

The Mystery Colony

This month's mystery colony is east of Redfield, SD. If you can't figure it out, call your Standard Nutrition Consultant and have them give some hints. August's mystery colony was Fairview Colony.

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ANSWERS:

1. Winnipeg
2. Feed
3. Digestible
4. BMP
5. Vaccine
6. Heat
7. Four
8. Autogenous
9. Tracy
10. Amino Acids
11. Serology

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Tobin' Talk

Jason McNaughton



It now seems to be common knowledge within our industry that sow herd liquidations in the US have not occurred significantly enough (until recently?) to overcome the current supply issues for pork. Actually, with trends of increased production efficiencies, there remains an ample pork supply exceeding some bearish demand for pork globally. How hard has the H1N1 issue hurt pork? Well, it definitely needs its share of the blame, although we still are producing meat at or around the pace that created our problems initially. If global demand had increased for pork, profitability may have been sustainable.

The Canadian Government has decided to do something about it. I think? They have allocated \$75 million in funding (\$805 million less than the CPC suggested) which is part of a three phase plan. The first phase will allocate more funds for those who will voluntarily exit the pork industry. These funds will be used to assist pork producers who have determined that their business plan is not viable due to MCOOL and/or the reality of the new cost of production. The second phase of this plan would provide long term, low interest financing for those who can prove that they have an altered business plan that better positions their business to thrive under the current/future economic climate. These cases will all be reviewed on an individual basis. How much will the reviews cost? I do know Canada's 'simple and easy gun registry' is now \$3 billion in the hole. This seems more like a make work project than quick and immediate assistance for a crisis situation. Phase three of this program involves \$17 million, which will be spent promoting Canadian Pork globally. When you hear someone from Canada stand up and applaud these new programs, you may guess that those applauding have the job to spend this \$17 million. If I read between the lines of this program I would have to conclude that phase 1 is for those producers sending isoweans to the US for free, phase 2 is for those supplying Maple Leaf and Olywest, and phase 3 is somehow for Maple Leaf and Olywest as it would be the product they own that is promoted globally. I guess you could say that something is always better than nothing.

My final word this month on the Pork Industry goes like this; pork is traded in North America similar to all other commodities and stocks. When we as an industry suffer enough from over supply, low demand, high costs, and wild cards like H1N1, we will experience many swine operation closures. This time around will be in contrast to our industry in the past, that moth balled facilities, and then re-entered when prices improved. These closures will be more permanent due to packer contract availability and the capital cost required to enter with a modern day operation. We will then transition into a period of prosperity fulfilling a market that is under supplied and has decent demand. The operations that includes a crop land base and high productivity will remain in production until and through these prosperous times. This is just the way our economy functions time and again.

Craig's Corner

Craig Anderson



The pork industry—Is there any positive news, will there be an industry around in the next two to five years? I feel the answer to this question is definitely, yes. There are several reasons for this that we can discuss.

First of all, U.S. and Canadian producers are the most efficient at producing large amounts of grain and plant proteins at a competitive cost. As long as we export our corn, feed costs here will reflect feed costs world wide.

We have the packer efficiencies, better than anywhere else in the world, and producers that have the technical capabilities to raise and supply those hogs to their packers. We have veterinarians that can implement good strong health programs, better than any other country.

The U.S. and Canada are two of the three lowest cost places in the world to raise pigs, Brazil being the other. However, when it comes to the transportation systems to move the needed supplies and the hogs, Brazil falls way short, they can't compete. The United States and Canada have huge advantages, in that we are isolated compared to other countries, as far as viruses and other pathogens are concerned.

And last but not least, people are going to still eat pork, the first choice of meat world wide! We now have a product that better fits the modern day consumer, it is leaner, more convenient to prepare, and now offers more specialty products than ever before.

The pork industry is going through a shake-out because of several reasons beyond our control, yet there is reason to be optimistic long term the pork industry.

Nutritionally Speaking

Chris Mateo, Ph.D.

Rethinking Crude Protein: do pigs really need this?

