

2012 NCERA-219 Annual Meeting Minutes

Murphy – Brown,

Rose Hill, North Carolina

Ken Stalder - Secretary

Attendance:

Merlin Lindemann (host), Lee Johnston, Brian Richert, Steve Moeller, and Ken Stalder

November 15:

Meeting called to order at 8:30 pm. We want to thank the Murphy – Brown East swine production group for hosting the NCERA-219 group annual meeting. It is critical that the NCERA-219 group work with large integrated pork production systems in the US. Many if not most stations do not have the facilities to conduct the applied research being conducted by members today. Hence, most if not all of our members have established relationships with Murphy – Brown and other production companies to conduct wean-to-finish, grow – finish, and sow research. Some work can still be conducted at our research stations, however building the relationships with pork production systems in the US is critical to our abilities to conduct relevant research and produce results that will be used by the industry.

Station Report - Steve Moeller (Ohio State): Update and discussion of current research on with contract grower attitudes and beliefs that has been completed, effect of Bio-Mos and housing on pig performance reduced nocturnal temperature, and vomitoxin studies. Current position status and challenges were brought forth.

Station Report – Lee Johnston (Minnesota): Updated the group of current research involving DDGS and housing system on sow performance and longevity and their work on moving pork producers to socially acceptable housing: Transition from gestation stalls to group-housing. Dr. Johnston updated the group on a project conducted as a part of this NCERA project that involved reduced nocturnal temperatures for nursery pigs. Other projects include Influence of storage bin design and feed characteristics on flowability of pig diets, protecting low ranking sows in group-housing systems, Assessment of a geothermal heating/cooling system in a commercial swine grow-finish building for reductions in feed and energy useage.

Station Report - Brian Richert – (Purdue): Update on the modeling of litter size and piglet weight distribution with subsequent performance and profitability. Additional work examining the impact of litter size adjustment factors is underway. Sow gestation research remains a focus of the group and recently completed evaluating the mixing of sows at day 28 post-breeding and if the sows

were mixed 0, 1, or 3 times (weekly) simulating different mixing strategies in group pen systems (no mix, single, or dynamic/long term mixing).

The remaining station reports were delayed until Friday morning.

USDA/NIFA update – Dr. Peter Johnson (10:30 AM; call to USDA office in Washington; we will be joined by some committee members not able to be on-site in NC). A great discussion regarding the resources available from USDA including automatic notification of RFP release took place. Additionally, NCERA-219 members received clarification regarding the type of proposals that might be acceptable in different research areas.

Lunch (a working lunch took place at 12:00 PM with lunch catered into the group)

Dr. Brian Richert led a discussion about submitting a USDA proposal examining floor space allocations to heavy finishing weights (350 lbs). This type of project would have both behavioral and well-being as well as performance aspects. We were able to garner two Animal Well-being specialists to participate in the project (Dr. Anna Johnson, Iowa State University and Dr. Yushi Li, University of Minnesota). It was the consensus of the group to move forward with a intent to submit letter to see if we are selected to submit a full proposal.

Research Project Updates (including publication status):

1. Reduced Nocturnal Temperature – discussion lead by Lee Johnston
2. Nursery Space Allocation Study -
3. Ingredient Switch – discussion led by Brian Richert
4. Sow step-up, step-down project – led by the group after calling Dale Rozeboom to check on status of paper

Murphy-Brown research director, Dr. Ashley DeDecker, led a discussion regarding internship opportunities with Murphy-Brown, LLC east coast operations. Additional discussions regarding the research direction for Murphy – Brown and possible collaborative efforts with members of the NCERA-219 group and others occurred. This type of collaboration is designed to develop a public – private partnership to conduct research that could not be conducted at current stations.

Dr. DeDecker provided the group a tour of Murphy-Brown Research facilities for those attendees meeting the biosecurity requirements.

Election of officers and establishment of time/location for 2013 meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 6:00 pm

November 16, 2012

Meeting called to order at 8:00 am

Station Report – Ken Stalder (Jay Harmon not attending) (Iowa) Both Stalder and Harmon have 3-way joint appointments. Record enrollment in Animal Science has brought about renewed focus on teaching. New Ag and Biosystems Engineering facilities are under construction at ISU. A number of swine management efforts are underway at ISU including looking at the interaction of DDGS inclusion rate and feeder space allowance in grow –finish pigs. Work also continues to objectively evaluate feet and leg soundness and to detect lameness in the breeding herd.

Station Report – Merlin Lindeman (Kentucky): Updates on nutrition work going on at the University of Kentucky. This work focuses on mycotoxins and their effects on diet digestability and preference in nursery pigs. Other work with fat sources and levels, nucleic acids, and vitamin D is on-going in nursery age piglets. Grow –Finish research has focused on withdrawal of DDGS in late finishing and its effect on quality traits of pork products. Additionally, work with exogenous enzymes in grow-finish pigs show promise to provide nutrient release in many diets. Sow research at the Kentucky station has focused on nutrient changes in fetal and maternal tissue of gilts fed organic selenium during gestation, different vitamin K levels, and using phytase in sow diets.

The next meeting will be at the University of Missouri as Dr. Marcia Shannon has offered to host us in 2013. The dates selected for this meeting are October 16-18. Dr. Shannon has also volunteered to serve as secretary for the year.