HOG CHOLERA CAN BE CONTROLLED.

B. A. Beach, Assistant Veterinarian, College of Agriculture.

If the swine raising industry is to be put on a firm basis, the most serious of all swine diseases, hog cholera, must be controlled.

The fact that this disease year after year devastates whole counties, and also that it may appear on any farm at any place without warning, lends to the swine raising industry an uncertainty which has driven many farmers and breeders from the field.

Hog cholera serum, if properly applied, will obviate all serious losses from this disease. No other agent can be relied upon.

Temporary Immunity

It has been the custom of many men who vaccinate to do so after the disease has made its appearance in the herd. This is a last resort which will usually save enough hogs to more than pay for the serum and its administration, but it must be understood that the serum is a preventive and not a cure. When the disease makes its appearance in the herd, all non-infected hogs can be saved by the injection of serum. It is at times difficult, however, to tell which hogs are infected, in view of the fact that an animal can harbor the virus for several days without showing any physical symptoms, or even any rise in temperature. A considerable loss, therefore, must be expected from this procedure. The injection of serum alone will render a hog immune for three to six weeks.

Permanent Immunity

If permanent immunity is desired, a small quantity of virus or blood from a cholera-sick pig must be injected. It is evident that the injection of blood from a cholera-sick pig is a dangerous procedure, as this blood is capable of producing acute hog cholera and unless potent serum in sufficient quantity is injected at the same time, disastrous results will follow.

There are two methods of producing a permanent immunity; the injection of serum, followed in five to fourteen days with more serum and virus, or the injection of the virus and serum at the same time. In either case, a small percentage of loss must be expected. However, the preliminary injection of serum builds the animal up, so that the subsequent injection of serum and virus does not produce the shock and sometimes serious losses that are attendant on the latter method.

A Permanently Immune Herd

Whatever method is employed to combat this disease, those animals
which are to be retained for breeders should be permanently immunized. Then every year when the pigs reach fifty pounds in weight, they too should be vaccinated. In this way all serious losses will be prevented and the farmer may feed as many hogs as he can fit for the market without fear that cholera will at any time appear and annihilate his herd.

Precautions

If good results are to be had, the serum must be used with judgment. As has been stated, it is not a cure but a preventive agent. Vaccination against hog cholera in infected herds has not always been attended with good results, owing largely to the very erratic nature of this disease. In those outbreaks where the hogs die very rapidly, some of them before the onset of any noticeable symptoms, the injection of serum will do very little good. On the other hand, in those outbreaks of a less acute nature, the injection of serum not infrequently will result in the saving of more than ninety per cent.

Do not attempt to use virus yourself. A State law limits its use to experienced veterinarians only. The indiscriminate use of virus (disease-producing blood) has been known to start hog cholera in a locality.

Several days before the hogs are to be injected, they should be confined in clean, dry quarters and fed lightly on soft feed. This should be continued two weeks after vaccination if virus is used. All temperatures should be taken at the time of vaccination and virus given to none showing an elevation of 104 to 105, depending on conditions.

Summary of Results with Various Methods of Vaccinating Hogs Against Cholera in Wisconsin

(To June 30, 1914)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Method of Vaccination</th>
<th>Condition when Treated</th>
<th>Number Treated</th>
<th>Deaths</th>
<th>Recoveries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serum—alone</td>
<td>Healthy</td>
<td>5,369</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>5,358</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Infected</td>
<td>6,009</td>
<td>957</td>
<td>5,052</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simultaneous</td>
<td>Healthy</td>
<td>850</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>744</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Infected</td>
<td>449</td>
<td>166</td>
<td>283</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Combination</td>
<td>Healthy</td>
<td>4,524</td>
<td>210</td>
<td>4,314</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Infected</td>
<td>372</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>337</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All methods</td>
<td>Healthy</td>
<td>10,743</td>
<td>327</td>
<td>10,416</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Infected</td>
<td>6,820</td>
<td>1,148</td>
<td>5,672</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>17,563</td>
<td>1,475</td>
<td>16,088</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Care should be exercised in cleaning the site of the injection, as the introduction of filth may give rise to blood poisoning or abscess formation. The best place to inject is the arm-pit in small pigs; large hogs may be shubbed to a post and injected behind the ear. The foregoing table shows the results of the various methods of vaccination last year.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS.

The report of the Committee on Resolutions was submitted by its chairman, Mr. L. E. Scott, and unanimously adopted, as follows:

Resolutions

WHEREAS, We believe that further academic training for our farmers’ sons and daughters after they complete the eighth grade work and issue from the rural schools at the average age of 14 years is the greatest educational question that now confronts the American people, and

WHEREAS, The results of sending these young people to our city high schools, with nothing to do outside of school hours, and to be away from home at that critical, formative period of adolescence, when they so much need the restraint of parental control, have not been satisfactory, and

WHEREAS, As a very small percentage of such high school graduates have returned to the farm, and

WHEREAS, As a result of this condition many farmer parents have been obliged to sell or rent their farms in their declining years, be it therefore

RESOLVED, That we urge our State Superintendent of Public Instruction and all educational authorities and forces to use their utmost endeavor to encourage the establishment of township high schools with a course of training better adapted to the needs of those intending to engage in farming or other industrial pursuits than the courses provided in our city high schools, with a winter’s short course for such students as are needed upon the farm during the summer months.

RESOLVED, That we believe that every township should provide all academic education needed by our young citizens within driving distance of their parental roof-tree.

WHEREAS, The World’s Fair Commission have responded to a resolution passed at our last Annual Round-up Farmers’ Institute, asking that a liberal portion of the $75,000.00 appropriated for a Wisconsin exhibit at the Panama-Pacific Exposition be used for a creditable live stock and agricultural exhibit, by setting aside $10,000.00 for such exhibit, be it

RESOLVED, That we thank the above named Commission for said recognition of the claims of Wisconsin live stock and agricultural interests.

From the proper and necessary activities of this meeting, we are constrained to pause and with bowed heads to pay tribute to the memory of our friend and co-worker, Captain Alexander A. Arnold whose passing occurred but a few days ago. The greater part of his long and well-rounded life has been spent in Wisconsin, doing pioneer work and ever standing for better agriculture, better live stock, better education, better homes, better government and better citizenship. With profound re-