



Curly Tales

Edition 3, July 2002



Company Information

After two years with the company, it is with much regret that we inform you that Fiona Monteath has tendered her resignation. Fiona was known to many of you as the voice on the other end of the phone, and the key contact for the CSL Footy Tipping competition. We wish Fiona all the best with her future endeavours.

There has still been some confusion with our new terms of trade. Statements are issued at the end of the month with copies of invoices of the month's purchases. These statements are then payable seven days from the statement. To earn Pig Points, the statements must be paid within the seven days. Starting with the next monthly statements, we will trial attaching a sticker to let you know the date that the account is due to be paid by.

Footy Tipping 2002

At the end of Round 13, the CSL Footy Tipping leaders are:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Score</u>
Jo Frost	76
Ray Dyke	75
Bryce Allison	74
Clare Cappy	74
Darren Anset	74
Jack Mullane	73
Mick Albers	73
Jamie Mullane	72
Aeger Kingma	72
Damian Kronk	72
Mark Kingma	72

Kym Miller, our Sales Manager in South Australia is also running a CSL Footy Tipping competition, and the leaders in the South Australian competition are:

Name

Score

Jenny McMahon	75
Peter & Trish Schmidt	75
Garry Hosking	73
Bridget Jervios	73

Pig Points

Six months into the Pig Points program we already have a number of producers qualified for the trip to Queenstown. With six months left to go in the program, it looks likely, that approximately 50 producers will qualify for the trip.

We have already had confirmation of sponsorship from a number of the animal health companies and would like to thank them for their support. The companies that have committed to supporting the Pig Points program are:

- Alpharma Animal Health
- Bayer Animal Health
- CSL Animal Health
- Fort Dodge Animal Health
- Norbrook Laboratories
- Pfizer Animal Health
- Pharmacia Animal Health
- Pharmtech

Products of the Month

For the month of July, Bayer Animal Health's Baycox – Piglet Coccidiocide and Alpharma's Reporcin will be the products of the month.

BAYCOX – PIGLET COCCIDIocide

Coccidiosis in piglets is a significant cause of production losses. It is a major cause of diarrhoea in piglets and is considered to be a



ubiquitous parasite of piglets worldwide. An Australian study has shown that coccidiosis is the most common cause of diarrhoea in piglets from 5 days of age until weaning. Piglets are most commonly affected when they are between 5 and 14 days old.

Piglets contract the disease through ingestion of infected eggs (oocysts). These oocysts are very resistant in the environment and can survive on floors, walls and in cracks and crevices. Because these oocysts are so resistant to adverse environmental conditions, the likelihood is that all pigs will come into contact with coccidiosis regularly.

Immunity is very important in reducing the effects of coccidiosis. Piglets will naturally develop immunity to coccidiosis, however this immunity develops too slowly to offer meaningful protection to the initial clinical disease. Baycox Piglet helps to prevent clinical disease and also allows the piglet to develop immunity to the parasite. Baycox Piglet interferes with the multiplication process of the coccidia and also with the energy pathways of the parasite.

Baycox for piglets should be used as a preventative program but can be used to treat the clinical signs of coccidiosis.

Piglets are treated with a single 1ml dose directly into the mouth at 3-6 days. If there is an outbreak of coccidiosis where Baycox Piglet has not been given on a regular basis, piglets may be treated again with a 1ml dose providing that they are less than 8 day old. All infected pigs should be treated as well as all at risk piglets.

The treatment and control of coccidiosis relies heavily on the cleanliness and hygiene of the piggery as well as the individual treatment of all piglets. The environment is the important source of the infected oocysts, and it is essential that there are effective cleaning and disinfection procedures in

place. Measures should also be taken so that piglets come into contact with the faeces of other litters.

Baycox Piglet has a meat withholding period of 80 days for the Australian market.

(Baycox information taken from Bayer Animal Health brochure)

For more information on the use of Baycox, or to discuss the implications of coccidiosis in piglets, please contact one of the Vets.

