



Alltech

Biomim

CCPA Group

CID Lines

Denkavit

Igeba

Invivo – NSA

Norel

Innovad • Waste Spectrum
Weda • Ryuarm • Lubing
Technical Systems • Vitfoss
Rotem • Socorex
Waldo Farms • Dr Bata
Nuscience • Ag World
Genesis • Hermitage
Alliance Genetics • Ge Pork

Kidney worm

Adult kidney worms live in perirenal cysts that open via fistulas into the ureters. Sometimes these cysts are found in other organs such as the spleen, stomach, bladder and spinal cord.

Adult worms are 20-40mm long. Eggs which reach the ureters pass from the pig's body in the urine. The larva takes up to two days to develop inside the egg and is infective in 4-5 days. Larvae can remain on pasture for several months until they are ingested by or penetrate the skin of a pig. They migrate to the mesenteric lymph nodes and then move to the liver via the portal blood supply. Here they spend several weeks before migrating as 5-6mm long developing adults to the perirenal fat. Inflammatory cysts develop around clusters of developing adults and a fistula opening to the ureters is formed.

Adult worms can shed eggs into the urine for up to three years. Pathologically, the presence of a portal thrombophlebitis is characteristic.

One consequence of a long pre-patent period, a gilt only breeding programme can be considered as part of the control strategy.

Cysticercosis

The pig can be an intermediate host for the larvae or cysticerci of the human tapeworm *Taenia solium*. Modern hygiene has controlled this human tapeworm in many parts of the world, but where hygiene standards are low, and/or there is a tendency to eat raw or undercooked pork, it continues to be a significant public health issue.

Cysticercosis occurs when a developmental stage of the tapeworm rests or nidates in the skeletal muscles or myocardium to become infective cysticerci in 2-3 months. These appear as whitish dots and give the other name to this condition – pork measles.

There are no clinical signs associated with Cysticercosis but a history of free roaming pigs with access to waste and human excreta is usually present. Diagnosis is by detection of the lesion in muscles at slaughter or on post mortem examination.

Cooking kills the cysts so if infected pork is adequately cooked it is safe for human consumption.

Back issues of Pighealth BYTES are available to download from our [website](http://www.positiveaction.co.uk).

www.positiveaction.co.uk