



RELATING EBX SEMEN TO LITTER SIZE: A TESTIMONIAL

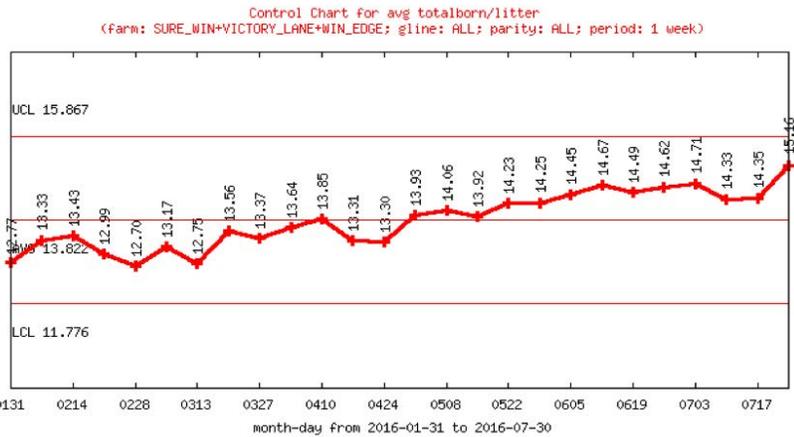
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Introduction

Almost a quarter century ago a considerably less seasoned Reproductive Physiologist was given access to EBX sires in AI Centers located in North Carolina. Company sows were mated with semen from ten sires during the rapid expansion of AI partially due to availability of other sire lines and as a comparison prior to purchase. At the end of 2015, in a similar shortage of semen after a boar stud broke with PRRS, our current system gained access to EBX semen through contracts with Choice and a local AI Center. In both cases, numeric increases in farrowing performance were recorded in performance records coincident with sows mated to EBX sires.

Materials and Methods

Win Productions coordinat growers were familiar with units in our system (8,800 of these units were operati older sows from PIC lines from a sister stud that is ov units. The analysis perform in PigKnows®. It is a time flow. Statistical events in t critical limits or when 7 co average. Farrowing inform sows were switched back to the original sow line. Sows challenged from carrier streaks and/or from serum inoculation were used. Due to semen availability and gilt matings, EBX semen was rerouted to a 4th sow farm (2,800 sows) for the remainder of 2016.



Results

Sows began farrowing in early May of 2016 from these matings. Chart 1 is the analysis of the average total born per litter recorded each week for 26 weeks. The vertical axis is total born and the horizontal axis is the start date of each week (0214 = Feb 14, etc.). The average total born per litter for the entire 26 week period included was 13.735 pigs per litter.

Beginning with data point 12 (13.93), a statistical improvement in litter size was noted. A similar pattern was noted for the average number of pigs born alive each week. The average Total Born per litter per week was 13.24 for the 13 weeks prior to the semen change and 14.49 pigs per litter for the next 13 weeks. The averages for pigs born alive per litter for each period were 11.78 and 12.90, respectively.

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