DNA GENETICS RESEARCH TRIAL

Farrowing Duration

DATE COMPLETED

August 2024

OBJECTIVE

- Benchmark the distribution of farrowing duration on the L241 female.
- Evaluate the effects of farrowing duration on reproductive performance and sow longevity on the L241 female.

TRIAL OVERVIEW

Management of sows during parturition has evolved in response to increased litter size. To effectively allocate additional labor resources for farrowing assistance across the entire process, producers must understand the distribution of farrowing duration within the herd. In this study, farrowing duration was measured on 7,443 DNA 241 females, defined as the time between the birth of the first and last pig in the litter

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Farrowing duration averaged 216 minutes and showed no differences between parity (Chart 1).
- Farrowing duration did not impact stillborn rate (this farm practices induction and routine assistance).
- The likelihood of sow death loss within 21 days of farrowing increased after 7-hour farrowing durations (Table 1).

PRODUCER IMPLICATIONS

- Farrowing duration can be used as an indicator for sows needing additional support.
- When planning labor needs, if induction is utilized successfully, 90% of females that respond to induction should complete the farrowing process while team members are present.

PRIMARY PERFORMANCE DATA

Chart 1

Distribution of Farrowing Duration

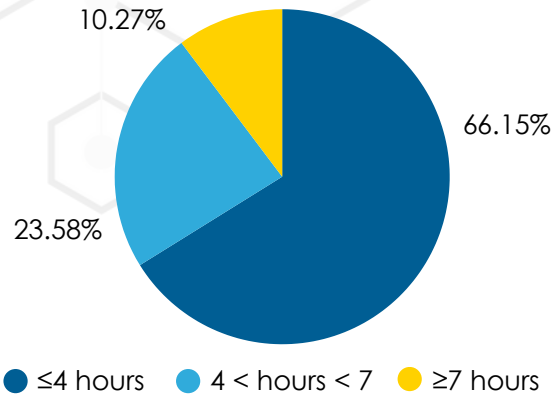
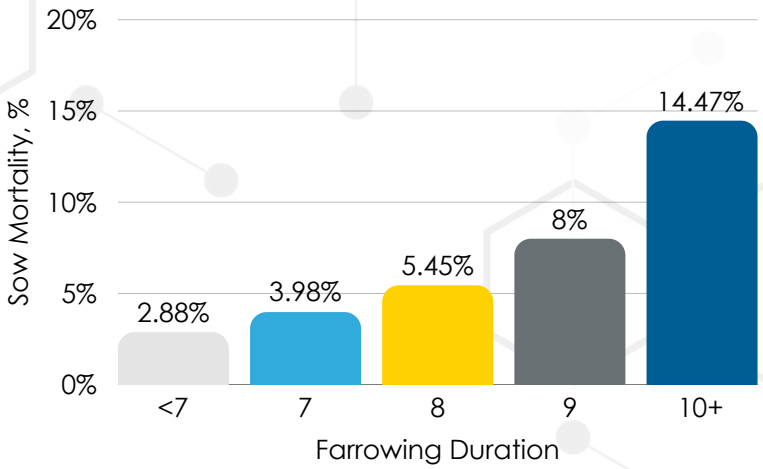


Table 1

Sow Mortality Within 21 days Post-farrowing



For more information on this study, please contact your National Account Leader.