



Four Star Veterinary Stoney Creek Service and Consultation

Newsletter January 2016



From the Desk of Dr. Daniel:

Porcilis™ Ileitis is a new product from Merck Animal Health is available for purchase. It is a 1 dose (2ml) and is meant to be given at 3 weeks of age or older. This is currently the only ileitis vaccine that is injectable. The benefits of using this product over the oral vaccine is that there is no antibiotic free window necessary for administration and the method of administration is less complicated. The duration of immunity on the label is for 20 weeks. This product could fit in well with any vaccination program and the vaccine is good even after the bottle has been opened. Field trials are currently being conducted to determine the best way to use this new tool.



Dr. Daniel Hendrickson

From the Desk of Dr. Daren:



PRRSv Genetically Resistant Pigs

Recent research from the University of Missouri has demonstrated the development of genetically altered pigs that when exposed to the PRRS virus had no clinical signs. Laboratory testing also demonstrated no evidence of any PRRS viral infection. This development could be a dramatic benefit to the industry as PRRSv is estimated to cost the industry around \$664 million dollars a year. However, this development is a long way from being implemented and available to producers. There are also some challenges in integrating this genetic trait into the general swine population. These new animals will give producers a significant advantage in the industry. This development comes after years of research studying how the PRRS virus actually enters and spreads through the pig. It was discovered that a specific cell protein CD163 was responsible for “uncoating” the virus. The researchers used gene-editing technology to halt the production of this protein. The pigs were mixed with control animals and then challenged with PRRSv. The control animals contracted the virus and had clinical signs and tested positive for PRRSv on laboratory testing. The pigs with the CD163 protein removed had no clinical signs and tested negative for PRRSv on laboratory testing. This is an exciting development and we will continue to keep you posted as more research emerges.

Dr. Daren Miller