



NORTHWEST NEW YORK DAIRY, LIVESTOCK & FIELD CROPS TEAM

PEDv: What does it mean for NY's Swine Producers?

By: Nancy Glazier

Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea virus (PEDv) has arrived in New York with a vengeance. I received first notice of an infected farrowing operation in early February. Soon after, I discovered the outbreak was much more widespread. The virus was somehow introduced from Asia in multiple locations, and was officially identified in the United States in May, 2013. It has killed an estimated 4 million pigs.

Clinical signs are severe diarrhea in pigs of all ages and vomiting. High mortality is associated with the virus, nearly 100% in pre-weaned pigs. Transmission occurs orally through contact with contaminated feces. Incubation period is 12-24 hours with shedding (amount of time animals can infect others) up to 3-4 weeks. There is no vaccine available at this time.

This is a scenario posted to the www.aasv.org website:

- The oldest piglets in farrowing started scouring on a Saturday.
- The next oldest rooms were scouring on Sunday.
- By Monday, 100% of piglets in farrowing were scouring and sows in lactation were going off feed.
- On Tuesday, piglet mortality increased to 10x normal daily losses which continued for approximately one week.



- Piglets were scouring a yellow, watery scour. They tried to nurse but sows were drying up.
- Piglets were lined up at the water nipples.
- Piglets started scouring at 12-24 hours after birth. Piglets would survive until approximately day 3 or 4 unless they were humanely euthanized before then.

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Every effort has been made to provide correct, complete and up-todate pesticide recommendations. Changes occur constantly & human errors are still possible. These recommendations are not a substitute for pesticide labeling. Please read the label before applying pesticides.

By law and purpose, Cooperative Extension is dedicated to serving the people on a non-discriminatory basis.

Mission Statement

The NWNY Dairy, Livestock & Field Crops team will provide lifelong education to the people of the agricultural community to assist them in achieving their goals. Through education programs & opportunities, the NWNY Team seeks to build producers' capacities to:

- Enhance the profitability of their business
- Practice environmental stewardship
- Enhance employee & family well-being in a safe work environment
- Provide safe, healthful agricultural products
- Provide leadership for enhancing relationships between agricultural sector, neighbors & the general public.

AG FOCUS MARCH 2014 WWW.NWNYTEAM.ORG

Continued from page 1

What can be done to decrease the chance of your herd becoming infected? The first step – a big one – review and tighten your biosecurity protocols, small and large herds alike. Pay attention to anything or anyone coming from out of state or from another farm. Be especially diligent about employees, family and visitors but also consider supplies, feed ingredients, food items, etc. that might contaminate the herd. There is concern that some creep feed may have been contaminated.

Additional biosecurity recommendations should include:

- □ limiting traffic (people and equipment) onto the farm,
- □ thoroughly cleaning and disinfecting anything coming onto the farm. The virus is susceptible to a number of common disinfectants including: Virkon S, Clorox, 1 Stroke Environ, and Tek-Trol, some potent disinfectants. Contact time is critical for any disinfectant; you need to apply it as a soap and let it sit before rinsing, or better yet, apply it as an after-washing post-rinse. This goes for boots, truck tires, shovels, buckets, etc.
- □ enforcing downtime requirements and maintaining a log of visitors,
- □ taking care when disposing of dead stock, particularly if using a communal disposal method,
- □ isolating newly arriving animals and continuing vet to vet discussions about animal health at the herd of origin, and
- □ showering into the facility where practical and changing into clean boots and coveralls
- □ (veterinarians should also be careful not to track the virus between herds on their person, equipment or vehicles)

To help with the education regarding PEDv, the New York Pork Producers will be hosting their annual meeting March 22 at the Holiday Inn in Waterloo. Registration begins at 9 am. To register, contact Krista Jaskier at 716.697.3031 or info@newyorkpork.org. Meeting agenda is on p. 14. NY Ag & Markets has a fact sheet posted here: http://www.agriculture.ny.gov/AI/PEDV_Outreach.p df

Resources for this article were found at these websites: For more information, visit: http://www.aasv.org/aasv%20website/Resources/Dis eases/PorcineEpidemicDiarrhea.php, the website for the American Association of Swine Veterinarians. Information is continually updated when it becomes available.

http://www.pork.org/Research/2641/ResearchLatest News.aspx#.Uv1YLfldUrV. The Pork Checkoff site has lots of information on current research and available resources.

