Period April 1st to June 30th, 2017
52 practitioners: Québec (16), Ontario (13), West (23)

This information is provided as a service to Canadian hog producers to improve the health of their herds. The information was obtained from a survey of the clinical impressions of participating practicing veterinarians with input from other swine health specialists. Information contained in this report is an approximation of the reality at the farm level. Please contact your swine veterinarian with any questions about this report.

**PRRS virus infection:**
Beginning in late Q3-2016, a PRRS virus strain similar to one found in Minnesota has infected several barns (12 to 15) in Manitoba. The virus causes neurological symptoms as well as abortions, stillborn pigs and piglet mortality and can be mistaken for a *Strep. suis* infection. Neither Ontario nor Quebec reported significant changes to PRRS this past quarter.

**Influenza A:**
More than 30% of veterinarians (17 of 52) in all regions reported increases in influenza A although the level was within the normal range for spring. There continues to be an increase in H1N2 influenza in Ontario and western Canada with just one case in Quebec. In Quebec, H3N2 influenza was the predominant type. In western Canada, an H1N1 2009 strain had evolved enough so that it would not be protected by the commercial pandemic strain vaccine. Autogenous influenza vaccines continue to be used more frequently to control the disease. Control is most effective when protocols used to control PRRS are implemented including:

- Using McREBEL protocols
- Herd is closure to incoming pigs (gilts) for six months
- Biosecurity protocols preventing the entry of new influenza infections, especially from incoming gilts.
- Proper vaccine administration to all pigs or at least all breeding stock

**Diarrhea in the nursery:**
Three of 13 Ontario veterinarians reported that colibacillosis in the nursery increased. One third of veterinarians reported that treatment failures of *E. coli* diarrhea in weaners were more frequent now.

**Erysipelas:**
In Quebec, veterinarians reported that 0 to 15% of growing pigs are vaccinated for erysipelas while in Ontario, 46% recommend vaccinating both sows and growing pigs. Western Canada results will be available next quarter.
Greasy pig disease:
Quebec reported an increase in Greasy pig disease. Links to reduced teeth clipping and higher barn humidity were reported.

Ear necrosis:
More ear necrosis was reported in Ontario. The condition is an important component of animal welfare on farms. Factors that may contribute to the problem include anything that increases competition such as high stocking density or limited feed or water access, and a damp environment. Properly maintain water nipples and ventilation to reduce high humidity.