

UC Davis Animal Science Swine Unit

Introduction. The swine herd was established with pigs from the Pig Improvement Company and is free of mange, lice, internal parasites, swine dysentery, turbinate atrophy and snout distortion, pneumonic lesions, pseudorabies, and brucellosis. This is consistent with requirements for the National SPF program. The high health status has reduced the need for individual animal treatments.

General health maintenance and prophylaxis

All pigs are fed manufactured diets that meet RDA's. Tylan 40 at 100gm/tonne is included in all diets for control of *Lawsonia intercellularis* infection. All breeding females and boars are vaccinated against erysipelas, leptospirosis and parvovirus with (Farrowsure). Replacement females are given 2 initial doses at selection and a booster at weaning. Males are vaccinated 2 times/yr in Spring and Fall

Management and treatment plans

Baby and nursery pigs

- Day 1 - clip needle teeth, ear notch, dock tails, record sex, nipple numbers, and birth weight
- Spectinomycin PO and 0.5cc Benzathine penicillin IM
- Day 3 - 100mg Iron dextran IM and castrate males
- Scours - Spectinomycin PO once/day for 3 days and Ringers IP, if needed
- Day 16-24 - wean and move in litter groups to nursery
- Weeks 8 to 10 – remove to outside grow/finish pens when at least 20kg (summer) or 30kg (winter)

Grower/finisher pigs

- Week 10 – sort for size at approx 30 to 40kg, stock at 6 to 8 pigs per pen to achieve recommended stocking densities
- 100 – 120kg - slaughter pigs, assign to experimental trial or select as replacement female
- Respiratory disease - Nuflor or Lincomycin, follow label directions and withdrawal
- Arthritis - Lincomycin, follow label directions and withdrawal times

Replacement females

Selection - regroup according to weight, hand feed, hold for 60-90 days prior to breeding

Post-breeding - pregnancy check approximately 30 days after breeding

Feet and leg problems – isolate, put in pen with rubber mats, check temperature and treat pyrexia with Nuflor, as directed

Vulval bites/trauma – isolate affected sow, treat pyrexia with Nuflor, as directed

Pregnant and lactating females

Prefarrowing - wash and move into farrowing room 4 to 7 days prior to farrowing, maintain feed until farrowing

Slow farrowings – check for retained pigs, 1 – 1.5cc Oxytocin IM, up to 3 doses

Postfarrowing – fast for 24 hr, then increase fed intake gradually to 5.5 to 7kg/day over about 1 week, feed twice/day
- check sows twice a day for uterine discharges, anorexia, ability to stand, take temperature of sows with evidence of ill health

Post partum illnesses – Penicillin G as directed, check for retained pigs

Abscesses - drain and flush with betadine, if detected during pregnancy. Do not drain abscesses while sows are nursing pigs, treat after weaning, unless evidence of systemic illness

Boars

Individually house, feed once/day. In spring and fall, check tusks, collect blood samples and vaccinate with Farrowsure

Mortalities

All pigs that die after weaning, where the cause of death is not known, should be necropsied at the California Animal Health and Food Safety Laboratory. Copies of laboratory reports should be sent to Kent Parker and Ian Gardner.

Emergency problems

Contact C-Barn or Field service – Drs. Lisle George or John Angelos

Non-emergency and herd problems

Refer to Kent Parker (752-1683), who will consult with Ian Gardner Vet Med: Medicine and Epidemiology (752-6992) to modify herd health and management plans.

Updated: April 24, 2003