Give Nancy a call at 585.315.7746 if you need some resources mailed to you.

Upcoming Webinars:

Cows and their Calcium March 10, 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. Presented by: Garrett Oetzel University of Wisconsin-Madison (http://www/jpards/cp.webinars

Keep Kids Away From Tractors March 12, 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. CST

Presenter: Barbara Lee & Marsha Salzwedel AgriSafe Network (http://www.agrisafe.org/training/)

Dairy Reproduction: Identifying Problems & Solutions for Your Herd March 17, 12:00 p.m., CDT

Presenter: Ray Nebel Select Sires, Inc. (http://www.extension.org/pages/29156/upcomingdairy-cattle-webinars#.UvpqdoWZh1U)

Evaluating Small Grains for Winter Injury

By Bill Verbeten

The late fall planting dates combined with the extreme cold this winter have made winter injury a real possibility for a number of small grain crops grown in northwestern NY. Areas where there was little-to-no snow cover during the cold spells have the highest risk of crop loss. Good planting practices can go a long way to reduce the risk of winterkill to barley, wheat, triticale, spelt, & rye but the weather also plays a large role in the winter survival of these crops.

Figure 1: Winterkill Patches in Wheat



Source: University of Minnesota

Effects of Management

Shallow planting depths (less than 1 inch) lead to shallow crown development. These plants may literally be "thrown" out of the soil as the field freezes and thaws. Planting with a drill usually eliminates this risk. However shallower planted small grains can develop an adequate root system if planted early in the fall (usually September in our region). Some varieties and some small grain species are more susceptible to winterkill than others. Rye is the most hardy winter small grain, followed by triticale, wheat, spelt, and finally barley. Placing phosphorous fertilizer with the small grain seed, having adequate amounts of other nutrients, and the proper soil pH also increases winter hardiness and yield. Parts of the field that are lower and wetter will have poorer stands than the better drained areas. Damage from ice sheeting is also common in low, wet areas. If the small grain has 2 or more tillers and a well-developed crown root system there is a much greater chance of the crop surviving the winter with little-to-no damage. A small grain crop can also be too large going into winter. If the top growth is greater than 6-8 inches there is an increased risk of snow mold killing the small grain as it smothers itself under the snow.

Effects of Weather

When the fall temperatures quickly drop-off to the teens or lower from above 40°-50°F, small grains are at a higher risk of winter injury than years where the change in air temperatures are more gradual. Most areas in northwestern NY had a gradual change in fall temperatures, but some pockets saw the temperatures fall quickly. During the winter, snow cover and soil moisture are critical to keep the soil temperatures warm enough to protect the crowns of small grains. When temperatures are -10°F or colder and there is no snow cover winterkill risk of small grains increases. Many areas in our region, especially east of Rochester, experienced these conditions this winter. Fields that had even an inch or two of snow are at much lower risk of sustaining damage to the small grain crowns. Soil temperatures increase with deeper soil depths-fields drilled at 1-1.5 inches will have deeper crowns (at warmer temperatures) than small grain fields that were broadcast and packed into the upper 0.5 inch of the soil. The soils in NY



generally have adequate moisture in the winter to reduce the risk of injury to small grains compared to the drier soil conditions of the Great Plains. However high winds, in combination with low temperatures and little snow cover, can also cause significant damage to small grains from drying out the plants & damaging vascular tissue despite higher soil moisture levels.

