Production of weaners with different levels of zinc oxide - A register based study from Denmark.
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Production of weaners with different levels of zinc oxide - A register based study from Denmark

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Objective

• Describe prescription patterns and herd characteristics of Danish weaner herds with use of different levels of zinc oxide

Materials: Data from 2015-2016

• Danish sow herds with more than 200 sows per year and minimum 200 weaner pen places
• Herd-level prescription of antimicrobials, vaccines and zinc oxide extracted from VetStat
• Information regarding herd type and number of animals extracted from CHR

Method: Herds with high and low use of zinc oxide

• Sow herds with weaners in 2015 and 2016 have different levels of zinc oxide:

- Differences in antimicrobial use and zinc oxide between 2015 and 2016 were calculated for each herd
- Comparing two groups: Low users (N=410) and High users (N=160) in 2015

Preliminary results

- Herds with high use of zinc oxide were herds with more sows, but fewer weaners than herds with lower use of zinc oxide (P<0.05)
  - A large decrease in the use of zinc oxide between 2015 and 2016 were seen for herds with high use of zinc oxide
  - A small increase in the use of zinc oxide between 2015 and 2016 were seen for herds with lower use of zinc oxide
- Vaccines: Use of vaccine against Lawsonia intracellularis were related to a higher use of zinc oxide (P=0.1)
- The use of zinc oxide did not seem to be associated with the current antimicrobial use or change in antimicrobial use
  - However, important factors like feed and management were not taken into account in this study

Reference: DANMAP 2016 Use of antimicrobial agents and occurrence of antimicrobial resistance in bacteria from food animals, food and humans in Denmark. ISSN 1600-2032

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