

TRANSCRIPT OF VIDEO TESTIMONIAL

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WA: An injection is more animal friendly.

MS: We see effects on the feed conversion ratio of the animals.

WA: We have seen the benefits of the use of IMPROVAC®.*

MS: We began using IMPROVAC I think at the beginning of 2008. We vaccinated about 400 finishing pigs. If you look at animal welfare of course castration gives a lot of distress to the animal.

Also after the castration we have some distress and pain. The vaccination gives a little bit of distress but it's not comparable with the bigger distress we have from the castration. If you compare the effects of vaccination to anaesthesia castration from the point of view of welfare I think that the welfare with anaesthesia castration is not so good as with the vaccination because we have still the extra pain after the castration.

WA: Physical castration has a bigger impact on pigs and causes more stress. An injection is more animal friendly. The injection has to be given twice but has nevertheless less impact than castration. The vaccinated animals will behave like boars until the second vaccination.

This will have a very positive effect on the feed conversion ratio.

MS: The overall benefits we saw of IMPROVAC are on welfare you see we don't need castration. When we don't need castration we see less risks especially on streptococcus, coming in to the animal and we see effects on the feed conversion ratio on the animals. As a research institute it is important that we collect the right data, and reliable data. In this trial it went very well so we are very satisfied with that.

WA: The vaccinated animals have a better FCR because they spent most of their lives as boars and use their feed better to produce meat. They act like boars until the second vaccination. I would advise producers who would like to use IMPROVAC to get information from Pfizer [Animal Health] and attend a training programme in advance. The use of the vaccine was easy to implement because we knew up front what had to be done, and when. So this was easy.

MS: I think a big effect will be, we know for sure, we stop castrating in the short term and IMPROVAC can be a possible solution for this problem.

WA: We have seen the benefits of using IMPROVAC.

* Originally introduced in 1998 as IMPROVAC®, regulatory considerations have required different names for the same product in other parts of the world. Thus, IMPROVAC may appear in other markets as VIVAX*, IMPROVEST® and INNOSURE®.