Evaluation of Small Grain Crops

An easy way to test for winter damage in small grains is to bring in a few plants from each field, place them in pots and watch them. If the plants do not green up after a week with warm temps and water, they are dead. If the small grain greens up a little, but then slowly dies back there is damage to the xylem and phloem. These tissues move the water and plant sugars through the crop similar to how veins and arteries work in animals. Extremely cold temperatures, especially with high winds, can fracture the crop's vascular tissues, much like breaking a straw, which leads to a slow plant death. If the crowns are white then they are not damaged, but brown crowns will not recover, Figure 2. A more detailed method of evaluating small grain crowns for winterkill is available from the University of Nebraska.

Figure 2: Dead, Damaged, & Healthy Crowns of Winter Wheat



Source: Washington State University

Contact your crop consultant, myself, or Mike Stanyard if you have a question about small grain stand evaluation.

New York State Dairy of Distinction Program

The NYS Dairy of Distinction program will be celebrating 30 years in 2014 and is really proud of all the farms that have been awarded the beautiful roadside sign.

Many thanks to the volunteers who have made this program so successful. Without volunteers this program would not exist. In addition, Dairy of Distinction is very grateful to the NYS ADADC for funding

Please check out our website at www.dairyofdistinction.com for more information regarding the Dairy of Distinction program, a list of past Dairy of Distinction winners and the application to apply for 2014.



If you have any questions regarding the program please contact Nancy Putman, NYS Secretary at: 315-322-5493

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Economics of Alternative Row Spacing for Corn Grain: *Preliminary Findings for NY*

By: John J. Hanchar

T his work benefits from the contributions of Rodman Lott, and other family members of Rodman Lott & Son Farms. Rodman and the family shared data from on farm trials, and helped develop the partial budget analyses used to estimate expected changes in profit associated with the change from 30 to 15 inch row spacing of corn grain.

Summary

- Switching from 30 inch to 15 inch row spacing for corn grain can be an advantageous change for a no-till, corn soybean farm with about 3,000 acres
- When expected corn price is \$5.56 per bushel, expected change in annual profit varies from about \$23,000 to about \$104,000, for expected changes in yield from 0.6 to 7.5 %, respectively
- Sensitivity of results suggests that farm operators should develop analyses specific to conditions on their farms

Background on Narrow Rows for Corn Grain

Producers and researchers have evaluated the potential of alternative row widths of corn grain for some time. Currently, efforts focus on narrow row widths, here, less than 30 inches. These include 22, 20 and 15 inch widths, and twin rows among others.

For an overview of potential advantages and disadvantages please see the note at the end of the article referring to information on the team's website.

Producers desire information, analyses to help with decision making. Are narrow row widths attractive for corn grain under what conditions? What are expected changes in profit associated with a change from 30 inch to narrow rows of corn grain, for example, to 15 inch or 20 inch rows? Analyses should reflect New York conditions, and incorporate the expected advantages and disadvantages associated with the change from 30 inch rows to narrow rows.

Partial Budgeting

One measure that producers use to evaluate possible changes in practices is the expected change in profit. Profit equals the total value of production minus the costs of inputs used in production. Expected change in profit equals the expected change in total value of production minus the expected change in costs. Analysts construct a partial budget to estimate the expected change in profit associated with a proposed change in the farm business, for example, the change from 30 inch row spacing of corn grain to 15 inch rows.

On - Farm Research

A study farm provided yield data and other information from on - farm trials. Expected changes in corn grain yield are important factors for the partial budget analysis. Preliminary yield results from the study farm's 2013 on - farm trial suggest a 0.6 to 6.4 percent, bushels per acre increase for 15 inch rows when compared to 30 inch rows.

<u>Partial Budget Analysis for Narrow Row Corn</u> <u>Grain</u>

Producers adopting narrow row widths for corn grain can expect greater ownership and operating costs attributed to the more expensive narrow row planter and narrow row corn grain head. Partial budget analysis incorporates the expected changes in ownership and operating costs.



Selected information and assumptions for the analysis evaluating the change from 30 inch to 15 inch spacing include the following.

