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**SPRING 2017**

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**OUR PHILOSOPHY:**

To provide our clients with the highest professional service. To achieve this we invest in our employees and instill in each of them a strong sense of customer service and commitment. We believe this personal relationship allows us to work with our clients to the best of our abilities, and is the foundation of Suidae Health and Production.

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**THE EVOLUTION OF BOAR STUD PROTOCOLS AND PRACTICES**

*Dr. Todd Distad*

The swine industry is constantly evolving its health and production practices in order to maximize throughput while meeting the needs of the consumer. Boar studs can be a bit of a “black box” for many of the sow farms that they service. Most of the time “no news is good news” from a boar stud perspective, but this segment of the industry has evolved in a continuous improvement fashion just as the sow farms that they service has. Below is a list of common practices and/or items in protocols that boar studs execute on a routine basis in order to meet the demands of the current and future breeding herd.

**Biosecurity Practices**

- **Serologic and environmental sampling**  
Most boar studs today are sampling animals every collection day. This includes submitting blood samples and/or fecal or environmental swabs. If they aren’t testing every day, they are at least testing 3x per week. The serum from the blood is tested for PRRSv (both PCR and ELISA testing). The environmental and/or fecal swabs are tested for PEDv, SDCv, and TGEv (all by a multiplex assay).
- **Facilities**  
Most boar studs are situated in fairly remote areas. Depending on how many years of service a boar stud has, the distance from other pigs might get closer over time. In order to stay disease free, primarily for PRRSv, many of these studs have filtered air going into the buildings just like many of the sow farms that they service. Both negative and positive pressure filtered boar studs work fine depending on facility design and layout.

• **Feed**

Since PEDv and SDCv came about in 2013, feed biosecurity has been stepped up in order to prevent the accidental introduction of PEDv, SDCv, TGEv, or any other unwanted pathogens. Most, if not all boar studs immediately took all animal products out of their diets. Choice white grease was replaced with corn or soy oil. Dried distillers grains were also omitted from the diets. DDG’s were already omitted from the diets at most boar studs due to the potential of mycotoxins causing semen production issues. Some boar studs switched to pelleted diets to get some protection from the heat/steam in the pelleting process. Some boar studs went as far as installing their own feed storage and conditioning facilities so that they could not only heat and store their feed for 10-14 days prior to use, but could also add Termin-8 (formaldehyde treatment) to the feed prior to delivering it to their boar housing units. Many feed mills have given boar studs, just as sow units, the option to add Termin-8 or Sal-Curb to the feed prior to delivery in order to prevent an unwanted pathogen from infecting the herd. Most studs that utilize a mill with that capability are usually incorporating the formaldehyde treatment technology.

**Semen Quality**

- **CASA (Computer Assisted Semen Analysis)**  
Boar studs have always and will continue to use a “human” component to looking at semen during the evaluation process, but having a CASA enables a lab technician to get a more precise and rapid response when it comes to evaluating motility and morphology. Many new CASA systems have

the ability to measure progressive motility in addition to just motility. Progressive motility takes in account those semen cells that are moving in a more linear pattern relative to those cells that might be going in a more circular pattern.

- **Deionized water systems**

Semen has always been processed with DI water, but many of the DI systems today also incorporate ultraviolet light in order to prevent bacterial contamination when making up extender for semen processing.

- **Semen Extenders**

The extenders used today are formulated for maximum buffering capacity in order to extend the shelf life of processed semen. They are also formulated so that they don't cause adverse effects to the sows when bred—i.e. high levels of bovine serum albumin (BSA) is a great buffering agent for semen, but can cause inflammation of the uterus in a sow because the protein (BSA) is of foreign origin. This in turn can cause excessive discharges and decreased conception rates in sows. A recent setback occurred for one particular commercial semen extender company not too long ago. Studs that were using that extender had customer sow herds that experienced a drop in total born/born alive. Boar studs and third party andrology (semen evaluation) labs make a great network of communication when something like this happens so that changes can be made in the event that something is suspected to cause semen viability issues. The area of semen extenders continues to make advancements in order to meet the needs of todays, but more importantly, tomorrow's breeding herd.

