

Swine Barn Analysis

Hog finishing weights drop

By **META FARMS ANALYTICS TEAM**

THE MetaFarms Production Index for the second quarter of 2015 shows higher mortality and lower sale weights in finishing and wean-to-finish hog groups.

The index is based on closeout performance for nursery, finishing and wean-to-finish groups and how it compares with the same period last year.

Data come from pork producers using the MetaFarms software system and represent more than 500 pork production companies located in the U.S. and Canada. Nursery data include more than 1,000 closeouts, finishing data more than 1,800 closeouts and wean-to-finish data more than 350 closeouts. These data have been scrubbed and made anonymous to protect the confidentiality of MetaFarms software users.

Keep in mind that nursery groups closed in the second quarter started on feed in February, March, April or May; finishing groups started on feed in November, December, January or February, and wean-to-finish groups started on feed in October, November or December.

Nursery closeouts in the second quarter saw lower numbers across almost all performance measurements. In fact, nursery mortality of 3.07% showed a 9.9% improvement compared with a year ago (3.40%). Mortality also decreased by 2.5% compared to the first quarter of 2015 (3.15%). Pigs left nurseries weighing about 2 lb. less, taking two fewer days to exit and consuming 4.6 lb. less feed compared to one year ago.

Sales weights in finishing closeouts were at their lowest level since the fourth quarter of 2013, at 279.3 lb.

Pigs coming out of finishing groups in the second quarter were 5.6 lb. lighter than a year ago and 4 lb. lighter than in the first quarter of 2015.

Feed consumed per head was down 35.2 lb., or 5.3% (628.4 lb. versus 663.6 lb.). Average daily gain (ADG) was up 2.82%. Finishing pigs were on feed for six fewer days. Mortality was 5.07% lower than a year ago but increased 7.2% compared to the first quarter of 2015 (4.02%).

Mortality in wean-to-finish groups

was up 3.7% compared to a year ago but increased 21.9% compared to the first quarter (5.07%).

Wean-to-finish groups mimicked finishing groups and saw a reduction in sales weights, which were down 2.2% year over year (276.8 lb. versus 283.0 lb.). ADG increased 1.15%, and the feed conversion ratio saw a 2.3% improvement. Pigs were on feed for five fewer days and consumed 4.58% less feed compared to one year ago.

MetaFarms Production Index, 2015 Q2

	-----Second quarter-----		%
	2014	2015	change
Nursery			
Avg. start weight, lb.	12.8	12.8	0.38
Mortality, %	3.40	3.07	-9.86
Avg. weight out, lb.	56.7	54.6	-3.70
Feed per head, lb.	70.7	66.0	-6.62
ADG, lb./day	0.88	0.87	-1.56
Feed conversion ratio	1.63	1.60	-1.86
ADFI, lb./day	1.43	1.39	-3.39
Avg. days on feed	49.3	47.6	-3.35
Finishing			
Avg. start weight, lb.	55.8	55.9	0.17
Mortality, %	4.54	4.31	-5.07
Avg. weight out, lb.	284.9	279.3	-1.97
Feed per head, lb.	663.6	628.4	-5.30
ADG, lb./day	1.84	1.89	2.82
Feed conversion ratio	2.93	2.85	-2.92
ADFI, lb./day	5.40	5.39	-0.19
Avg. days on feed	122.6	116.3	-5.12
Days to first market sale	104.8	99.4	-5.16
Wean to finish			
Avg. start weight, lb.	13.3	13.2	-0.56
Mortality, %	5.96	6.18	3.71
Avg. weight out, lb.	283.0	276.8	-2.19
Feed per head, lb.	713.0	680.3	-4.58
ADG, lb./day	1.60	1.62	1.15
Feed conversion ratio	2.65	2.59	-2.29
ADFI, lb./day	4.24	4.19	-1.17
Avg. days on feed	167.9	162.6	-3.17
Days to first market sale	151.2	148.8	-1.56

