

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

III. THE EFFECTS OF AMPEROZIDE ON WASTING PIGS (RUNTS).

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WASTING PIGS ARE CHARACTERIZED BY A POOR OR NEGATIVE DAILY WEIGHT GAIN AND OFTEN BY AN UNSPECIFIC ECZEMA ON THE BACK. VERY OFTEN NO OTHER CLINICAL SIGNS OF DISEASE, E.G. DIARRHOEA, CAN BE RECOGNIZED. THE SYNDROME APPEARS MOSTLY JUST AFTER WEANING OR AFTER MOVING WEANERS TO A NEW ENVIRONMENT, WHILE AT THE TIME OF CHANGING THE ENVIRONMENT THESE PIGS APPEAR TO BE IN GOOD FLESH AND GENERAL CONDITION.

FROM EARLIER INVESTIGATIONS PERFORMED IN SWEDEN IT WAS CONCLUDED THAT PIGS WITH THIS SYNDROME HAVE SIGNS OF A CHRONIC STRESS SUCH AS ATROPHIC THYMUS, HYPERTROPHY OF ADRENALS AND INCREASED SERUM LEVELS OF CORTICOSTEROIDS.

AS THE NEW COMPOUND AMPEROZIDE HAS BEEN FOUND TO HAVE STRESS REDUCING PROPERTIES IT HAS BEEN EVALUATED IN WASTING PIGS. INVESTIGATIONS HAVE BEEN PERFORMED ON WASTING PIGS OF DIFFERENT AGES AND COMPARED TO UNTREATED CONTROLS OR CONTROLS TREATED WITH ANTIBIOTIC OR ANTIBIOTICS TOGETHER WITH AMPEROZIDE. THE EXPERIMENTAL MATERIAL CONSISTS OF ABOUT 400 PIGS. THE PIGS WERE TREATED ONLY ONCE WITH AMPEROZIDE WITH I.M. ADMINISTRATION.

THE RESULTS SHOWED A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN DAILY WEIGHT GAIN, E.G. THE THIRD WEEK AFTER THE TREATMENT WITH A SINGLE DOSE OF AMPEROZIDE THE DAILY WEIGHT GAIN HAD IMPROVED BY 35 %. THE TREATED PIGS IN CONTRAST TO THE CONTROL PIGS GRADUALLY DEVELOPED A NORMAL APPEARANCE.