NIAA: Antibiotic Use – Working Together for Better Solutions

November 1-3, 2016

Joel Nerem, DVM

Pipestone Veterinary Services
Pig Farming 101

Sow Farm
• Breed to Wean
  • Sow Gestation Cycle: 115 days
  • 3 Month + 3 Weeks + 3 Days
  • Birth to 21 days old

Nursery
• 21 – 70 days of age
  • Gain ~1lb per day

Finisher
• 70 days old until 24 weeks of age
  • Harvested at approximately 285 lbs.

- Pigs eat feed made primarily from corn and soybeans grown on U.S. Farms
- Pig Manure is a highly valued fertilizer that is agronomically applied to farm fields where corn and soybeans are grown
- US Sow Herd Inventory = ~6.02 million
- Total Market Pigs = ~64.8 million current inv.
- Pork Exports = 2.2 million metric tons annually
- Pork Industry supports ~550,000 jobs
Antibiotic Use in Pig Farming

Categories of Use:
- Treatment of Disease
- Control and Prevention of Disease
- Improved Feed Efficiency

Antibiotic Delivery Methods:
- Individual injection
- Orally through drinking water
- Orally through feed
Responsible Antibiotic Use

Examples:

PQA Plus
  - Producer education program
  - Focused on Responsible Medication Use, Food Safety, and Animal Well Being
  - Since 1989

- Veterinary Oversight through valid VCPR
- Veterinary Visits and Health Assessments
- Routine Laboratory Submissions for accurate diagnosis
- Farm Treatment Records
- Careful adherence to pre-harvest treatment withdrawal times
Industry Track Record: Continual Efforts to Improve Pig Health

Health Improvements =
- Less Medication Use
- Improved Animal Well-Being
- More profitable farms

Examples:
- Multi-site production, “All-in/All-out” flow
- High health breeding stock farms
- High biosecurity: facility design, showers, filters, truck washes
- Disease elimination programs: PRRS, Mycoplasma, Influenza, APP, etc
- Immunization plans: vaccinate instead of medicate
Interactive, web-based tool to help farmers monitor and track total antibiotic use

Helps farmers demonstrate their responsible use of antibiotics

Works to track resistance over time

Gives Pipestone Veterinarians better information to:
  - Select the best treatment options for sick animals
  - Focus on producers with higher health challenges
  - Do our PART to safeguard against antimicrobial resistance

RECORD

REVIEW

RESPOND