

In contrast, using protection tests in piglets against virulent challenge, there was no evidence for significant differences between litters of vaccinated sows (86 p. 100 of piglets were protected) and those of unvaccinated sows (89 p. 100 of piglets were protected). Our results suggest that passive protection given to piglets by lactogenic immunity following natural infection may last during the whole economic life of the sow. The interest of using the vaccination as a booster of mammary immune response and its epidemiological consequences are discussed.

### Utilization of a new endectocide (ivermectin) for pigs Preliminary studies

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The authors report the preliminary results obtained in France and in other countries with ivermectin — a new endectocide-active both against the main internal and external parasites — when used subcutaneously at the recommended dose of 0.3 mg/kg live weight.

Using infestations whether induced or natural, the experiments aimed at determining the dose range efficiency and the optimal level of the product, confirmed under field conditions. Ivermectin was highly effective on the major internal parasites present in France (*Ascaris* spp., *Oesophagostomum* spp., *Hyostrogylus* spp., *Strongyloides* spp., *Metastrongylus* spp.).

At the same dose level (1.5 ml of the commercial formulation per 50 kg live weight) ivermectin was highly effective in the treatment and the control of mange and lice. A progressive improvement was observed a few days after the treatment with disappearance of pruritus and of lesions due to scrapings.

The safety of using ivermectin in pigs at several dose levels (single dose of 10 ×, 50 ×, 100 × the recommended level, standard or double doses during organogenesis or final gestation) with a special reference to breeding animals is emphasized.

These studies showed that use of ivermectin, even when doubling the recommended level, did not lead to any adverse effects in pregnant sows, boars or bacon pigs.

A specific study showed that ivermectin has no detrimental effect on the major economical parameters of breeding such as the number of born piglets, weaned piglets, weight of piglets at farrowing and at 21 days, weaning-mating interval, weaning-fertilization interval, milk secretion.

Authors point out the value of ivermectin in sows for treatment and control of parasitism (in particular mange and lice) owing to its wide spectrum, conveniency and its safety in pregnant sows.