- **Bacteriology**

Most boar studs routinely test processed semen for the presence of bacterial contamination. Incubators and bacterial growth media plates are normal items in boar studs today. This helps identify potential issues early so immediate interventions can take place versus waiting for a potential production "train wreck" from occurring at the sow farms.

- **Post Shipment Evaluation**

Most, if not all batches of semen are evaluated post collection and delivery up to the expiration date of the semen. Semen motility is the primary metric evaluated. If the motility drops off significantly prior to the expiration date of the semen, boar studs will notify the customers who received that particular batch to discontinue using that semen and replace it with fresh semen. Boar studs would also set up bacterial cultures to see if the cause of the problem was a bacterial contamination issue.

- **Third Party Evaluation**

Semen is sent to an independent andrology lab at least monthly to be evaluated. This serves to confirm parameters set up by the boar stud such as dose volume, concentration, motility, morphology, and +/- progressive motility. Bacterial growth is also evaluated.

Water and extender samples are also routinely evaluated for the presence of bacterial growth.

- **Plastics**

Plastics used in semen processing are also being evaluated for purity. This advancement came upon the industry after some bags used for packaging doses of extended

semen had a toxin incorporated in the plastic that killed semen within the bag when the dose of semen reached a certain temperature. Conception rates remained relatively stable, but total born dropped for most of the farms receiving semen from boar studs using certain serial lots of those bags. Since then, all plastics used in the manufacture of semen bags, tubes, extender bags, collection bags, etc, undergo rigorous testing to ensure this sort of phenomena doesn't happen again. Many boar studs now record the lot #'s of plastic disposable items they use as a tool to trace back any particular lot or serial of product that may have been an issue.

- **Sexed Semen**

This has been incorporated on a very small scale so far, but it will soon be a reality. The technology to implement the sorting process is getting better and better. It is very possible that within the next 1-2 years that sexed semen would be incorporated at least at the genetic multiplication level.

This list doesn't encompass the entire gamut of biosecurity and semen quality processes and procedures that today's boar studs do on a daily basis. It does list most of the newer enhancements that have occurred over the past 3-5 years. Continuous improvement has always been a cornerstone for the long term sustainability of the U.S. swine industry and boar studs continue to stay on the cutting edge of new technologies and diseases challenges. If you have a question or concern regarding your semen supplier, please contact one of the veterinarians at Suidaehp Health and Production so that we might be able to give you some insight to what is going on inside the "black box."

## Lake City Intern Receives \$1,000 Scholarship from the National Pork Board

Amberly Jergens is a high school senior at East Sac High School interning at the Lake City Vet Clinic and will be attending Iowa State University in the fall hoping to attend vet school pursuing a career with swine. Each year the National Pork Board provides scholarships to students who plan to pursue a career in swine production management or a related field, or will be seeking to attend veterinary or graduate school and major in a discipline with an emphasis on swine. Congratulations to Amberly!!



# Introducing the SUIDAE DATA ENTRY TEAM



«EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT»

## Nathan Nikolaisen

Nathan has twenty three years of experience managing sow farm enterprises and obtained a BS degree in Engineering from the University of Wisconsin in Green Bay. He started employment with Suidae Health and Production in January of 2017 and works as a Sow Farm and Gilt Multiplication Production Supervisor based out of our Morris, MN office region. At Suidae Nathan leads four client sow farms totaling 9,000 sows and their corresponding gilt grow finish systems.

During his career in the swine industry Nathan has relevant work experience in:

- Managing a filtered 5,000 sow breed to wean farm.
- As a Field Supervisor assisting in the leadership of a 30,000 sow swine enterprise.



My name is **Cassie Olsen**.

I grew up on our family farm raising horses, cattle, and pigs north of Charles City. After attending Buena Vista University (B.A. in Human Services and Psychology) I moved to Algona where I met my husband, Danny Olsen. He works for Maxyield Cooperative as a millwright. We have a two year old daughter named Carley and a rescued 7 yr old dog. We spend most weekends working on our small engine business and going back east to help with the family farm. In the summer we love to attend draft horse shows, county fairs, and go camping. I have only been with Suidae for a short time but I really enjoy it here and everyone has been so helpful and fun to work with.



