

Advocating for Swine Policy

Each year the National Pork Producers Council (NPPC) selects 10-12 swine veterinarians to participate in their Swine Veterinarian Public Policy Advocates Program. The program is a one year program designed to train veterinarians to represent the pork industry on Capitol Hill.

This year Suidae's Dr. Amber Stricker was chosen to participate and made the trip to Washington D.C. for the program's first session in early April. The first day of the session was spent learning about public policy advocacy and the legislative process, as well as the major issues facing the pork industry today. The second day was spent over on Capitol Hill with Dr. Stricker and her fellow veterinary participants meeting with key Senators and Representatives to discuss three top public policy issues facing pork that are the focus of the NPPC in 2022:

1) Preparing for and preventing foreign animal diseases

- a. NPPC is requesting funding for fiscal 2023 for additional U.S. Customs and Border Protection agricultural inspectors; for the National Animal Health Laboratory Network, which provides disease surveillance and diagnostic support in cases of large scale animal disease outbreaks; and for additional staff for the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's Veterinary Services.

2) Addressing the agricultural labor shortage

- a. NPPC is urging lawmakers to expand the H-2A visa program to year-round agricultural workers, including packing plant employees. Currently, the visa only allows for temporary, seasonal farm laborers. The pork industry also supports providing a pathway to legal status for foreign-born agricultural workers already in the United States.

3) Increasing pork exports

- a. Veterinary advocates lobbied lawmakers on the importance of trade to the industry, urging the Biden administration to join the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP). The 11-country CPTPP has almost 500 million consumers and \$13.5 trillion of GDP. Producers also will request that the administration negotiate a more ambitious Indo-Pacific Economic Framework deal, one that includes agriculture and addresses nontariff barriers to U.S. products, including pork.



"Participating in the Swine Vet Public Policy Advocates Program allows me the opportunity to share my passion for the pork industry with law makers and advocate for an industry that I have been a part of my entire life,"
- says Dr. Stricker.

For Phase 2 of the program Dr. Stricker will travel to Puerto Rico in August to spend time with US Customs and Border Protection, USDA Wildlife Services, USDA Veterinary Services and USDA Plant Protection and Quarantine learning about their efforts to keep the island free of ASF and protect our mainland.

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Veterinarians

Dr. Matt Anderson

Dr. Todd Distad

Dr. Jason Kelly

Dr. Amber Stricker

Dr. Trevor Schwartz

Dr. Brandi Burton

Dr. Chris Deegan

Dr. Matt Finch

Dr. Amanda Anderson Reeve

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.

Meet Suidae's Summer Interns!



Mallory

Hello everyone! My name is Mallory Wilhelm, and I am going to be a first-year veterinary student at Iowa State's College of Veterinary Medicine. I am originally from Lake Mills, IA, and went to Iowa State for undergrad studying Animal Science. I have a passion for production animal medicine and disease prevention and hope to learn as much as I can about the field this summer!

I am sponsored by Elanco Animal Health and will be studying how maternal antibody interference plays a role in vaccine timing in weaned pig populations when using Prevacent.



Carly

Hi! My name is Carly Bates and I'm a 2nd year vet student at Iowa State CVM. I was born and raised in Muscatine, Iowa where I grew up on a small family farm raising and showing livestock for as long as I can remember. This is where I really developed my passion for production animal medicine. This summer with Suidae I am looking forward to growing my knowledge for all things swine management and health!

My sponsor for the summer is Pharmgate and I will be doing my research study on the effects of grueling pull pigs in a nursery setting. I am hopeful to get some great feedback to be able to share with producers to better production! I am so excited to see what this summer and my future holds for me as I continue my journey through vet school.

What Makes Successful Field Research?

Swine It Podcast featuring Dr. Brandi Burton

"Research is one of the most important ongoing goals of the swine industry. Performing these large-scale trials helps us find the best ways to keep our growth performance strong and our pigs healthy. In this episode, I talk with Dr. Brandi Burton about her field research trials on mycoplasma inoculation and mortality correlated biomarkers as well as good practices and mindsets we need to have as researchers, veterinarians, and nutritionists alike."

- Laura Greiner

"Communication is really the biggest piece in being successful in field research."