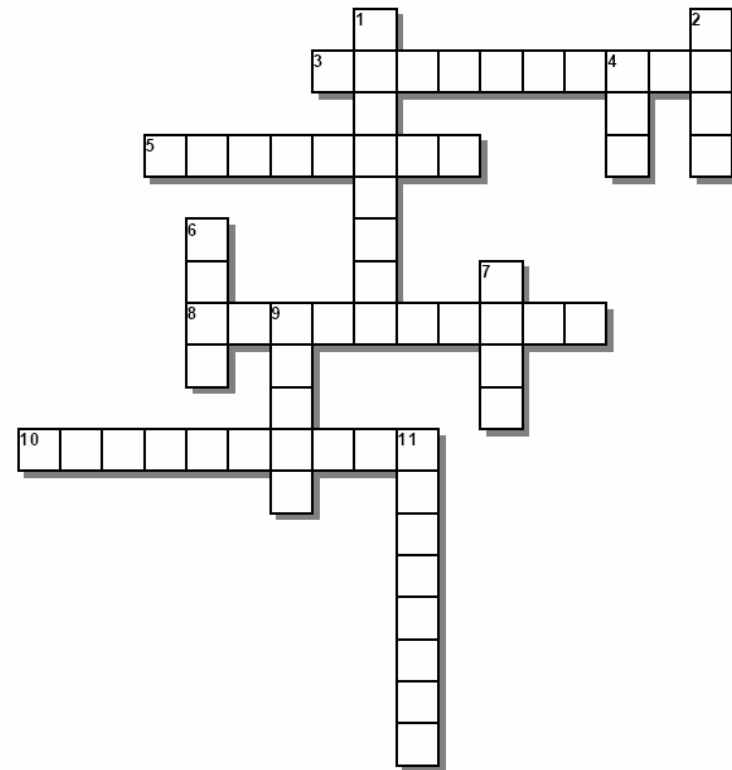


We sometimes tend to focus too much on the Crude Protein (CP) concentration of the diet when in fact technically, pigs do not need protein. By definition, CP is the total amount of true protein and any nitrogenous products in a particular ingredient or feedstuff. The true protein component composed only of amino acids (AA) rather than the non-protein nitrogen is more important in monogastric animal nutrition. Proteins are digested and broken down into peptides and AA in the pig. They serve as building blocks for new protein required for maintenance, growth, and reproduction. Therefore, pigs require AA rather than protein. As such, swine nutritionists emphasize formulating on the basis of AA concentration instead of CP.

Producing new protein efficiently necessitates having different AA present at the same time and at defined levels in the pig. This is the basis for what is called "ideal protein". The AA requirements of a pig constantly change as they grow given the fact that the development of different tissue proteins in the body occur at different rates and stages of life. Using different protein sources in combination with synthetic AA and proper feeding management on-farm have been used to ensure that an ideal protein balance is achieved.

Moreover, the addition of synthetic AA to a diet low in CP may be more economical than using more of a particular protein source to meet specific AA requirements of the pig. However, it must be noted that only a certain portion of each AA is actually absorbed and utilized by the pig owing to different digestibility values for these nutrients. This should be taken into consideration especially when using non-conventional feedstuffs. When using these alternative ingredients, it is recommended to formulate diets based on a digestible AA vs. total AA basis as this more accurately reflects what is actually utilized by the pig. Otherwise, pig performance may be compromised. With the rising cost of feed formulation inputs nowadays, it is important to consider, among others, the consistency and feeding value (i. e., AA digestibility and bioavailability) of your protein sources. Certain processing methods that utilize excessive heat may compromise the quality of protein in plant and animal protein sources by changing the protein structure rendering it less than ideal. Please contact your Standard Nutrition Consultant for further information on evaluating the quality of your protein sources and formulating your diets on the basis of ideal protein.

Crossword Puzzle



Across

- 3 - When using alternative feeds it is recommended to formulate on this basis
- 5 - These are administered for the prevention of infectious disease
- 8 - This type of vaccine is prepared from microorganisms collected at a specific
- 10 - Pigs require these not Crude Protein

Down

- 1 - Location of New Poultry Nutritionist
- 2 - This is 60-70% of the cost of raising pigs and poultry
- 4 - Abbreviation for Best Management Practices
- 6 - This could compromise the protein quality of your feed ingredients
- 7 - All samples should be retained for at least this many months
- 9 - Standard's New Poultry Nutritionist
- 11 - This is useful in monitoring vaccination programs and field strain challenges



Company News!!



