



DNA GENETICS RESEARCH TRIAL

Evaluation of split suckling strategies on the DNA Line 241 sow

DATE COMPLETED

Spring 2025

OBJECTIVE

Compare two different split suckling strategies on pre- and post-weaning litter performance for the DNA Line 241.

TRIAL OVERVIEW

A total of 1,513 DNA L241 sows and their litters (22,800 piglets) were allotted to one of three treatments within parity: control group (no split suckling), first eight born and heaviest eight born. In treatment #1, the first eight piglets born were removed for 45 minutes and swapped with the remaining pigs for 45 minutes. In treatment #2, the heaviest eight pigs were removed for 1.5 hours. Cross-fostering occurred within treatment after split suckling and within 24 hours after the birth of the first pig. Individual pig weight was collected prior to split suckling and at weaning. On a subset of litters, a blood sample and weight was collected on each pig approximately 24 hours after birth to measure colostrum intake. A second subset of pigs was followed into the nursery and finisher to track growth performance and mortality.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- The split suckling strategies investigated in this trial did not result in any differences for pre- or post-weaning growth performance or mortality for pigs born to a DNA Line 241.
 - No differences were observed for:
 - Parity
 - Litter size
 - Split suckle time
 - Teat count
 - Treatment by parity
 - Treatment x split suckle time
 - Treatment x teat count

PRODUCER IMPLICATIONS

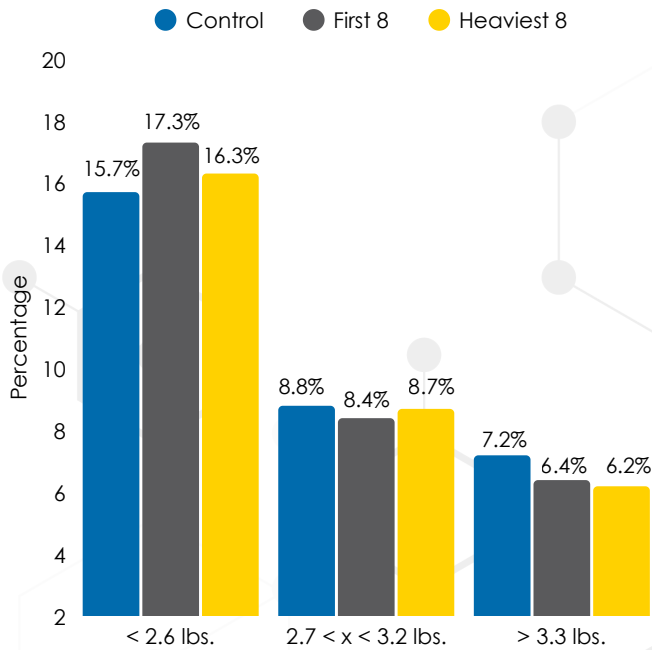
Producers utilizing the DNA L241 have the opportunity to reallocate workforce labor to new areas that will help maximize productivity and improve overall Day 1 pig care.

This research trial was conducted in partnership with Kansas State University and the National Pork Board and Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research's Pork Survivability Grant. For more information on this study, please contact your National Account Leader.



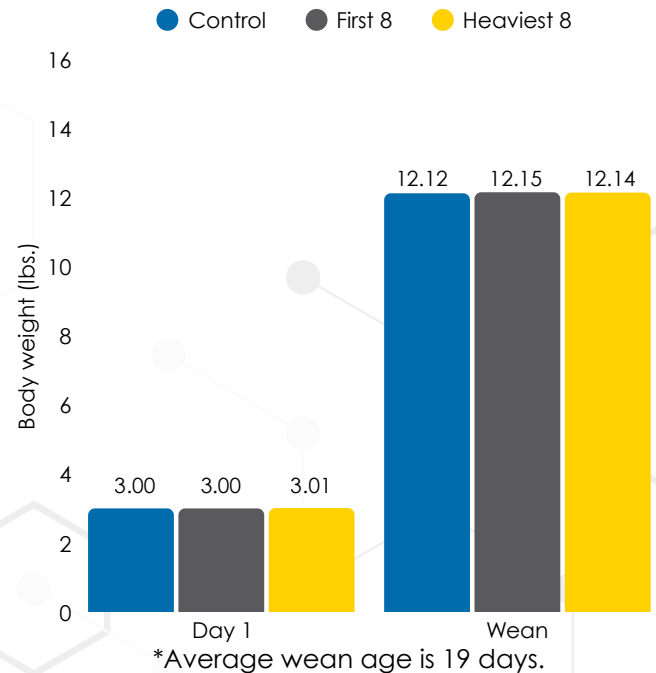
DNASwineGenetics.com

SPLIT SUCKLING STRATEGY ON PRE-WEAN MORTALITY BY BODY WEIGHT*

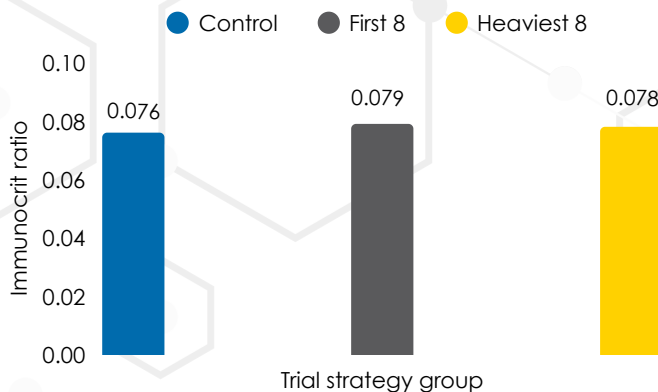


*Pre-wean mortality does not include Day 1 death loss.

SPLIT SUCKLING STRATEGY ON PIG WEIGHT



EFFECTS OF SPLIT SUCKLING ON IMMUNOCRIT RATIO, AN INDICATION OF COLOSTRUM INTAKE



POST-WEANING PERFORMANCE

Nursery:

- A total of 2,208 pigs, equally split across treatment, were followed into the nursery. Feed intake, ADG, F/G, and body weight at the end of the nursery were measured. Mortality was tracked throughout the nursery period.

Finisher:

- A total of 882 pigs, equally split across treatment, were followed into the finisher. Feed intake, ADG, F/G, and body weight before the first marketing event were measured. Mortality was tracked throughout the finishing period.

No differences were found in growth performance or mortality.