

**Title:** Evaluation of the Pork Quality of Sows Fed Diets with different levels of Distillers Dried Grains –  
NPB # 09-014 **revised**

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### Scientific Abstract:

Cull sows (N=90, parity = 3+) were blocked by initial BW, breeding date and were assigned to 1 of 9 dietary treatments to assess the impact of feeding dried distillers grains with solubles (DDGS) during gestation and lactation on sow performance and carcass quality. A factorial arrangement created 9 dietary treatments: (1) 0% gestation diet, 0% lactation diet; (2) 0% gestation diet, 15% DDGS lactation diet; (3) 0% gestation diet, 30% DDGS lactation diet; (4) 15% DDGS gestation diet, 0% lactation diet; (5) 15% DDGS gestation diet, 15% DDGS lactation diet; (6) 15% DDGS gestation diet, 30% DDGS lactation diet; (7) 30% DDGS gestation diet, 0% lactation diet; (8) 30% DDGS gestation diet, 15% DDGS lactation diet; (9) 30% DDGS gestation diet, 30% DDGS lactation diet. Individual sow BW and backfat thickness were recorded initially (d 56 mid-gestation), d 0 of lactation, at weaning, and d 8 post-weaning. Individual sow's litter performance was recorded (number born, number born alive, number weaned, litter weaning weight and days of lactation) and litter size adjusted to 9 piglets by d 2 of lactation. Post-weaning, sows were transferred back to gestation crates for an 8 d drying period prior to slaughter. Sows were harvested 8 d following weaning at a commercial processing plant and samples of lean and fat were collected for fatty acid profiles. Bratwurst and breakfast links were prepared and assessed for quality, color, cooking characteristics and taste panel evaluation.

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These research results were submitted in fulfillment of the Nutritional Efficiency Consortium research projects.

Contributing organizations for 2009 include: AgriSolutions, Inc., DPI Global, Iowa Pork Producers Association, Illinois Corn Marketing Board, Illinois Pork Producers Association, Kansas Pork Association, Missouri Pork Producers Association, Mississippi Pork Producers Association, National Pork Board, Nebraska Corn Board and the Utah Pork Producers Association.

This report is published directly as submitted by the projects principal investigator. This report has not been peer reviewed.

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