



# SUPPLEMENTAL MILK TALK

## BRIEFS:

“Drenching for TEATS”  
EARLY PIG CARE  
*See story at right*

Improved Nurse  
Sow Transition  
*See story at right*

At-Risk Pigs on  
Large Litters  
*See back page*

Increase Success with  
Small Pig Litters  
*See back page*

Upcoming Trade Shows  
*See back page*

Call Garrett Soppe today  
for more details.



1-800-487-3292  
gsoppe@supplemilk.com

## SUPPLEMENTAL MILK FEEDING: INTRODUCING A NEW CATEGORY FOR USING PIG MILK REPLACER

Within today's competitive business of producing pork, it's more important than ever to know your business, as well as to utilize technologies which are available to help you continue to get better. With modern genetics producing larger litters, additional tools are necessary to help sows wean more pigs without compromising weaning weight or quality.

We'll help you learn about different supplemental milk feeding practices, so you can remain knowledgeable and comfortable you're making the most informed decision for your business. There's a lot more to our story, as you'll see in other stories within our regular newsletter. So read, take note and profit from “Supplemental Milk Talk.”

### “DRENCHING FOR TEATS:” EARLY PIG CARE

Have your litter sizes reached the point where you are utilizing all your early pig care husbandry tools and there are still baby pigs you feel you could be saving? This is becoming the situation on more and more farms as modern genetic advancements are realized. **“Drenching for TEATS” helps you target at-risk pigs to improve pre-weaning mortality and increase the number of fully functional teats.**

At-risk pigs such as milk-deprived and smaller baby pigs are at a considerable disadvantage without the strength and energy necessary to properly stimulate their teat. Drenching target pigs with and providing Supp-Le-Milk in a starter cup will help these otherwise at-risk pigs become strong. **In less than a day**, between nursing their teat and taking snacks from the cup, these baby pigs can now suckle their teat empty, thereby encouraging Mother Nature to provide a full meal.

**“Drenching for TEATS”** is a practical technique which becomes easier over time. Once mastered, it's amazing how little milk and time it takes to make a remarkable difference! **Here are three applications** where your operation may benefit from this early pig care:

### 1) DRENCH FOR IMPROVED NURSE SOW TRANSITION

Use of nurse sows for starve-out baby pigs is common practice in today's production. Success with nurse sows can vary greatly depending on a number of factors. These factors include:

- 1) Foster sows not always accepting and nursing the new litter right away.
- 2) Starve-out baby pigs being at different levels of dehydration.



▲ If a baby pig becomes too dehydrated, it loses its suckling reflex.

Drenching starve-out baby pigs placed on nurse sows is critically important. *(Continued on back.)*

(Continued from front.) If a baby pig becomes too dehydrated, it loses its suckling reflex. Supp-Le-Milk in a starter cup provides additional energy to help the foster-litter pigs be more persistent and thereby encouraging the sow to roll over sooner and feed them. Several of the baby pigs will also take snacks from the cup between meals on the sow to help themselves rehydrate and thrive. After a couple of days, the starter cup can be removed.

## 2) TARGET AT-RISK PIGS ON LARGE LITTERS

Genetic companies have been quite successful in helping producers increase the number of baby pigs born per litter. With larger litters, there is less colostrum available per baby pig. Colostrum is important for two primary reasons:

- 1) To provide antibodies that will fight off infections.
- 2) To supply energy to help the baby pigs flourish until the sow's regular milk is available from their teat.

Split-suckling is a good practice to help even out colostrum intake per pig. In addition to this, many times there are litter-born as well as low-viable baby pigs which can benefit from drenching and providing Supp-Le-Milk. These targeted pigs will use energy from the cup between meals on the sow to become vigorous. Again, they can now positively make connection with their teat, encouraging Mother Nature to provide a full meal.

## 3) INCREASE SUCCESS WITH SMALL PIG LITTERS

As mentioned earlier, smaller baby pigs are at a disadvantage when it comes to having the ability to properly stimulate their teat. By drenching and providing Supp-Le-Milk in a starter cup, these pigs will also take snacks from the cup between meals on the sow to help themselves be as robust as possible. Hence, **stronger pigs have more success making connection with their teat.**



### MORE TIPS AND TRENDS

For more Production Tips & Trends, or to view previous "MILK TALK" newsletters, go to [www.supplemilk.com](http://www.supplemilk.com) and click on the "News" tab.

## TRY SUPP-LE-MILK ON A FEW LITTERS

Supp-Le-Milk Starter Cups are available for individual litter feeding.

It's easy to learn and in just two weeks you can see the results of effectively using Supp-Le-Milk as a tool to complement your production. With a Starter Kit and bag of Supp-Le-Milk, you have everything you need to try it. **What do you have to lose?** Give us a call today at 1-800-487-3292.

## SUPP-LE-MILK TRAINING VIDEO ONLINE

To view the training video, go to [www.supplemilk.com](http://www.supplemilk.com) then select the "Products" tab and click on "Drenching for TEATS."

## WHAT OTHER PRODUCERS ARE SAYING

*"It doesn't cost us money to use Supp-Le-Milk, it pays us to use it!"*  
— Karl Glaspie, Maple Grove Pork, North English, IA

*"We put the Supp-Le-Milk-system into 45 of our 250 farrowing crates in March of 2011. It is an easy system to use and to work with. It does not add any hours of labor, as we have been able to keep more piglets on each sow, eliminating the time taken for cross-fostering and making up extra pig litters. We have consistently weaned one more pig per litter, with the weight per piglet 500 grams (1.1 lbs.) more than the average on our 205 crates without the Supp-Le-Milk-system."*  
— Mark and Ken Verkuyl,  
Verkuyl Farms Ltd., Woodstock, Ontario, Canada

### SEE US AT:

- World Pork Expo, Des Moines, IA, June 6-8, 2012
- Ontario Pork Congress, Stratford, ON, June 19-20, 2012
- Rensselaer Swine Services, Rensselaer, IN, August 14, 2012
- Swine Technology Workshop, Red Deer, AB, October 31, 2012
- EuroTier, Hannover, Germany, November 13-16, 2012
- Minnesota Pork Congress, Minneapolis, MN, January 16-17, 2013
- Iowa Pork Congress, Des Moines, IA, January 23-24, 2013



Soppe Systems, Inc.  
1942 Honey Creek Road  
Manchester, IA 52057