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Viral and Viral Diseases PED

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PEDv elimination from two multiplication one-site farrow-to-finish herds

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Introduction: Methods for PEDv elimination on farrow-to-wean farms have been based on previous experiences with TGE and PRRS. However, methods for PEDv elimination on one-site farrow-to-finish farms have not been published and only anecdotal batch farrowing experiences exist. The objective of this case-report is to describe the methods by which PEDv was eliminated from two one-site multiplication farrow-to-finish farms.

Materials and Methods: Farm A (150 sows + 100 boars) and Farm B (350 sows) are 150 meters from each other and belong to the same multiplication flow. On April 3rd 2015 (calendar week 14), scouring suckling piglets were detected on farm A and a couple days later sows began vomiting. Suckling piglet fecal samples were sent for diagnostics confirming the presence of PEDv through RT-PCR. On April 8th a similar scenario was seen in farm B and samples sent to the laboratory were positive for PEDv.

An elimination program was put in place through partial depopulation together with load-close-homogenize intervention. Feedback was initiated on calendar week 15 and 16 for farm A and B respectively. Partial depopulation began on the second half of week 15 and continued for the following 2-3 weeks. Gestating sows with pregnancies of 50+ days, nursery and grower-finisher pigs were moved to an off-site farm. Once each building was empty, a strict sanitation protocol was initiated which included, dismantling farrowing crates, nursery pens, feeders in order to eliminate organic matter from the surface. This process was followed by power washing, detergent application and surface scrubbing. Buildings were allowed to dry and torched afterwards. Surfaces were then disinfected with Virkon S and allowed to dry. This process was repeated one more time before the buildings were inspected and then painted with lime. Monitoring was done at the University of Minnesota Diagnostic Laboratory by shipping fecal smears from boars (n=30) and suckling piglets (n=30) on FTA cards and testing through RT-PCR on pools of five.

Results: RT-PCR results from samples collected on week 18 and 22 yielded 3 and 11 positive and suspect pools, respectively. Samples collected on week 26, 28, 31 and 33 all yielded negative RT-PCR results. No diarrhea has been detected on suckling, nursery or grower-finisher pigs.

Conclusion: Elimination of PEDv from one-site farrow-to-finish farms is achievable through partial depopulation, loadclose-homogenize and deep sanitation of buildings. Successful elimination of PEDv was due to the fact that close attention was given not only to duration of population shedding but also to environmental contamination.

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