

SWINE HEALTH

Title: Using Direct Virus Exposure in Conjunction with Modified Herd Closure for a PRRS Eradication Program – **NPB #04-200**

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Abstract:

PRRS virus eradication can be done by a number of procedures. The use of direct virus exposure to ensure that all animals in the herd have been exposed to the PRRS virus can be used to aide herd closure and allow for a known date to start the closure. In this study herds were closed for a minimum of 200 days. PRRS virus eradication was successful in all the herds in this trial using direct virus exposure and herd closure.

All herds also were able to introduce negative naive gilts into the herds after the closure period and remain negative to the original herd virus. Three of the herds broke with a new virus as defined as greater than 5% difference in ORF 5 gene sequencing.

Direct virus exposure and herd closure were able to generate negative pigs from these positive sows. These herds continued to generate negative pigs through the nursery phase during the trial period.

This is a cost effective means of virus eradication from the herd. This is a tool that can be used get the value and performance from a PRRS negative production system in an economical way. The cost that is associated with this method is the cost of additional housing space during the closure period.

Even with good biosecurity methods virus can reenter herds. Using this method of eradication will allow for a rapid return to negative pig flow at an economical cost.

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