

### Glasser's Disease – Serotype Prevalence Analysed

Glasser's disease is caused by the bacterium *Haemophilus parasuis*. The bacterium has many different strains, with only some of these causing clinical disease. Immunity does develop but this is strain specific. Please [click here](#) to read our full article on Glasser's disease.

Currently there are two commercial vaccines available, both containing specific strains of the bacterium. Prior to using one of these vaccines it is important to isolate the specific strain causing clinical disease on your farm to ensure that the vaccine would be effective to increase immunity to your pigs. In some cases, an autogenous vaccine may be advised – this is a specially designed vaccine containing the strain(s) of bacterium specific to your pigs.

Recently the APHA laboratories have been funded by AHDB Pork to serotype all the isolates of the bacterium archived from submission between 2014-15 and to compare these to results from 2011-13. This is to investigate if there has been any change in the prevalence of the different serotypes and also to investigate if there are any new serotypes emerging.

The initial results do not suggest that there is one single serotype emerging nor has a new serotype been identified that was not present during earlier years. The overall range of serotypes has reduced from ten in 2011-13 to five in 2014-15. Serotypes 4 and 5, which are targeted by commercial vaccines, remain the predominant serotypes accounting for 63% of typable submissions in 2014-15, an increase from 45% in 2011-13. There was however also an increase in the prevalence of serotype 6 from 4% in 2011-13 to 25% in 2014-15.

Further planned serotyping of samples stored at the SAC laboratory will follow and further statistical analysis of results will be carried out, after which we will write an update in a future newsletter.

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### Swine Dysentery – Third Case Confirmed

As you may already be aware, another case of Swine Dysentery within the Yorkshire area was confirmed at the end of last month. This is the third confirmed case since April. Please can we take this opportunity to remind all of our clients once more of the importance of strict biosecurity principles. These were highlighted within the August newsletter, please [click here](#) to read this or [click here](#) to read our full article on Swine Dysentery.

Please can we also take this opportunity to **remind our clients to register themselves on the new 'significant diseases' charter** that was launched by AHDB Pork last year. This new charter is an extension of the original Swine Dysentery Producer Charter which was created so that producers could voluntarily sign up and share information quickly in the event of an outbreak. Producers who were members of the original Swine Dysentery Charter will need to sign up again as this is a completely new version. Please [click here](#) to register through the AHDB Pork 'Pig Hub'

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## 'Flu vaccinations – Annual Reminder

'Flu (full name Influenza) can have a major impact on productivity in both breeding and finishing herds. It is a viral disease that can be transmitted easily between humans and pigs. Viral circulation has caused significant clinical problems both at the end of last year and during the first half of this year. Some of our client's farms are still affected with re-circulating 'flu virus from last season. Within the media it was reported that 2015 saw some of the highest numbers of people affected with 'flu for the last 5 years. Please [click here](#) to read our full article on 'flu in pigs.



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To help decrease the level of circulating 'flu virus on your farm, in both the pigs and the stockmen, it is recommended that anyone working with pigs has an appointment with their doctor or pharmacist to have a flu vaccination themselves.

## Maintenance of Injector Equipment

As most of our clients will already be aware, in certain clinical situations injecting equipment, similar to the picture to the right, is available to administer certain medicines more efficiently and effectively. This helps administer either a pre-set or adjustable amount of medicine to individual pigs.

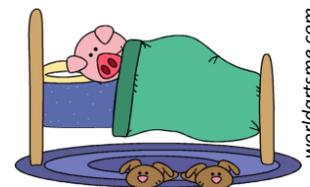


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Please can we encourage all of our clients to regularly maintain and clean this equipment as much as possible before requesting replacements with your medicine order. The use-life of these pieces of equipment should be relatively long so if there are problems earlier than this, please contact your vet so that we can report this back to the manufacturers.

## Current Clinical Trends – What are we seeing out there?...

A reminder that as daylight hours start to decrease, this can lead to an increase in returns on farm. To help minimise the effect of this on your production you should aim to maintain 16 hours of light duration per day in the service area and during early pregnancy – remember that 8 hours of darkness are also important. Increasing overall numbers of services can also help compensate and ensure farrowing numbers are maintained.



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Please speak to your vet about any questions you may have.

## Feedback

Please let us know if there is anything that you would like including, or more information on, in a future newsletter.

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