- Study farm is a corn grain, soybean operation in western New York
- Total tillable land harvested is about 3,200 acres
- Farm uses a no-till cropping system
- About 1,600 acres of corn grain harvested annually, balance soybeans
- Yield and other data from the study farm obtained during the 2013 corn grain production year

Switching from 30 inch to 15 inch row spacing for corn grain can be an advantageous change for a notill, corn soybean farm with about 3,000 acres. (Table 1) When expected corn price is \$5.56 per bushel, expected change in annual profit varies from about \$23,000 to about \$104,000, for expected percent changes in yield from 0.6 to 7.5 percent, respectively. Sensitivity of results suggests that farm operators should develop analyses specific to conditions on their farms. Table 1. Expected Change In Profit By Expected Percent Change In Yield By Expected Corn Price, 15 Inch Rows Vs. 30 Inch Rows, 1,600 Acres Of No-till Corn Grain, Western NY Study Farm, Annual.

Expected % change in yield								
		0.58	1.29	3.78	6.27	7.52		
Expected corn price per bu.	\$3.66	\$20,756	\$26,166	\$45,298	\$64,431	\$73,998		
	\$4.30	\$21,524	\$27,868	\$50,305	\$72,742	\$83,960		
	\$5.56	\$23,060	\$31,273	\$60,318	\$89,363	\$103,886		
	\$6.82	\$24,597	\$34,678	\$70,331	\$105,984	\$123,811		
	\$7.46	\$25,365	\$36,381	\$75,338	\$114,295	\$133,774		

To learn more about this work, including detailed partial budget results with sensitivity analyses, please visit the program's website at: www.nwnyteam.org or contact John Hanchar: jjh6@cornell.edu.



On a Farm Near You...

Heating Water the Old-Fashioned Way, with Coal!

By: Jerry Bertoldo

F or the first part of the 20th century the preferred means of household heating was coal that in this area meant anthracite, otherwise known as hard coal, mined in northeastern Pennsylvania. The mass conversion to fuel oil in the 1950's and gas later on was one driven by both economics and convenience. Today the relative cost of oil and gas per BTU versus anthracite has narrowed. Advances in automated firing systems and controls with coal burning have erased any previous technological gaps.

When Lawnell Farm in Livingston County was designing a new milking center for their 1400 cow dairy, they decided to look into a coal - fired boiler to heat water and the milking complex. They settled on a 2 million BTU, double burner boiler with automatic stokers, forced draft, 600 gallon hot water reserve and a freeze protected, 5 zone, in the floor heating system. The installment cost was about 20% higher than an equivalent gas - fired system. Operating cost savings were good enough to show a payback of the extra investment in only one year.



Amos Smith, one of the family partners, says that learning curve was a bit of a challenge. Hard coal fires are trickier than other types of combustion. The separate hot water and

heating system required extra controls and plumbing. Excessive moisture in the coal, contamination with salt used in the bottom of transport trucks in the winter and poor quality coal can impact combustion performance. Buying high grade anthracite directly from one mine in Pennsylvania has prevented some of the sad tales Amos had heard about.

The anthracite coal is graded by size. For this particular boiler a blend of "rice" and "buckwheat" sized product (3/16" to 9/16") is ideal. For each of the last



One of the two burner "pots" where coal and air are pushed in from the bottom and ashes fall off around the outside edge.

two years they burned 60 tons of coal. This year with the intense cold they are looking at 80 tons! Cost? The delivered price has been \$190 per ton. They get and can store 30 tons at a time.

What about smoke and harmful gasses? Hard coal is low in volatile hydrocarbons. Smoke is practically nonexistent. Low sulfur content and forced draft results in a clear, odorless exhaust. What about recovery? Between the reserve capacity and intense combustion, Amos says there has never been an issue in 3 years - summer or winter. What kind of ash is there? The automatic ash recovery system provides an even, fine grit that Amos says is the best traction product he has used for slippery walking surfaces.

Sometimes what was old becomes new again – with the help of technology and an adventurous spirit!





