



Curly Tales



Edition 11, July 2004

Company Information

Chris Richards and Associates (CRA) are continually striving to provide their client's (that's you!!) with up to date and relevant information for your farms. One way this can be achieved is through the new Chris Richards and Associates web site.

The site is currently being developed and should be up and running in the next few weeks.

Please visit us at:

www.chrisrichards.com.au

Chris Richards and Associates Client Seminars

This month has capped off the successful seminar series Chris Richards and Associates (CRA) held in Bendigo, Shepparton and Clare, South Australia.

They were all well attended and the feedback positive. The seminar in Bendigo featured Mike Stephens from MSA Rural Consultants (employment of staff), Dr Domenic Dell'Osa from Pfizer Animal Health (Respisure) and Dr Chris

Richards (New technologies and Partnership Program).

The Shepparton seminar was held for the local VFF group where Dr Chris Richards and Dr Domenic Dell'Osa spoke.

In Clare, a similar program was run except Dr John Walters from Fort Dodge (Glassers vaccine and "high health diseases") spoke instead of Dr Dell'Osa. Dr Hugo Dunlop also spoke on medication lists and the use of hand held devices in the piggery.

Information on any of the above mentioned topics can be received from the office or at the new web site.

Product Update

Please note that Intervet will no longer be making Ecovac LE, or LEvac in a 100 ml pack size. If you have any questions regarding this please contact Adelle.

Partnership Program

The **Partnership Program** is a unique system that forms an alliance between Australian leaders in pig health and production to promote the dissemination of information, adoption of new technologies and risk management in the prevention and control of pig diseases.

The **Partnership Program** has developed through consultation with a number of clients of Chris Richards & Associates who have outlined their desire to have a structured veterinary consultancy service that is complemented by having access to the new technologies and developments in all areas of pig health and production.

The goals of the **Partnership Program** are as follows:

- To manage the risk of pig diseases by having scheduled surveillance of disease on pig farms
- To have regular reviews of vaccination and medication practices with an aim to reduce cost of production and optimise productivity
- To allow producers to more accurately budget veterinary and production consulting expenses.
- Ability to interact with Australian and International expertise in health, production, nutrition and employee management.
- To be aware of new technologies from around the world pig industry.
- To ensure compliance for producers and veterinarians with registration and legal requirements associated with supply and use of veterinary pharmaceuticals and biologicals.
- To be able to interact both socially and academically with fellow pig producers and industry.

The services and activities provided as part of the Partnership Program have been derived based upon the requirements and ability to meet the goals for different sized entities. The following services will be provided dependant on farm sizes and locations.

- Veterinary/on farm production visits
- Slaughter checks/abattoir monitoring
- Phone consultation
- Provision and updating of scripts
- APIQP facilitation and internal auditing
- APIQP auditing

- Provision and Updating of Treatment Guides/Approved Medication Lists
- Web site access
- Ancillary Services/Consulting at Reduced Rate
- Seminar programs
- Partnership Program conference
- Newsletter
- Social events

We will be sending out information on the **Partnership Program** in the next week. Please contact the office if you have any queries.

Health Topics

Mycoplasma vaccines- One Shot or Two? Do you know the risks?

RespiSure One is a bacterin for vaccination of healthy pigs at approximately 3 weeks of age as an aid in the prevention of chronic pneumonia caused by *Mycoplasma hyopneumoniae* (MH) for a period of 25 weeks following vaccination (Pfizer animal health web site, 2003).

RespiSure and Suvaxyn have been on the market for some years as a two shot vaccine. The ease of a one shot vaccine with RespiSure One is very appealing to producers. It has been used

successfully however producers need to properly assess their situation first before opting to use the one shot product instead of the two.

Pigs of all ages are susceptible to MH but the disease is most common in grower and finisher pigs. It can be transmitted by aerosol or direct contact with respiratory tract secretions from infected pigs.

Maintaining a clean environment is therefore essential to minimise the risk of an outbreak. All-in, all-out production systems, proper ventilation, avoiding overstocking and minimising the mixing and moving of pigs help to achieve this.

Winter brings extra challenges as ventilation can be harder to control as curtains are closed to keep sheds warm, increasing the risk of increased pathogen loads.

This together with previous health history in colder months should be considered before deciding which Mycoplasma vaccine to use.

Please discuss your options with the vets at CRA to achieve the maximum response from your MH vaccine investment.

Footy tipping 2003

The winners after 17 rounds are:

Name	Score
Bernie Torney	96
Glynis King	95
Tony Torr	93
Wally & Sue Goettler	92
Marlene Kenny	92
Ricky Sheahan	92

It is a close contest with another six people at 91!!!

Diary Dates

November 13, 2003

**Chris Richards and Associates
and Country Vet Wholesaling
Bendigo Cup Day**

March 16-17, 2004

**Chris Richards and Associates
Annual Conference, Brisbane**

Free Call: 1800 426142



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