



176 Research paper

**Association between antimicrobial usage, biosecurity measures**

**as well as farm performance in German farrow-to-finish farms**  
by Raasch, S., Postma, M., Dewulf, J., Stärk, K.D.C. and E. grosse  
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In **Significant Impact Groups:**

Biosecurity \ Pathogen management

Species targeted: Pigs;

Age: Young;Adult;

**Summary:**

In this study, comprising in 60 German farrow-to- finish herds, the variations of high and low usage the treatment incidence per age group were analyzed and linked to biosecurity measures, and herd management characteristics.

Weaned pigs received most of the treatments followed by suckling pigs. Suckling pigs were very often treated with critically important antimicrobials. The number of sows and a low score for external biosecurity were associated with a higher antimicrobial usage in pigs from birth till slaughter. Herds with a higher treatment incidence in growing pigs: i) were located in a region with a high pig density ii) had less strict control for visitors and personnel and iii) had lower 'cleaning and disinfection' scores (internal biosecurity). Herds with a higher treatment incidence in breeding pigs weaned more piglets per sow and year and scored better in the internal biosecurity level.

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**Where to find the original material:**

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/30564434>; <https://doi.org/10.1186/s40813-018-0106-5>

Country: DE; BE; CH