HIPRASUIS® GLÄSSER: FIELD EFFICACY IN A GLÄSSER DISEASE CASE IN MEXICO

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INTRODUCTION

Haemophilus parasuis (Hps) causes Glässer's disease (GD) in pre-weaning and post-weaning pigs, is an important source of economic losses in pig production. Hps colonizes the upper respiratory tract of piglets early after birth and is pathogenic under particular conditions. Hps can be found in the nose of healthy pigs, but those strains are often non-virulent or virulent but controlled by the immune system (1). Disease may be seen in suckling piglets or in weaners when maternal immunity wears off before they become infected. It can also act as a secondary pathogen to other diseases particularly enzootic neumonia *(Mycoplasma hyopneumoniae)* and Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome (PRRS) (2).

To prevent GD, commercial bacterins can be used directly in the affected piglets or, alternatively, in the sows. Vaccination of sows is less laborious and triggers an increase of the antibodies levels in colostrum. Sows produce strong maternal immunity which can persist in their offspring until 8 to 12 weeks of age (3).

The objective of this study is to measure the productivity rates in farrowing, nursery and fattening units when a specific vaccine program with HIPRASUIS® GLÄSSER vaccine was applied in sows.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The study was performed in a commercial multi-sites farm with 2300 sows located in Jalisco state (Mexico). Piglets were weaned at 21 days of age (mean weight 6,5 kg), then they were moved to nursery units until 10 weeks of age (mean weight 29 kg) and finally they went to fattening units until 24 weeks of age (mean weight 114,41 kg). During several months, post-weaned pigs were suffering high mortalities. Necropsy findings showed fibrinous poliserositis, arthritis and pneumonia. The diagnosis of GD was confirmed by bacteria isolation from respiratory and non-respiratory organs.

In order to reduce the losses due to GD a new vaccination program was applied using HIPRASUIS® GLÄSSER which contains serotypes 1 and 6. These serotypes give cross protection against serotypes 4 and 5 (4). Sows were vaccinated and revaccinated 6 and 3 weeks before farrowing, also gilts received the same vaccination program before mating.

Productivity rates were monitored 6 months after the onset of HIPRASUIS® GLÄSSER vaccination program and compared with the historical data of the farm.

RESULTS

The different parameters recorded improved significantly after HIPRASUIS® GLÄSSER vaccination. (P<0.05, t-test for independent samples).

Figure 1 and 2: Parameters from farrowing units.

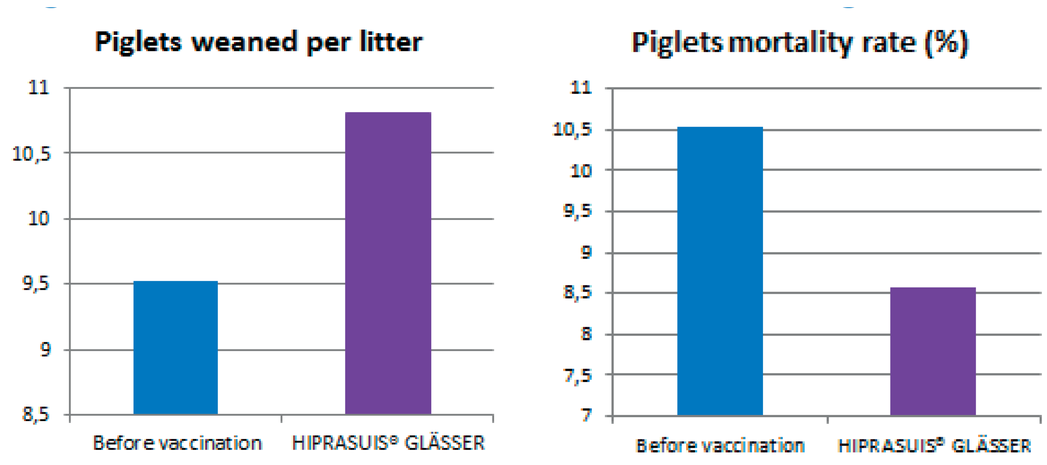
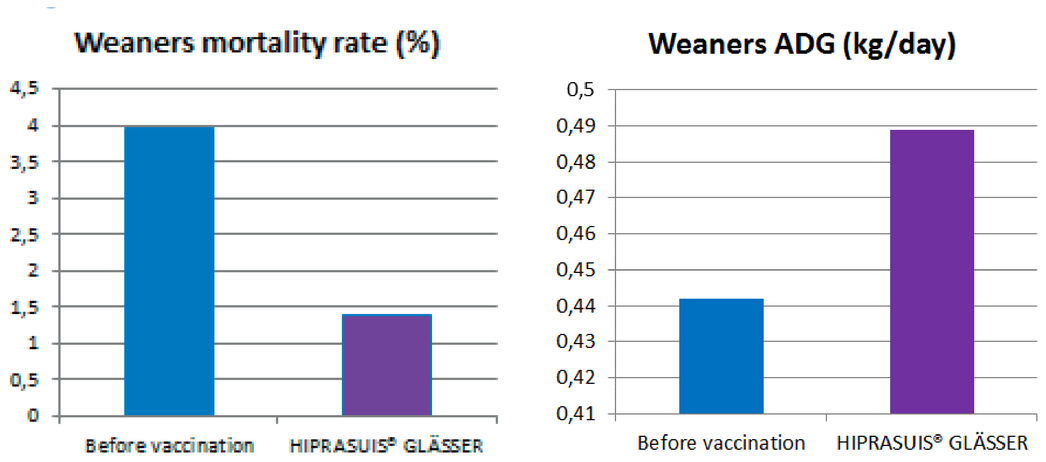


Figure 3 and 4: Parameters from Nursery unit.



CONCLUSIONS AND DISCUSSION

After 6 months vaccinating with HIPRASUIS® GLÄSSER vaccination program, data reported showed a clear improvement in the productive parameters of each one site. Besides, clinical signs related to Glässer's disease disappeared. Therefore, in this field trial is demonstrated again that maternal derived antibodies (MDA) against Hps can protect piglets against Hps clinic disease (5).

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