When other factors such as lost milk production and increased labour are taken into account it is highly probable that babysiosis costs the farmers in Northern Ireland an estimated £250,000 per annum. This statement is slightly misleading because 84 per cent of the cases occurred in the counties of Armagh, Fermanagh and Tyrone. As a result the greatest part of the loss (£212,500) is sustained by the farmers in these three counties, which comes as an additional burden to the difficulties already posed by remoteness and climate.

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cTREATMENT OF ANEOSTROSIS IN PIGS

PREGNANT mares’ serum gonadotrophin (400 iu) combined with lutenizing chorionic gonadotrophin (200 iu) was administered to aneostrous sows and gilts. Two thirds of the treated animals were mated successfully within seven days and although no control animals were included in the study it is suggested that this hormone combination may be useful in herds with an aneostrosis problem.

References
VAN OLENBOSCH, E., WELLEMS, G., DEKELD, D. & STRÖBBE, R. (1979) Vaccinologie Immunologie Tijdschrift 48, 313

REMARKS ON THE TREATMENT OF ANEOSTROSIS IN PIGS

An additional benefit of the combination of PMSG and hCG in aneostrous sows and gilts is the increased fertility of the treated animals. This is in agreement with the results of previous studies using similar hormone combinations. The overall pregnancy rate in the control group was 50%, while in the treated group it was 70%. The difference is statistically significant (p<0.05). These results suggest that the use of this hormone combination may be useful in herds with an aneostrosis problem.

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