- Dr. Brandi Burton



To hear this episode, visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fKL2kOG-2w>. Search Swine It Podcast on YouTube, Spotify or Apple Podcast for more great content

PORK RECIPE:

State Fair Pork Tenderloin Sandwich

Fair season is upon us and that means fair food is on the menu! A pork tenderloin sandwich at the fair is hard to beat, but it doesn't have to be fair food only. See how you stack up to your favorite fair tenderloin sandwich with this recipe you can make right at home!

Ingredients:

Oil for frying

4 boneless pork loin chops, 1 inch thick

½ cup all-purpose flour

1 teaspoon onion powder

1 teaspoon black pepper

1 large egg, beaten

3 tablespoons milk

10 oz plain breadcrumbs

Add a ½ teaspoon of cayenne pepper if you like a little kick of heat!

Buns

Any condiments you enjoy: tomato, lettuce, onion, pickle, ketchup, mustard, BBQ



Cooking Directions:

1. Heat oil in a heavy skillet or deep-fryer to 350 degrees. Follow instructions for quantity of oil for deep fryer. For skillet, allow at least 2-inches of oil.
2. Place pork chops between plastic wrap. Use flat side of meat mallet to lightly pound pork to 1/4-inch thickness.
3. Combine flour, onion powder, garlic salt, and pepper in a shallow dish. Combine egg and milk in another shallow dish. Add breadcrumbs to a third shallow dish.
4. Coat pork in flour mixture. Dip one at a time, into the egg mixture, then coat with the breadcrumbs.
5. Working in batches, gently add pork to oil and fry for 6 to 8 minutes or until golden brown and internal temperature reaches 145 degrees, turning once.
6. Drain on paper towels. Serve in buns with desired condiments and enjoy!

For more recipes like this, visit <https://www.hy-vee.com/recipes-ideas/recipes>



Suidae Innovative Research

Growing Pig Mortality Trends

- Dr. Amanda Anderson Reeve



Introduction

Suidae Innovative Research uses a unique technology that allows us to collect extensive data on pigs all the way from insemination to marketing! This analysis comes from a data set of four groups and over 11,000 pigs. The sow flow is located in Northwest Iowa and groups were finished in various locations around the state. One of the questions we were most interested in answering with this data set was the correlation between birth and weaning weights and mortality post-weaning.

Results

We tracked mortality all the way to marketing and found that lower weaning weights were strongly correlated with higher mortality. Additionally, there was a downward trend in mortality percentages as weaning weight increased.

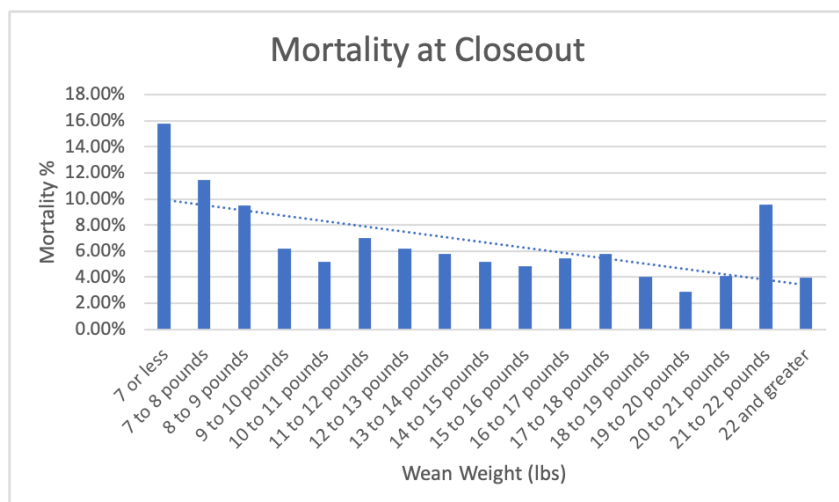


Figure 1

Interestingly, the percentage of cull pigs at the closeout also followed this trend. Over a quarter (25%) of pigs weaned below 7 pounds died or were culls at closeout. Pigs between 7 and 9 pounds at weaning also had noticeably higher mortality and cull rates.

