

NPPC awards research grants

DES MOINES, Ia. — Research grants totaling over \$180,000 were recently awarded by the research and Education Committee of the National Pork Producers Council.

"We were able to select 26 excellent projects from the over 100 proposals submitted," said Jack Rundquist, Chairman of the Research and Education Committee.

Rundquist explained that the amount of money available determines the number of projects that can be funded, but that each producer has a voice in determining the individual projects selected through the NPPC producer poll.

"Each year, we ask producers what they consider to be the most important funding areas, and which diseases are considered to cause the most problems," he said. "Then, based on the results of this poll, we are able to see where to funnel the money to most appropriately respond to the producers' needs."

The 26 projects designated for

funding, fall into seven categories and are listed:

Baby pig and weaning management

- Behavior of Piglets Weaned at 2, 3, or 4 Weeks of Age; Dr. H.W. Gonyou, University of Illinois; to identify the time required before eating solid feeds, the behavior patterns, scours incidence, and belly biting associated with different weaning ages.

- The Role of the Hormone Relaxin in Parturition and Live Birth of Piglets; Dr. N.L. First, University of Wisconsin; second year funding to determine the effects of various hormones on the uterine cervix.

Consumer Products and Processing

- Methods of Decreasing Aflatoxin Levels in Tissues of Pigs Fed a Contaminated Diet; Dr. A.M. Pearson, Michigan State University; to find the level of aflatoxin in the tissues of pigs fed aflatoxin in the diet and how much time it takes for the pig to clear the aflatoxin.

- Oxidative Rancidity in Fresh Pork; Dr. M.D. Judge, Purdue University; second year funding to determine what protects prerigor ground pork from oxidative rancidity and how long the flavor and juiciness will persist in the product.

- Inhibition of N-Nitrosamine Formation in Bacon and Other Cured Meat Systems; Dr. J.I. Gray, Michigan State University; to study alternative approaches to curing which will inhibit botulism formation but will also suppress the formation of harmful nitrosamines.

- Effects of Processing Procedures, Reduced Levels of Sodium Nitrite and other Additives on N-Nitrosamine Content and Quality of Dry, Salt-Cured Bacon; Dr. M.E. Bailey, University of Missouri; to study different processing methods with alternative curing agents and their effects on nitrosamine formation, flavor, color, and storage ability.

Health Improvement

- The Relationship of Endotoxin,

The Immune System and Perinatal Disease in the Sow and Neonatal Piglet. Dr. F.G. Ferguson, Penn State; to determine how large a dose of coliform endotoxin it takes to produce an MMA type syndrome

and to be able to measure the endotoxin in the pig and the sow.

- Determination of the Sensitivity of PRV Serological Tests and the Influence of Antibodies (Turn to Page A27)

Livestock market and auction news

St. Louis Sheep

Thursday, November 5

Report supplied by USDA

Wednesday's weekly sheep auction. Receipts around 450 head. Compared last Wednesday, slaughter lambs 3.00-4.00 lower. Not enough other classes on offer for an adequate price test.

SHORN SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Choice and Prime 95-110 lb. with mostly No. 1-2 pelts 47.00-49.50. Lot

Choice 96 lb. 44.00.

WOOLED SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Choice and Prime 85-125 lb. 45.50-48.50. Few Choice 90-100 lb. 42.00-45.50.

SLAUGHTER EWES: Few Utility and Good 10.00-11.50.

FEEDER LAMBS: Few small lots Choice and Fancy 70-80 lb. 44.50-47.00. Few Choice 50-80 lb. 39.00-42.50. Lot Mixed Good and Choice 80 lb. 37.50.



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