

Pighealth BYTES

Number: 116

Mycotoxins IV

Your own reference source on pig health



Agromed

Animine

Aveve Biochem

Ayurvet

Bioiberica

CID Lines

Coventry Chemicals

Ease Pharma

Henke-Sass Wolf

Innovad

Jefo

LUBING

Aflatoxins – lesions

Aflatoxicoses in pigs produces pale tan-coloured livers with centrilobular haemorrhages, fatty changes and small subserosal haemorrhages, as well as haemorrhages on the colon and intestines. Eventually the liver becomes progressively fibrotic. The liver damage induces jaundice.

Abortion does not occur and normal reproduction is maintained, although reduced piglet birth weights can be seen. Aflatoxin passing through the milk can depress piglet growth.

Immunocompetence

Aflatoxin affects cell mediated immunity and the functioning of phagocytes and this can impact on diseases like salmonellosis, erysipelas and swine dysentery. Reduced immunocompetence can be seen in suckling piglets from aflatoxin exposed sows.

Residues

The aflatoxin metabolite M1 can occur in tissues, milk and urine at relatively low levels that do not persist.

Diagnosis and treatment

Diagnosis is made on the basis of clinical signs, post mortem findings and a history of consuming contaminated feed.

The treatment of individual animals is not practical and specific antidotes are not available. When aflatoxins compromise the immune system and co-infections are present aggressive antibiotic therapy is recommended. Increasing the levels of selenium, vitamins A, D, E, K and B or high quality protein might help.

Prevention

Prevention is all about ensuring that your pigs receive aflatoxin-free feed. This involves selecting free ingredients and the use of preventive feed additives.

Magapor

Nuscience

R2 Agro

Mervue Labs

Olmix

Roxell

Novation

Perstorp

WEDA