed Wt (kg)</u>	<u>DW per Pig</u>
Mkt Hogs	6052	567,846	93.83
BBQ Pigs	70	5218	74.54
Replacement Gilts (kept)	78	8845	113.40
Total pigs	6200		
Pigs/Sow/Year Marketed = 30			

FEED & PERFORMANCE DATA

<u>Total Tonnes of Feed</u>	<u>Kg Feed/Pigs</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>	<u>\$/Pig</u>
1703 tonnes	274.71	\$577,747	93.19

Commodity Cost – SBM \$605.70/tonne, DDGS \$232.40/tonne, Corn \$173.85/tonne

<u>Feed Conversion</u>	<u>Live</u>	<u>Dressed</u>
Whole Herd – Farrow to Finish	2.34	2.93
Nursery Only	1.35	---
Finish Only	2.34	2.92

Kg Meat per tonne of Feed – 342 kg (includes Sows, Nursery, Finish)

Kg Saleable Meat/Sow – 2825 kg

In Summary

Great performance and great cost can be achieved on farms that keep simple routines to achieve perfection.

This can be achieved by dealing with the health challenges as they come by without repopulating the herd. Keeping the basics of cleanliness, feed accuracy, good ventilation and basic rules of entering and leaving the barn.

I would like to thank this farm for letting me share their records modestly not boastfully with the industry as this is something they rarely do.

Thank you.



HYGIENIC DRYING POWDER FOR ALL STAGES OF PORK PRODUCTION

Dr. Dale says, "Nothing compares to drySTART® - it helps cut down on scours when pigs are first born, on viruses in farrowing crates and helps save PEDv infected pigs!"



Dr. Dale Hendrickson

Dr. Dale Hendrickson owns and operates Four Star Veterinarian Services Stoney Creek Office in Farmland, Indiana. Four Star Veterinarian Services offers swine exclusive veterinary services with locations in Indiana, Michigan, Ohio and Pennsylvania, along with a new office venture in China.

Dr. Dale heard about drySTART® drying powder for swine facilities from Kenpal Farm Products in Centralia, Ontario, Canada. drySTART® can be used in all stages of pork production from farrowing and nursery barns right through to finishing.

Dr. Dale had used other drying agents before but nothing compared to drySTART®. He decided to handle the product himself for distribution and has been getting it by semi loads for the last four years.

Here is what Dr. Dale had to say about some of the benefits he finds when using drySTART®: "I find that it cuts down on scours when pigs are first born. I also like its antibacterial properties; it helps cut down on viruses in the farrowing crates."

Most recently he has used drySTART® on Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea virus (PEDv) infected herds. Dr. Dale says, "We cover the floor, the mats and the pigs; anything we can get it to stick to. I feel that it has helped save pigs, not everything is dying in the final stages; I use a lot of it here in the final stages."

Dr. Dale adds, "drySTART® is reasonably priced and it is as good as or better than any other drying agent in the USA."



WE APPRECIATE YOUR BUSINESS

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