REPORCIN PORCINE SOMATOTROPIN

In the finisher phase, natural somatotropin levels decrease, which results in fatter, less efficient pigs. Reporcin porcine somatotropin (PST) supplements the endogenous levels of porcine somatotropin to promote deposition of protein in growing pigs at the expense of fat. PST in combination with appropriate diets will decrease fat deposition, improve feed conversion efficiency, increase average daily weight gain and increase lean meat yield.

Reporcin porcine somatotropin is only to be administered with the approved gas powered injection equipment used by trained operators. To achieve maximum benefits of PST, advice on nutrition should be obtained.

Reporcin porcine somatotropin is to be used only in the finisher phase. The product should be injected into the muscle immediately behind the ear, and not at any other site. A 1ml dose of reconstituted product containing 5mg PST is administered daily during the finisher phase immediately prior to slaughter.

The four main benefits of Reporcin porcine somatotropin are:



1. Increase in growth rate – feed cost savings, increased body weight at sale and selling pigs at a younger age allowing more room in the finisher housing area to allow for an increase in production numbers or a reduction in stocking density.
2. Improvement in feed efficiency – improved metabolism and reduction in voluntary feed intake
3. Reduction in waste output
4. Increase in carcass quality – increased muscle definition and lean meat content with a reduction in the amount of fat in the carcass.

(Reporcin information taken from Alpharma Animal Health brochure and MIMS 2002.)

For more information on the use of Reporcin, or to discuss the possibility of beginning a twelve week trial to earn bonus Pig Points, please contact one of the Vets.

Staff Profile – Amanda Tenace

Amanda started working for Chris Richards & Associates three months ago, and is the friendly voice on the end of the phone when you call the office.

Amanda grew up in Echuca and has lived in many regional areas in Victoria. She moved to Bendigo 15 years ago with her four boys and still has one of the boys at home.

Amanda was a customer service representative for AAPT before she came to Chris Richards & Associates and has been in customer service and reception positions for most of her career.

She is on a steep learning curve of the pig industry, and is coming to grips quickly with many of your names and where your farms are. With the resignation of Fiona, Amanda

is going to be taking on a lot of the workload that Fiona had. Importantly for many of you, Amanda is taking over the running of the CSL Footy Tipping competition.



Health Hints

How do we reduce back fat?

- Nutrition (balanced ration)
- Porcine Somatotropin (PST) (ration changes)
- Genetics
- Starve pigs - \$\$\$ Costs are high



Porcine Somatotropin trial

Intact males

Trial Measurements	Reporcin 5mg/d 28 days	Control group	Benefit
Start weight (kg) Finish weight (kg) Average Daily Gain	80.7 107.4 954	82.0 106.5 875	Improvement in ADG of 79 g/day
Start Fat Depth (mm) Finish Fat Depth (mm) Fat Deposition on trial (mm)	12.7 13.8 1.1	12.9 16.3 3.4	Reduction in fat deposition of 2.3mm
Feed eaten/pig/day (kg) Feed:Gain (on trial)	2.40 2.52	2.79 3.19	Improvement of FCE of 21.0%

Net gain of \$AU6.00- \$AU10.00 per pig (20-25% increase)

Females

Trial Measurements	Reporcin 5mg/d 28 days	Control group	Benefit
Start weight (kg) Finish weight (kg) Average Daily Gain	77.5 100.2 811	82.1 102.7 736	Improvement in ADG of 75 g/day
Start Fat Depth (mm) Finish Fat Depth (mm) Fat Deposition on trial (mm)	13.6 14.3 0.7	13.3 17.2 3.9	Reduction in fat deposition of 3.2mm
Feed eaten/pig/day (kg) Feed:Gain (on trial)	2.15 2.65	2.53 3.44	Improvement of FCE of 23.0%

Net gain of \$AU8.00- \$AU12.00 per pig (25-35% increase)