

Pork Prose

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it's because the tissue levels drop quickly, yet are high enough to limit bacterial growth.

The drug is packaged as a sterile powder in an injection vial containing either one or four grams of ceftiofur. The material in the one-gram vial is mixed with 20 ml of sterile water. The four-gram product is reconstituted with 80 ml of sterile water. Sterile water must be purchased separately.

The unreconstituted product can be stored long-term in the refrigerator. After reconstitution, it must be used within 7 days, because the antibiotic is unstable in water and soon loses its effectiveness. The reconstituted product can be frozen for prolonged storage and later thawed under hot water. Approval is apparently being sought for a ready-to-use product that can be stored long-term.

The antibiotic is administered intramuscularly at the rate of 1 cc per 22 to 37 pounds of body

weight.

The cost of the reconstituted product will range from \$.40-.60 per ml.

Field Trials

Field Results 1

Paul Armbricht, a veterinarian from Lake City, Iowa, conducted a field study in a farrow-to-finish complex which included 3,500 sows. The herd was experiencing upper respiratory problems including Mycoplasma and Pasteurella D. The original herd health program included:

- Vaccinate sow herd with Atrophic rhinitis + Pasteurella A&D twice prior to farrowing.
- Vaccinate pigs with similar product at 7 and 28 days.
- Administer .5 cc of LA-200 to baby pigs on day 1 and on castration day (day 7-10).
- Administer 1 cc of LA-200 to baby pigs at weaning (day 21-28).

The new protocol, which included the use of Naxcel, eliminated all vaccinations. Three of the 15 farms in the 3,500-sow com-

plex were put on the following program:

- Inject 1 gram of ceftiofur (20 cc of reconstituted Naxcel) per sow upon entering farrowing room.
- Inject 20 mg ceftiofur (.4 cc of reconstituted Naxcel) per baby pig at birth.
- Inject 20 mg ceftiofur (.4 cc of reconstituted Naxcel) per baby pig on castration day (day 7-10)-Inject 40 mg ceftiofur (.8 cc of reconstituted Naxcel) per baby pig on weaning day (day 21-28).

Compared to previous health history, the pigs under the Naxcel program had:

- Reduced sneezing and coughing in the nursery.
- Increased weight per day of age in nursery.
- Reduction of snout scores from 3 to about 1 (0=no lesions, 5=severe lesions).
- Reduction of lung lesions from a "high" percentage (exact level not listed) to about 30 percent.

Shortly after the program was

initiated, all 15 of the sow herds were included in the program, but Naxcel injections for the sows were eliminated because of cost.

I also spoke to three practitioners in southeastern Pennsylvania recently to get their comments on the product.

Field Results 2

From the first veterinarian, I learned that Naxcel has proven to be a good tool against Actinobacillus (Haemophilus) pleuropneumoniae outbreaks in grow-finish herds. Even severely affected pigs can recover when treated early enough.

His tips on the use of Naxcel:

1. If pigs in the barn affected by Actinobacillus are about the same age, inject all pigs. At least inject all pigs from the age group that are suffering from the disease, which are often in the range of 80 to 100 lb.
2. Severely affected pigs should be injected twice.

3. Inject early in the course of the disease before the onset of lung adhesions.

He also comments that it works well against Pasteurella, but it's not too effective against Mycoplasma.

Field Results 3

The second practitioner also acknowledged the effectiveness of Naxcel against Actinobacillus, but commented that if a treatment program, such as the use of penicillin, is working well now, there may be no need to switch to Naxcel.

(Note: The cost for a maximum dose of Naxcel for a 100-pound pig is about \$2.25, whereas the cost for a maximum legal dose of penicillin is about a \$.05.)

In the case of rhinitis problems, Naxcel can be helpful in the control of secondary problems, but more sophisticated programs such as medicated early weaning may be needed to eliminate the AR from the herd.

Field Results 4

The third practitioner also spoke highly of the Naxcel effectiveness against respiratory problems. He indicated, however, that for the treatment of Actinobacillus, other drugs like penicillin are often just as effective.

General comments on the product from these practitioners included:

1. The short storage time is a bit a problem, when producers want to keep some on hand. It can be frozen, but that's a hassle.
2. The zero withdrawal is a real benefit.
3. The low-volume dose and the low viscosity are both nice aspects

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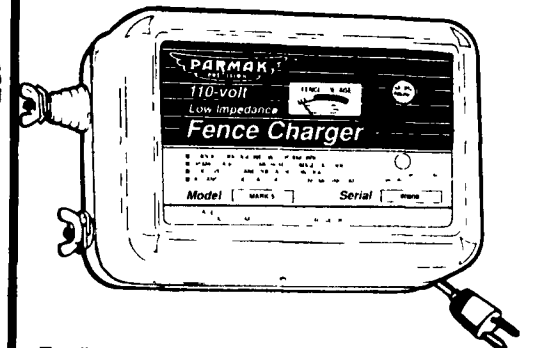
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