



SUPPLEMENTAL MILK TALK

BRIEFS:

Batch Farrowing and Supp-Le-Milk® to Increase Quantity and Quality of Pigs Weaned
See story at right

Supp-Le-Milk @ Eurotier
See back page

Producer Finds Paradigm Shift
See back page

Upcoming Trade Shows
See back page

Call John Soppe today for more details.



1-800-487-3292
jsoppe@supplemilk.com

SUPPLEMENTAL MILK FEEDING: HOW CAN MY BUSINESS BENEFIT FROM IT?

Within today's competitive business of producing pork, it's more important than ever to know your business and to utilize technologies that are available to help you continue to get better! With modern genetics resulting in larger litters, additional tools are necessary to help sows wean more pigs without compromising weaning weight or quality. We'll help

you explore different supplemental milk feeding strategies, so that you can feel comfortable you're making the most informed decision for your business. There's a lot more to our story, as you'll see in other stories within our regular newsletter. So read, take note and profit from "Supplemental Milk Talk"!

BATCH FARROWING WITH MODERN GENETICS AND LARGER LITTERS

There appears to be more interest today in the practice of "batch farrowing." What is batch farrowing? Batch farrowing is the adjustment of pig flow to make up bigger groups of pigs every three weeks, compared to producing smaller groups every week. The main benefits of this system are:

- improved health
- faster growth over time
- improved feed efficiency
- increased livability
- reduced medication costs

Batch farrowing also enables skills and effort to be concentrated at critical times, such as service and farrowing.

As with all trade-offs, there are disadvantages as well. Some of them include:

- 1) Breeding herd management has to be of a very high standard to maintain an even pig flow.
- 2) Gilts and "stale" sows can fail to cycle within the required period, meaning that extra females need to be mated to avoid empty crates.
- 3) Less flexibility with using nurse sows as they are not always available.

Let's take a look at this latter factor more closely in conjunction with modern genetics and larger litters. When nurse sows are not as readily available, it is more important that each sow has the necessary attention and help to get her and her pigs off to a great start. This enables her to rear as many quality pigs as possible. With batch farrowing and larger litters, there typically tends to be more fall-behind and/or starve-out pigs, which can lead to higher pre-weaning mortality.

	With Supp-Le-Milk® 10/1/09 to 4/1/10	Part Supp-Le-Milk® 4/1/09 to 9/30/09	No Supp-Le-Milk® 10/1/08 to 4/1/09
Sows back in heat	4.5%	3.4%	7.4%
Fostering sows	0	12	37
Weaned piglets	13.4	13.3	12.3
Piglet mortality	9.8%	9.3%	13.9%

The table above is from a producer utilizing batch farrowing who was challenged with increased litter size from modern genetics. Production data is for six-month periods: before (without), partially with, and with Supp-Le-Milk. As the numbers clearly show, Supp-Le-Milk can help your sows raise more pigs at their side providing an effective solution for today's genetics with larger litters! *(continued on back)*

(continued from front)

For a Return on Investment calculation of these supplemental milk feeding results, go to www.supplemilk.com, select the "News" tab and click on "Profit Ratio of the Supp-Le-Milk-System."

SUPP-LE-MILK® AT EUROTIER 2010

During the 2010 EuroTier in Hannover, Germany, Supp-Le-Milk Europe (BOERRIES) was a very busy booth. European pig farmers with their very prolific sows and highly skilled technicians have been dealing with the dilemma of having too many piglets for their sows to nurse. Because of these circumstances and news of incredible results with Supp-Le-Milk, many producers came to learn about this production tool.

Hiede Cool is a pig farmer from Belgium and a Supp-Le-Milk customer for nearly a year. In this photo, Hiede (center) is helping several interested farmers by sharing her experience and success with Supp-Le-Milk and answering their questions.



EuroTier attendees learn the benefits of Supp-Le-Milk at the 2010 event in Hannover, Germany.

During a short visit with Hiede, it was insightful to learn about her experience getting started with Supp-Le-Milk. She commented, "You know with feed products we are always focusing on growth, feed conversion, etc. and the same is true with how we first looked at this. Then once we understood Supp-Le-Milk, and how by using it a certain way we could get more milk out of our sows, it clicked, and we were able to make it work. It was definitely a paradigm shift!"

MORE TIPS AND TRENDS

For more Production Tips & Trends, or to view previous "MILK TALK" newsletters, go to www.supplemilk.com and click on the "News" tab.

TRY SUPP-LE-MILK® ON A FEW LITTERS

Supp-Le-Milk Starter Cups are available for individual litter feeding.

It's easy to learn and in just two weeks you can see the results of effectively using Supp-Le-Milk as a tool to complement your production. Give us a call today at 1-800-487-3292.

SUPP-LE-MILK TRAINING VIDEO ONLINE

To view the training video, go to www.supplemilk.com then select the "Products" tab and click on "Supp-Le-Milk Training Clip."

WHAT OTHER PRODUCERS ARE SAYING

"There are many aspects we appreciate about Supp-Le-Milk! We really like how it brings up the bottom to mid-size pigs to make the whole litter more uniform, along with how well it mixes. Supp-Le-Milk is also more cost-effective to use than the milk replacer we had been using."

—Craig Good, Good Farms, Olsburg, KS

"Thanks for the great product. We are so happy with how Supp-Le-Milk is working in our situation!"

—Philip Wiedrick, Mae-Mart Farms, Waterford, Ontario, Canada

"It doesn't cost us money to use Supp-Le-Milk, it pays us to use it!"

—Karl Gaspie, Maple Grove Pork, North English, IA

SEE US AT:

- Minnesota Pork Congress, Minneapolis, MN, January 19-20, 2011
- Iowa Pork Congress, Des Moines, IA, January 26-27, 2011
- AGRAR Unternehmertage, Muenster, Germany, February 8-11, 2011
- Alberta Pork Congress, Red Deer, AB, March 16-17, 2011
- World Pork Expo, Des Moines, IA, June 8-10, 2011
- Ontario Pork Congress, Stratford, ON, June 21-22, 2011



Soppe Systems, Inc.
1942 Honey Creek Road
Manchester, IA 52057