

Le «syndrome de 2^{ème} portée» dans les élevages français : prévalence de différents profils et facteurs de risque

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Characterization of “second parity syndrome” profiles and associated risk factors in French sow herds.

Reproductive disorders frequently occur after the first weaning, with subsequent detrimental effects. “2nd parity syndrome” (P2S) includes various signs: delayed estrus, infertility and small litters. The aim of this study was to evaluate the occurrence of these different components, and to identify associated factors at herd and sow level. Analysis was performed on 2008 data (National Pig Management database) for 842 herds and 42,000 primiparous sows. Fertility problems, delayed estrus (> 7 days) and small litters (<11 total born) occurred respectively in 16, 13 and 19% of sows in their second litter, with 21% exhibiting a severe 2nd litter size drop (>20% fewer total born piglets). At herd level, profiles were characterized using threshold values for average 2nd parity results: fertility at 1st service <85%, reduction in total born ≥ 0.2 , and weaning to insemination interval >7 days. At least one of these problems occurred on 80% of the farms, but one or two signs together (fertility and/or estrus) was a more frequent occurrence (40% herds) than the full syndrome (<10% herds). Factors were significantly associated with P2S, at sow level: delay of 1st insemination, 1st parity litter size and fertility, 2nd litter conceived at 1st service, season; and at herd level: herd size, batch management, 1st parity results, fostering. This study confirms that P2S is still a frequent problem. Because risk factors may not be the same for its different components, prevention may benefit from the identification of P2S profiles.