My name is **Dawn James** and I grew up in Buffalo Center where I currently still reside with my fiancé Richard, and sons Josh, Noah, and Jackson. I enjoy going

for walks, bike riding, and just spending time with my family. I worked for Winnebago Industries for 16 years after high school, after which I left to attend NIACC where I graduated with an Associate's Degree in Ag Marketing & Finance. I have been with Suidae for 2 years and enjoy working with our clients and the staff here.



My name is **Leah Munson** and I am originally from the Rochester, MN area. I have just recently moved to Algona from Rochester. I graduated high school in 2007 from a small town 20 miles West of Rochester called Kasson-Mantorville. I graduated in 2010 with my Associates Degree in Marketing and Management. I am currently enrolled at Bemidji State University- Online to obtain my Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration. On my free time, I love to be outdoors whether it's hiking, fishing, camping, boating, etc.

My name is **Sarah Lappe**

I grew up in Bancroft, Iowa. I attended NIACC for a year and a half in Mason City, then moved back to the Bancroft area. I currently live with my significant other Chad Ortman where he works for StateLine Cooperative as a location manager. He also has 3 children that live with us, Braden who is a freshman at SDSU, Katie who is a senior in high school, and Robert who is a freshman in high school. They keep us busy with ball games year round, in the summer months I love to garden, plant flowers, and go out on the boat fishing. I have been at Suidae for little over a year and enjoy what I do and the people I work with.



## 2016 SHP Grow Finish Benchmarking Summary

Business Unit	Pigs In	Pigs In Wt	Avg Out Wt w/o Dead Wt	Avg DOF	Market Sales as % of pigs In	Feed Cost per Lb Gain Prod	Mortality as a % of Pigs Started	ADG	FC	ADFI
<b>Nursery Averages:</b>										
SHP Avg	240,268	13.6	48.2	44.0		\$0.3288	3.17%	0.78	1.65	1.28
SHP 75th Percentile	240,268	14.5	56.8	50.3		\$0.2947	2.48%	0.85	1.63	1.41
SHP 90th Percentile	240,268	15.4	64.8	59.3		\$0.2347	0.98%	0.92	1.41	1.54
<b>Finisher Averages:</b>										
SHP AVG	196,258	48.5	272.2	119.0	93.12%	\$0.2530	3.14%	1.86	2.73	5.09
SHP 75th Percentile	196,258	57.9	280.6	126.3	96.01%	\$0.2468	2.73%	1.94	2.71	5.35
SHP 90th Percentile	196,258	67.0	288.8	133.0	97.18%	\$0.2172	1.28%	1.99	2.49	5.61
<b>True WTF</b>										
SHP AVG	85,731	13.9	277.8	169.2	90.85%	\$0.2524	5.41%	1.58	2.58	4.07
SHP 75th Percentile	85,731	14.4	288.0	169.5	94.80%	\$0.2438	4.49%	1.67	2.57	4.28
SHP 90th Percentile	85,731	15.3	294.5	177.4	95.92%	\$0.2270	2.36%	1.71	2.36	4.45
<b>Consolidated WTF (NUR + FIN = WTF)</b>										
SHP AVG	233,190	13.6	269.1	160.8	91.81%	\$0.2528	5.66%	1.59	2.58	4.11
SHP 75th Percentile	233,190	13.9	278.3	169.1	93.57%	\$0.2646	5.34%	1.66	2.61	4.34
SHP 90th Percentile	233,190	14.4	283.5	173.4	94.73%	\$0.2335	2.74%	1.71	2.46	4.45

«RECIPE»

# Chimichurri Pork Tenderloin



Don't let your garden herbs will go to waste! Chimichurri is an Argentinean sauce made with fresh parsley, basil, oregano, a little garlic and canola oil. It adds a flavourful punch to grilled pork, fish and meat. This recipe is

extra robust; start with a chimichurri rub for your pork tenderloin, roast as directed and top with a homemade chimichurri sauce. A must have at your next backyard BBQ.