Early Wheat Management Tips

By: Mike Stanyard

It is time to start thinking about your wheat! I know it is hard to believe staring out my window in mid-February at the huge piles of snow lining my driveway. The good thing is that the wheat is under a protective blanket. This was not the case back in January when we saw record - breaking negative temperatures. See Bill Verbeten's article in this issue about assessing wheat stands.

Nitrogen. In past articles I have discussed counting the number of tillers to determine if you should put all of your nitrogen up front, split it into two applications, or put it all on at a second application at Stage 6 (jointing). Once the snow finally melts, we need to get out there and start assessing how many plants and tillers we have per square yard. See chart as example of tiller number and N timing. If your plant/tiller counts are low, be prepared to get N on early as wheat plants wake up fast and need to be fed. This N is utilized to increase vegetative production and promote additional tillers. If tiller counts are in the middle, then get some N on early and the remainder on at jointing. If tiller counts are high, hold off on applying N at green-up and apply it all at jointing. Last year I saw many fields that were over 1200 tillers per square yard! This later N application timing should coincide with stem elongation which means nitrogen is going towards increasing the number of seeds per head and seed size, not additional tillers. Wheat takes off quickly at this stage so be diligent and prepared to spray!

Weeds. We continue to encourage the earliest planted fields to be sprayed for winter annual weeds (purple deadnettle, chickweed, chamomile) in late fall. Some of the later planted fields may have had a burndown sprayed prior to planting. You never know what the weather will be like in the spring and timely weed control can be tricky. Most fields are sprayed in the spring. We are still encouraging that you do not mix your herbicide and nitrogen applications and spray separately. The leaf burning can cost us up to 10 bushels and could get worse as temperatures increase.



If grasses such as roughstalk bluegrass and cheat are a problem, Osprey, a newly labeled product for NY, is available. It has no activity on broadleaves. Research by Russ Hahn has found that it has been very effective on bluegrass with better control achieved in the spring versus the fall. It can be applied up to the jointing stage in winter wheat.

Fungicides. We have seen that fungicide applications in wheat can really pay off. Powdery mildew and leaf rust can move in during the early vegetative stages and result in yield losses. These leaf diseases can be more prevalent with thicker wheat stands. Weather conditions also can play a role. Wet, cool conditions are more conducive to disease development. We saw this situation occur in 2013 and many acres had to be sprayed for powdery mildew. Early scouting of all your wheat fields is crucial to stay on top of this disease! If you applied higher N rates, 90-120 pounds, fungicides are even more important to keep the wheat healthy to prevent lodging.

Tiller Numbers (per Sq. yard)	
<300	60 units of N at green up, rest applied at GS 5-6
450-600	45 units of N at green up, rest applied at GS 5-6
>700	30 units of N at green up, rest applied at GS 5-6

Winter Dairy Management Program 2014

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For registration and further information, contact the Wyoming County Dairy Institute office at 585-786-2251 or visit the website at www.WyomingCountyDairyInstitute.com

Teacher of the Year 2014



Christine Bow, a First Grade teacher at Jackson School in Batavia, has been selected as the 2014 NY Agriculture in the Classroom Teacher of the Year. This is the first time a teacher from WNY has been selected as the recipient of this award and it is a huge honor, to say the least,

in our county where agriculture is the #1 industry and we are making every attempt to educate our children about its importance.

When reading through her portfolio of accomplishments, it was clear she is a true friend of New York agriculture and dedicated to integrating agriculture into her classroom. The ways in which you weave agricultural concepts into opportunities for teaching and learning, inspires students, teachers, and families. We are pleased to recognize her innovative teaching of agriculture throughout her curriculum with this honor. As New York Agriculture in the Classroom Teacher of the Year, she will be attending the 2014 National Agriculture in the Classroom Conference June 23rd through the 27th in Hershey, Pennsylvania. Congratulations Chris!

NY AITC will be presenting the award to her at Jackson School on Thursday, April 3, 1:30 pm.

Chris will receive local recognition of her accomplishment at the Genesee County Celebrate Ag Dinner on Sat. March 22, Alexander Fire Hall, Alexander, NY.



