

# ATTACHMENT A - IMPACT OF PMWS IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES

## New Zealand

The New Zealand Ministry for Agriculture and Forestry (MAF) has estimated costs entailed with alternative options for responding to the PMWS outbreak. The option of depopulating and decontaminating affected herds has been estimated at costing up to NZ\$174,000 for the owner of and NZ\$134,000 to MAF for each affected 100 sow finishing enterprise<sup>1</sup>. In light of MAF's advice that either national or regional depopulation would be ineffectual, the NZ Pork Industry Board has indicated that it is considering containing the disease through slaughtering affected herds, a cost that will be borne by the pork industry.

## EU Experience

In the European Union as a whole PMWS is responsible for a reduction of 8M pigs, a loss of £562M or €900M. It is estimated that an epidemic of PMWS in Australia of similar proportion to our northern counterparts would add 15% to the cost of pig meat production in affected herds. The experience of the Netherlands and Britain highlights the extent of the substantial economic damage PMWS could potentially inflict on the Australian pork industry.

## The Netherlands

The total estimated cost of PMWS in the Netherlands is ~ 30 - 35 Million € per year. The impact has included<sup>2</sup>:

- 70-80% of pig farms have been affected
- After the PMWS outbreak mortality rates increased (post: 3-5%; pre-PMWS: 1-2%).
- Mortality of 1-2% of all pigs due to PMWS
  - 1-2% of 20 million pigs/year
  - approximately 10-15 million Euro/year
- Breeding herds
  - Growth reduction due to PMWS 3.5M€/year
  - Medicine costs, vets, etc. 3.5M€/year
- Finishing herds
  - incomes due to PMWS 13.5M€/year (TBC)

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<sup>1</sup> Post Weaning Multisystemic Wasting Syndrome Response Options Analysis New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry 7 November 2003.

<sup>2</sup> Correspondence with Derek Armstrong - MLC Veterinary Scientist, Veterinary Department, Meat and Livestock Commission, December 2003.

## Great Britain

Some of the major economic costs of PMWS in Britain has included<sup>3</sup>:

- PMWS 10-15% mortality
- Some batches 20 - 40% and up to 100%
- Mortality 2% to 5% higher in "recovered" herds
- costs of production - 1p/kg for every 1% ( in mortality)

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<sup>3</sup> Correspondence with Derek Armstrong - MLC Veterinary Scientist, Veterinary Department, Meat and Livestock Commission, December 2003.