Makes 4

<http://canolaeatwell.com/recipe/chimichurri-pork-tenderloin/>

## Ingredients

### Chimi Rub

- 1 Tbsp canola oil (15 mL)
- 1 Tbsp dried parsley leaves (15 mL)
- 1/2 tsp onion powder (2 mL)
- 1/2 tsp garlic powder (2 mL)
- 1/2 tsp dried basil (2 mL)
- 1/2 tsp dried oregano (2 mL)
- 1/2 tsp paprika (2 mL)
- 1/8 tsp red pepper flakes (0.5 mL)
- 16 oz pork tenderloin (500 g)

### Chimi Sauce

- 2 cups fresh parsley (500 mL)
- 1/4 cup fresh oregano (60 mL)
- 2 garlic cloves cut into 3 pieces (2)
- 1/4 small red onion cut into 4 pieces (1/4)
- 3 Tbsp canola oil (45 mL)
- 2 Tbsp balsamic vinegar (30 mL)
- 1 tsp lemon juice (5 mL)
- 1/4 tsp red pepper flakes (1 mL)

## Cooking Directions:

### Chimi Rub

In a medium bowl, combine canola oil, parsley, onion powder, garlic powder, basil, oregano, paprika and pepper flakes to form a paste.

Rub all over pork tenderloin. Cover pork and refrigerate for up to 4 hours.

Preheat oven to 400°F (200°C).

Line shallow roasting pan with foil wrap. Place pork on foil. Roast pork for 20 -25 minutes or until internal temperature reaches 155°F (68°C).

Let pork rest 5 minutes before slicing. Serve pork, garnished with 1 Tbsp (15 mL) Chimi Sauce per serving.

### Chimi Sauce

In a food processor, combine parsley, oregano, garlic, onion, canola oil, vinegar, lemon juice and pepper flakes.

Pulse ingredients to texture desired. Serve as a sauce on grilled meat.

Store in the refrigerator until serving. Use within 3 days.

# Suidae's NEW EXCLUSIVE Product: Pig Accelerate™

Dr. Jason Kelly

We are very excited to introduce a new product that we have developed, researched, and manufactured exclusively here at Suidae. Please see the attached flier that highlights the benefits and applications of Pig Accelerate™. We began developing this product in 2015 and concluded two field research trials in 2016 that clearly showed we had something valuable for producers to help get pigs started onto feed better. We have the detailed results of those trials available for anyone wishing to see them by asking your Suidae veterinarian. We will continue to test new applications for Pig Accelerate™ in situations of disease challenge to determine additional benefits it may have for pigs. You will continue to hear more about Pig Accelerate™ as demand has been high since we made it available in December 2016.



## WHAT IS PIG ACCELERATE?

Pig Accelerate was designed by veterinarians and producers for water delivery during times of stress and reduced feed intake. Patent pending.

## HOW DOES IT WORK?

Pig Accelerate is formulated to enhance energy metabolism and feed intake following stressful events such as weaning. Reduced caloric intake during transition from drinking their mothers' milk to consuming dry feed causes ketosis which further suppresses appetite in those pigs that don't learn to eat right away. Pig Accelerate was designed to stimulate appetite during the first few days after weaning for better starting, faster growing pigs.

## WHAT SHOULD I EXPECT?

- Two research trials have shown that pigs given Pig Accelerate after weaning **gained up to 2.8 lbs more** in their first 43 days on feed.
- Trial 1: Pigs fed Pig Accelerate **gained 2.8 lbs more** in their first 43 days.
- Trial 2: Pigs fed Pig Accelerate **gained 1.0 lb more** in their first 29 days.



## HOW DO I USE IT?

- Pig Accelerate is ready to use. Administer through a proportioner set to deliver 1 oz/gallon (1:128). No preslaughter period is required. All ingredients are classified by the FDA with GRAS status.
- Pig Accelerate is available in 5 gallon buckets, each of which will supply approximately 800 weaned pigs for their first 2-3 days after weaning.



**To purchase Pig Accelerate:**  
Talk to your local Suidae veterinarian or call 515-295-8777.  
[www.suidaehp.com](http://www.suidaehp.com)

## QUICK START...STRONG FINISH!