

THE CLINICAL EFFECTS OF AMPEROZIDE (HOGPAX[®]) - A NOVEL ANTISTRESS COMPOUND - IN PIG PRODUCTION.

1. THE ANTIAGGRESSIVE PROPERTIES OF AMPEROZIDE IN WEANERS AND FATTENERS.

A. BJÖRK*, E. CHRISTENSSON, B. KJELLBERG AND N.-G. OLSSON,
AB FERROSAN, P.O. BOX 839, S-201 80 MALMÖ, SWEDEN.

A NOVEL DIARYLBUTYLPIPERAZINECARBOXAMIDE-DE-RIVATIVE, AMPEROZIDE, HAS BEEN SYNTHESIZED AND DEVELOPED BY THE RESEARCH LABORATORIES OF AB FERROSAN, SWEDEN. THE COMPOUND IS CHARACTERIZED BY ITS SPECIFIC ANTIAGGRESSIVE AND ANTISTRESS PROPERTIES IN E.G. DOMESTIC PIGS.

THE CHEMICAL STRUCTURE OF AMPEROZIDE IS NOT RELATED TO OTHER COMPOUNDS OF ANTIAGGRESSIVE AND/OR ANTISTRESS ACTION LIKE AZAPERONE OR ACEPROMAZINE. FURTHERMORE REDUCTION OF AGGRESSION IS NOT RELATED TO SEDATION OF MOTOR DISTURBANCES. THUS, AMPEROZIDE DIFFERS FROM CURRENTLY USED AGENTS. AMPEROZIDE HAS A MARKED ABILITY TO NORMALIZE DISTURBED BEHAVIOUR AT DOSE LEVELS WHICH DO NOT AFFECT NORMAL BEHAVIOUR.

IT IS WELL RECOGNIZED THAT BRINGING TOGETHER DOMESTIC PIGS OF DIFFERENT ORIGINS INDUCE AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOUR. THE PIGS FIGHT IN ORDER TO SET UP A LINEAR TYPE DOMINANCE ORDER. IT HAS ALSO BEEN SHOWN THAT THE GENERAL ACTIVITY NEEDS ABOUT 5-10 DAYS TO STABILIZE AFTER INTRODUCING GROUPS OF PIGS INTO A NEW ENVIRONMENT.

THE ABILITY TO ADAPT TO A NEW ENVIRONMENT AND STRESS RESISTANCE ARE AMONG THE MOST IMPORTANT PROBLEMS FACED IN PIG PRODUCTION SINCE AGGRESSION AND STRESS ARE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE IN SWINE OPERATIONS.

A SINGLE DOSE OF AMPEROZIDE HAS A REMARKABLE INFLUENCE ON INTENSITY AND LEVEL OF AGGRESSION (I.E. THE PIGS ESTABLISH THEIR DOMINANCE ORDER UNDER APPRECIABLY MORE PEACEFUL CIRCUMSTANCES THAN NORMAL), ON PEN HYGIENE AND ON PERFORMANCE (I.E. AN INCREASE IN DAILY LIVE WEIGHT GAIN WITH AN IMPROVEMENT IN FEED CONVERSION EFFICIENCY) IN CONNECTION WITH MIXING AND TRANSPORTING PIGS.