Thank you for participating in SowBridge 2011-12.
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Trouble Shooting Farrowing Problems
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First Things First - Flow
• Birth
• Fostering (first 48 hours)
  – Load gilts
• Shots
Processing (2 – 5 days)
  – not clipping teeth
  – Starve-outs
• Shots?
  – Vaccinations
  – Treatments
• Wean

Talking Points
First 24 hours
1. Parity structure
2. Stillborns
3. Mummies
4. Low birth weights
5. Vitality
6. Deformities

Day 2 until weaning
8. Starve-outs – Individual and litter
9. Laid Ons
10. Scours

Know Your Problem
• Team approach
  – Records
  – Vet
  – Production staff

“Where are we at and where do we want to go?”

Parity Structure
– ALL team members responsibility
  – Gilt numbers (replacement rate)
  – Sow retention
  – Sow culling

Opportunity
Look at your structure. Are you culling the right animal?
**Mummies and Stillborns = Potential**

- % of Total born, born live
- Mindless waste
  - Stillborns die in the BIRTH PROCESS
  - Lungs sink
- Speed of birth
  - Track time
  - Be around
  - Sleeve then oxytocin
  - Comfortable / parity / history

**Opportunity**

Know your level and work on lowering it!

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**Low Birth Weights**

- Gestation
  - Feeding
  - Weekly wean farms
- Lots of pigs – uterine crowding (good / bad problem)
- Gilt litters – smaller birth weight
- Old sows – higher variability of piglet weights

Runts – may or may not be cost effective to save (less than 1.4 lb)

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**Deformities**

- Ruptures
  - Before processing
  - After processing
- Spraddles
  - Feedback
- Spraddles
  - Bone, disease levels

**Opportunity**

Record them or you won’t capture the incidence level.

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**Vitality**

- Figure 5. Development of mortality rate compared with vitality at birth.

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**Sows not milking**

- Feed – gestation & due to farrow
- Water quality and quantity
- Comfortable
- Oxytocin
- Cleansed – retained pigs (not clearly recorded)
- Pain management

**Opportunity**

Review your kick out sows level. Every one represents a failure in the farrowing process.
**Lactation Failure - Summary**

- Electrolytes, Antibiotics, Oxygen
- Udder Edema & Congestion
- High levels of feed
- Excitement/Fear
- Water intakes
- Too fat
- Constipation
- Breastfed
- Foster litter/nurse sow
- Antibiotics

**What is a starve-out?**

- Starve-outs will have many on the litter that look great and **one or two that don’t**!
- Day 4 – 5 LOOK at pigs – scuffed faces
- Treating them will not fix the problem
  - Review first three days post farrowing.....
- Need new milk supply
  - Low born alive
  - Need to make more teats – nurse sow
  - Ace, energy paste, piglet treatment

**The Movement Spiral**

- Farrow and anti-load check
- Sow Farrow opportunity
- Look at liters left intact – what % of sows are fostered?

**Diarrhea**

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Early Period Days</th>
<th>Late Period Days</th>
<th>Mortality Level</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0-3</td>
<td>4-7</td>
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<td>Clotridia</td>
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<td>TGE</td>
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**Diarrhea / Scours**

- Farm specific
- Seasonal
  - Proactive approach
- Management
  - Clean rooms
  - Clean equipment
  - Hygienic approach to work
  - Ventilation
“Information without action is not going to fix your problem.”