New York Pork Producers Annual Meeting

March 22, 2014 Holiday Inn, 2468 NYS Route 414, Waterloo

- 9:00 a.m. Registration, Morning Refreshments & Silent Auction Begins
- 9:30 a.m. Welcome & Introductions
- 9:45 a.m. National Pork Board Annual Checkoff Update, *Todd Rodibaugh, NPB*
- 10:00 a.m. Animal Traceability Update, George Merill, DVM
- 10:15 a.m. PEDB Challenges, Dr. Michael Pierdon, DVM
- 11:15 a.m. Swine Nutrition, Cargill Representative
- 12:00 p.m. LUNCH (Silent Auction Continues)
- 1:00 p.m. "Ask the Experts", Question & Answer Session
- 1:30 p.m. Announce Winner of Silent Auction Items
- 1::45 p.m. TQA Training, *Todd Rodibaugh, NPB*
- 2:30 p.m. TQA Multiple Choice
- 3:00 p.m. Annual Business Meeting







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Save the Date...

March 2014

- 5 *Winter Dairy Management: Milking System Efficiency, Milking it for all it's worth!*. Jordan Hall, Geneva location. See page 11 for details.
- 10 Webinar: Cows and their Calcium, 1:00 2:00 p.m., http://www/jpards/cp,webinars
- 12 Webinar: Keep Kids Away From Tractors, 12:00 1:00 p.m. CST, http://www.agrisafe.org/training/
- 12 *Beyond Direct Marketing: Exploring New Ways to Sell*, 9:30 a.m. 3:30 p.m., Central NY: Mann Library, Agriculture Quad, Cornell University Campus, Tower Road, Ithaca, Contact: Violet Stone at vws7@cornell.edu or 607.255.9227
- 12 *Beyond Direct Marketing: Exploring New Ways to Sell*, 9:30 a.m. 3:30 p.m., Western NY: CCE-Cattaraugus Co., 28 Parkside Drive, Ellicottville. Contact: Lynn Bliven at lao3@cornell.edu or 585.268.7644
- 12 **Solar & Renewable Energy for Farms: Finances, Incentives, and Insights,** 8:30 a.m. 12:00, CCE-Ontario Co., 480 N. Main Street, Canandaigua. To register, email: bmaholick@rerenergygroup.com or RER's website: http://www.rerenergygroup.com
- 14 *Winter Dairy Management: Milking System Efficiency, Milking it for all it's worth!.* Breezy Hill Party House, Warsaw location. See page 11 for details.
- 17 *Webinar: Dairy Reproduction: Identifying Problems and Solutions for Your Herd,* 12:00 p.m. CDT, http://www.extension.org/pages/29156/upcoming-dairy-cattle-webinars#.UvpqdoWZh1U
- 18 Dry Bean Meeting, 9:00 a.m. 3:15 p.m., LeRoy Country Club, 7759 E. Main Road, LeRoy, DEC & CCA credits will be available. Preregister online at: http://cvp.cce.cornell.edu/event_preregistration.php?event=174, Questions: Carol MacNeil, crm6@cornell.edu or 585.394.3977 x406
- 19-20 Northeast Dairy Producers Association (NEDPA) Conference, Holiday Inn, Liverpool
- 22 *New York Pork Producers Annual Meeting*, 9:00 a.m. 3:00 p.m., Holiday Inn, 2468 NYS Route 414, Waterloo. See page 14 for more details.
- 25 Dairy Skills Training Series: Hoof Health and Lameness Training Module. See page 13 for more details.
- 29 Pastured Poultry Workshop, 10:00 a.m. 2:30 p.m., Riga Town Hall (Multipurpose Room), 6460 Buffalo Road, Churchville, NY. Registration deadline: March 24, Cost: \$15 per person. At the door registration: \$25. per person. Preregister online at: http://nwnyteam.cce.cornell.edu/index_real.php or contact: Cathy Wallace, 585.343.3040 x138 or cfw6@cornell.edu, Questions contact: Nancy, 585.315.7746

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8 Herd Health and Nutrition Conferences, Syracuse, NY