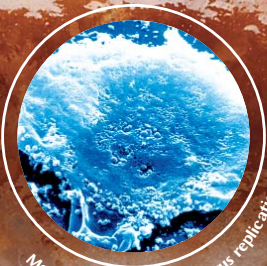


Healthy porcine alveolar macrophage



Macrophage after PRRS virus replication

PRRS virus will quickly eliminate around half of all the pig's alveolar macrophages¹; and although these later regenerate, the immune system is already compromised.

In field trials and experimental studies, PRRS infection has been shown to predispose or potentiate multiple secondary infections, including Porcine Circovirus type 2, and many agents involved in porcine Respiratory Disease Complex, including Swine Influenza, *P. multocida*, *A. pleuropneumoniae*, *H. parasuis*, *S. suis*, Staph. spp and Proteus spp^{2,3,4}.

How widespread are PRRS virus infections?

Nationally, endemic infection is thought to range between 20% and 90% of herds, depending on location. Older herds and those in pig dense areas are most commonly affected.


The presence of PRRS in your herd can be identified free of charge using the PRRS-VetCheck blood test. See the end of the booklet for further information.

What to do next

Free diagnostic blood tests for growing pigs are available to any farmer via their vet, using Intervet's PRRS-VetCheck service. The results, available in 48 hours, will give a clear picture of the epidemiology and allow appropriate measures to be taken.

To obtain PRRS-VetCheck blood test forms, or for further information, call John Richardson on 01908 685390

- References
1. Stan Done, Proc. 16th IPVS Congress, 2000; p85-93
 2. Allan GM et al., Arch. Virol. (2000) 145:2421-2429
 3. Diseases of Swine, 8th edition, Benfield D.A. et al.
 4. Van Reeth et al., IPVS 1994, page 51
 5. Van Woensel et al., Vet. Rec. (1998) 142, 510-512
 6. Results of PRRS-VetCheck blood tests. Data on file

Porcilis PRRS is a live vaccine containing at least 10¹⁰ TCID₅₀ of attenuated PRRS virus strain DV per dose. For the active immunisation of healthy weaners and finishing pigs from 6 weeks of age onwards, using a single dose. Contra-indications and warnings: see data sheet. Withdrawal period: 0 days. Legal category:  Further information is available on request. © Registered trademark. Intervet UK Ltd, Walton Manor, Walton, Milton Keynes, MK7 7AJ. Porcilis PRRS can only be prescribed by your veterinary surgeon, whose advice should be sought.

Porcilis® PRRS
Helps growing pigs protect themselves



Don't let PRRS make a meal of your growing pigs' performance



Porcilis® PRRS
Helps growing pigs protect themselves



Porcine alveolar macrophages are one of the most important defences by which a pig clears pathogens from its lungs. Unfortunately, they are also the primary target cell of the PRRS virus, which destroys the macrophage during replication.

How the PRRS virus attacks pigs

Growing pigs and PRRS

Field studies show that growing pigs are rarely protected from PRRS by maternally-derived immunity. And whatever the immune status of the sow, most growers lose their immunity soon after weaning⁶.

So if the PRRS virus is present on a unit, infection and seroconversion will usually take place at around 7-13 weeks of age.

Since January 2001, Intervet has conducted ELISA blood tests on the growing pigs of more than 400 herds. Whenever the full age profile of pigs has been tested, the pattern below has been observed.

At weaning

Only 13% of pigs tested had PRRS antibodies, this is indicative of low levels of antibody from the sow's colostrum, the remaining pigs would not be protected.

5 to 7 weeks of age

Colostrum antibodies for PRRS are negligible by 6 weeks of age; UK tests show that only 6% of pigs had any protection.

8 to 10 weeks

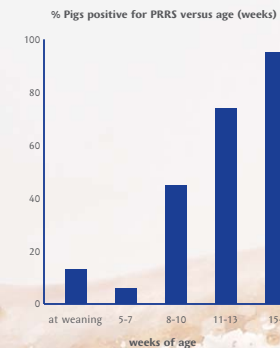
Approximately 50% of pigs tested are positive to PRRS virus antibodies having become infected 2 – 4 weeks earlier; some herds are still negative at this stage, whereas others are already 100% positive.

11 to 13 weeks

PRRS positive herds typically have had 73% of their pigs infected with the PRRS virus.

15+ weeks

In PRRS positive herds 98% of the pigs had been infected with PRRS virus, effectively the whole growing – finishing herd is now infected.



Stop PRRS infection making a meal of your profitability

- A 2% reduction in mortality is worth £1/pig
- An improvement in FCR of 0.1 is worth £1.15/pig
- Improving growth rate by 50g/day is worth £1.45/pig

Detailed trials have shown that a 5:1 payback can result from Porcillis PRRS use