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PLATINUM PROTECTION



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*Gergen, L et al. Protection Against H1N2 Swine Influenza Virus Challenge Following Vaccination with Swine Influenza Vaccine Containing Subtypes H1N1 and H3N2. 2002 Proceedings of the Allen D. Leman Conference, p.39.

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Attrition: an ongoing grow-finish problem

Deads, culls, lights can decimate profits

No one likes to talk about it, but every producer must face facts—some pigs just don't live up to their potential. Whether they died during production, became chronic lightweights or simply had to be sold as culls, these grow-finish pigs fall into a costly group lost to attrition.

Deads + culls + lights = attrition

Though attrition is a relatively new term applied to the pork industry, it's been widely used in other industries to describe products or output that do not meet a minimum standard or set of specifications. For pork producers, attrition refers to pigs that fall outside of desired production and marketing parameters. Specifically, attrition refers to deads (mortality), culls (pigs not sold to the primary market) and lightweights (those sold below a packer's full-value weight range). Value lost to deads, culls and lightweights represents lost revenue potential.

Dr. John Deen, swine veterinarian and researcher at the University of Minnesota and a major proponent of the attrition concept in the grow-finish area, explains that producers must go beyond the obvious to see attrition. "While average daily gain and feed efficiency are very important measures, they aren't the whole picture. Quality control in pork production involves controlling variation."

With variation comes attrition. Deen estimates total attrition often makes up about 15% of grow-finish groups, based on his analysis of deads, culls and lightweights. "I'd like to see the average sum below 8%," he says.

Disease: the common thread

"Diseases cause variation because they do not hit every pig in the group," says Deen. "This may be caused by varying immunity levels or because a disease spreads slowly through a system."

One disease contributing to variation in grow-finish pigs is ileitis—clinical and subclinical. Ileitis damages the gut and disrupts nutrient absorption, leading to reduced gains, decreased feed efficiency and increased variation.¹



Nationally, lightweights account for more than 61% of sort loss,² and low growth rates leading to variation can result in losses up to \$45/pig.³ Deen has identified several other problems with lightweights, noting they have higher death rates, are more likely to suffer infectious diseases and require more medication.⁴

"The other area of costs for lightweight pigs is managing them," says Deen. "They tend to get more attention and medication. It's probably that 20% of the pigs get 80% of the attention, so we have to take this cost into account as well."

AIM can reduce attrition

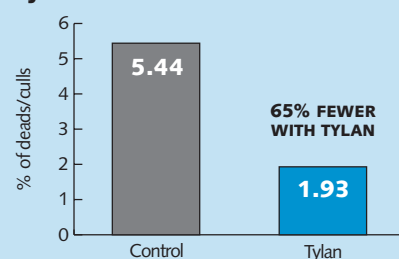
Because ileitis often hits grow-finish pigs, thereby increasing variation and attrition, swine experts at Elanco Animal Health have introduced Advanced Ileitis Management (AIM) to encourage prevention and control of all forms of the disease.

Part of AIM relies on the strategic use of Tylan® Premix—the only feed medication FDA-approved for ileitis prevention and control. Feeding Tylan at 100g/ton for 21 days prevents and controls ileitis to reduce variation in sick pigs, improves performance and reduces lightweight pigs—all of which can reduce attrition.

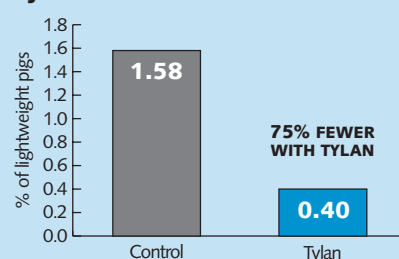
Dr. Tom Marsteller, Elanco Swine Technical Services Manager, says, "Tylan Premix is an effective ileitis therapy because it concentrates inside intestinal cells, attacks invading *Lawsonia* bacteria and reduces fecal shedding, thus reducing the effects of ileitis.

"By preventing and controlling ileitis, Tylan improves performance, thereby reducing variation and attrition. The result is more full-value pigs and better economic return."

**% of deads/culls
Tylan vs. Control**



**% of lightweight pigs
Tylan vs. Control**



In an on-farm study of 1,008 pigs, feeding Tylan in a 40g/20g per ton treatment reduced mortality and culls 64.5% compared to control. In addition, the treatment reduced lightweights by 75%.⁵

¹ McOrist, S., Gebhart, C. Porcine proliferative enteropathies, *Diseases of Swine*, 8th Edition, 1999.

² Meeker, D. and Sonka, S. NPPC *Pork Chain Quality Audit*, 1994.

³ Deen, J. et al. The predictive value of relative entry weights in growing pigs. *Proc. 14th IPVS Congress*, 1996.

