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University of Minnesota
College of Veterinary Medicine
College of Agricultural, Food and Environmental Sciences
Extension Service
Swine Center

Production Assistants
Steven Claas
Lynn Leary

Layout
David Brown

Logo Design
Ruth Cronje, and Jan Swanson;
based on the original design by Dr. Robert Dunlop

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Introduction
Another trial was designed to confirm the efficacy of Ingelvac® PRRS MLV in stabilizing a 400 sow herd in Germany (Pesch and Ohlinger, 2000). Areas of interest were the development of PRRS vaccine and field virus antibody titres, the serological herd profile and the continuous monitoring of PRRS virus over time.

Materials and methods
In an instable 400 sow multisite production herd with clinical outbreaks of PRRS sows were mass vaccinated with Ingelvac® PRRS MLV on a herd basis with a 4 months interval. Piglets were weaned at three weeks of age and moved to an off-site nursery.

Ten animals of five age groups were bled and subsequently analysed for the presence for PRRS field and vaccine virus.

Results
Table 1 provides the results of the serological and PCR herd profile of a 400 sow farrow-to-finish farm 18 months following sow vaccination with Ingelvac® PRRS MLV.

Table 1
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>n</th>
<th>PRRSV OD-values¹</th>
<th>PT-nPCR PRRSV field strain</th>
<th>PT-nPCR PRRSV vaccine strain</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gilts</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>negative</td>
<td>negative</td>
<td>negative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>productive sows</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>negative</td>
<td>negative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sows at parturition</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>negative</td>
<td>negative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>growers</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>negative</td>
<td>negative</td>
<td>negative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>finishers</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>negative</td>
<td>negative</td>
<td>negative</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹Grouping of the OD-values from negative (p<0.4 OD), 1+ (p<1.0 OD) to 6+ (with 0.5 OD intervals)

Discussion
The results of the second study provide early evidence that with the means of sow vaccination, early weaning and offside nursery pigs and sows became negative to PRRS field and vaccine virus by nested PT-PCR and that this stable production of seronegative pigs born from vaccinated sows could be achieved for a minimum of 18 months. In conclusion, in a herd with controlled management, PRRSV could be eliminated in piglets born from sows vaccinated with Ingelvac® PRRS MLV.

References
2. S. Pesch, Ohlinger V., The use of Ingelvac® PRRS MLV for herd specific diminution of PRRSV from piglets born to a PRRSV positive sow population, The 16th IPVS, Melbourne, Australia, 17-20 Sept 2000, p. 598