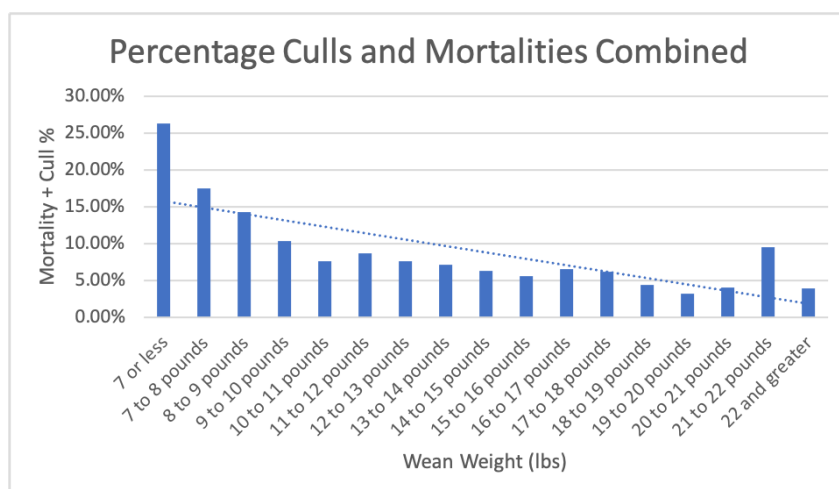
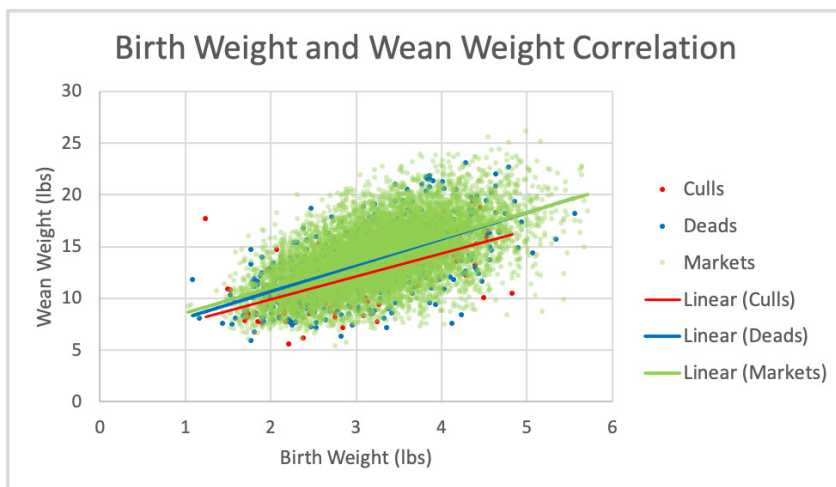


Figure 2

We also performed a similar analysis on the effect of birth weight on future mortality. The results were very similar to those shown above. Since birth weight is a direct predictor of weaned weight, as shown in the chart below, both weight measurements are important for future wean to market success.



Discussion

These findings highlight the importance of starting pigs off right from day one! Selecting genetics to maximize your productivity, including birthweight, is one of the first steps in raising strong, healthy pigs. Additionally, it's crucial to provide quality day 1 care at the sow farm, manage litters to maximize wean weights, and implement measures to protect your herd from health challenges. Consult your Suidae veterinarian to learn more about strategies to set your weaned pigs up for success!

Employee Spotlight

Meet Meredith Reding

Hi! My name is Meredith Reding, I have been one of the administrative assistants at Suidae for the past 10 years after graduating from the University of Northern Iowa in 2012 with a degree in Public Relations.

I am the first interaction with clients and customers when they call or stop into our office, always striving for them to have the best experience with us at Suidae! The day-to-day duties are always different in keeping the office running smoothly. I handle everything from vet schedules, organizing company meetings and get togethers, organizing health papers and VFD's, to the wean movement scheduling for our managed sow farms.

My husband John and I both grew up in Algona and have four children who keep us very busy and never short on entertainment :, Olivia (8), Brynn (5), Graham (3), Kolbe (2). When the family events allow for a little free time, we enjoy spending time outdoors, being at the lake, and riding bikes.