⁴ Deen, J. The problem of lightweight market hogs. Allen D. Leman Swine Conference, 2000.

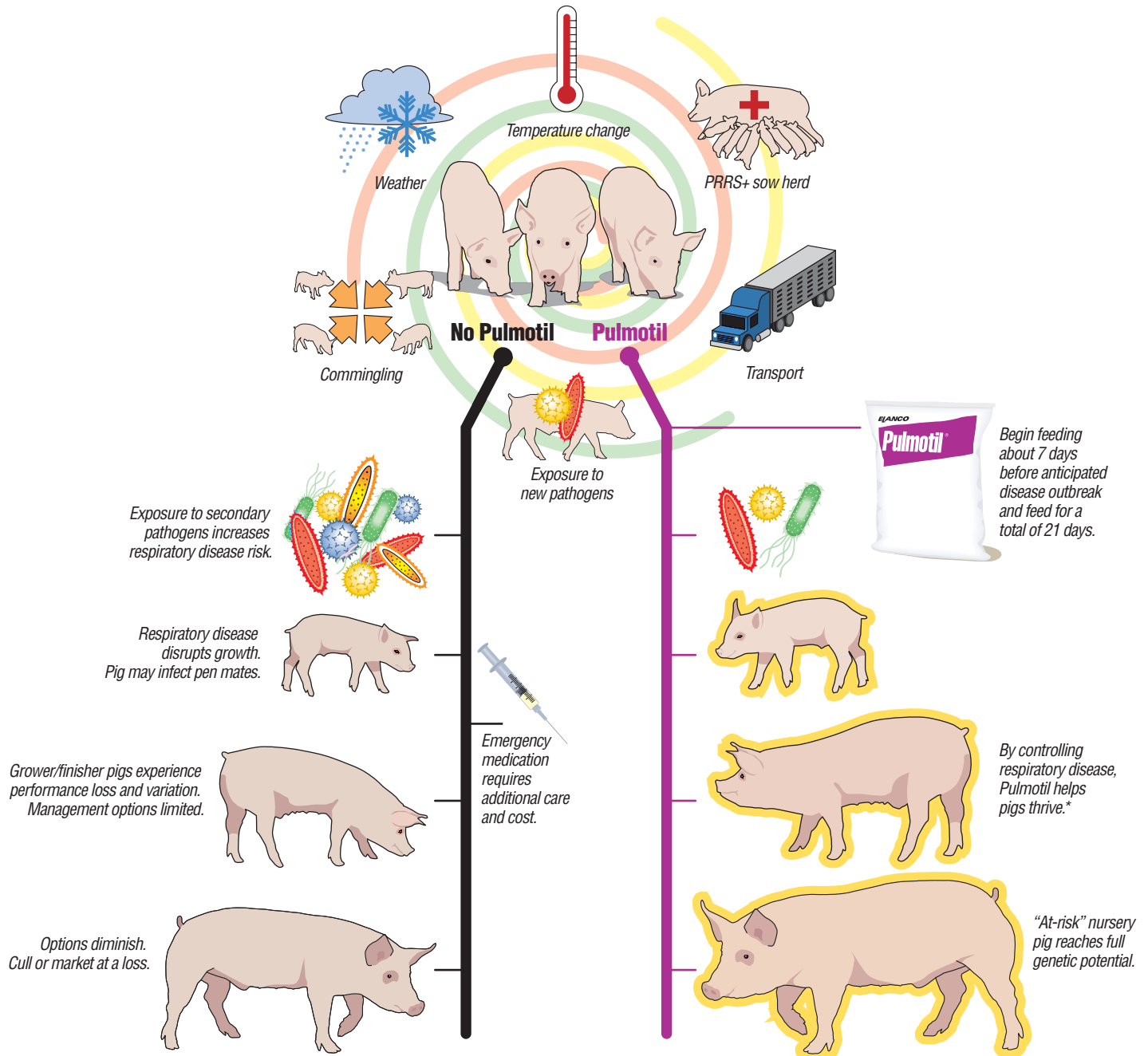
⁵ Bertram, M. and Kremer, B. Impact of growth-promoting levels of Tylan, Lincmix and an intermittent therapeutic dose of Tylan Premix on growth and efficiency in growing commercial pigs reared in two-site production facilities. *Proc. AASV Annual Meeting*, 2003.

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Subtype Protection			
H1N1	Yes	Yes	Yes
H3N2	Yes	Yes	Yes
H1N2	Yes	None	None
Duration of Immunity			
H1N1	at least 11 weeks	None	None
H3N2	at least 10 weeks	at least 8 weeks	None
H1N2	at least 8 weeks	None	None
Reduces Virus Shedding			
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Proprietary Proven Adjuvant			
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1. Study TR002-9661-90-001, Data on file, Pfizer Inc.