Holding true to our, "Best People, Best Results" adage, the Nutrition Department of Standard Nutrition Canada is pleased to announce the newest member of our team, Tracy Speirs. Tracy will be our Poultry Nutritionist based in Winnipeg, MB and spear head the development and implementation of our Poultry Program in Canada. Once established, Tracy will focus on providing technical support to our poultry consultants. Tracy graduated in 1996 with a M.S. degree in Animal Science and her research emphasis was in monogastric nutrition at the University of Manitoba, Winnipeg. Tracy has over 10 years of experience working as an animal nutritionist with Feed-Rite, a Division of Ridley, Inc. and understands the Canadian poultry industry well. Please join us in welcoming Tracy Speirs to the Standard Nutrition Team. We would also like to extend this newsletter to all the Colony Poultry Managers, so please forward the individual names, and colony name to Nicole at our Winnipeg office (888-273-8763 ext 221) and she will add those individuals to our mailing list.

Welcome Aboard Tracy!

Chris Mateo, Director of Nutrition, Standard Nutrition Canada

Mike's Minute

Mike McNab

Standard Nutrition Consultant



Many of you have recently attended a meeting to review a set of Best Management Practices (BMPs) for turkey production. These BMPs are intended to assist you in your efforts to assure the consumer that the turkey you produce remains a safe and wholesome product. These BMPs can also help you do this in a cost efficient manner. BMPs are an important part of turkey and livestock production.

It is just as important to have a set of BMPs for the feed mill. Activities for a BMPs list for the feed mill include, but are not limited to: ingredient purchasing, feed manufacturing, inventory control and sampling. When receiving ingredients a representative sample should be taken and retained. When sampling soybean meal, at minimum have it tested for protein. If you coordinate with your supplier and use a

refereed lab, you may receive a refund if the protein level is low. A check list should be used during feed manufacturing to assure proper particle size, mixing, flow through the mill, on the truck and to the feed bin at the barn.

All the equipment and bins/tanks in the mill need to be clean and in good repair. Good inventory control helps to reduce inventory costs so too much capital is not tied up. Sample the finished feed and periodically analyze it to make sure it is correct. All samples of ingredients and finished feeds should be retained for at least four to six months. These retained samples will give you a back up if a meat residue question comes up. With complete feed accounting for about 60-70% of total production costs, it is a good idea to have feed mill BMPs as part of your total quality control program.

Turkey Health Update

Colin Kirkegaard, DVM, M.S.

Turkey Vaccinology



By definition a vaccine is a suspension of live, attenuated, or killed microorganisms (bacteria, virus or rickettsiae) or antigenic proteins derived from microorganisms which are administered for the prevention of infectious disease. A live vaccine contains microorganisms or viruses that have been attenuated so they no longer cause disease but they still retain their ability to stimulate protective immunity. A killed vaccine contains bacteria or viruses that have grown and then killed or inactivated by heat or chemical (typically formalin). An autogenous vaccine is prepared from farm specific microorganisms collected at that location and is to be used at that location. There are many reasons to vaccinate. They include reduction of mortality and morbidity, reduce condemnation, decrease medication costs, decrease disease spread, increase weights, increase profits, and induce maternal antibody for early protection. An ideal vaccine

would be low cost, stable, easily applied to a flock, distinguishable from natural infection, provide long term immunity, free of adverse side effects, and protects all birds. At any rate a vaccination program has to be cost effective. The cost of the vaccine, labor and equipment to administer must be at least off set by improvements in production and increased profitability.

Serology is useful in monitoring vaccination programs and field strain challenges. Titers are a measurement of the concentration of antibody in the serum. Titers from one sampling can only tell us that the bird was exposed to the agent at some point in time. Field challenge generally produce higher titers than vaccine. Multiple samplings from a flock over time to assess titer levels are often necessary to determine the decay of maternal antibody, the effectiveness of the vaccination program, and the state of a challenge infection.