



**ESPHM**

**2020+1**

12<sup>th</sup> EUROPEAN SYMPOSIUM  
OF PORCINE HEALTH MANAGEMENT

April 14<sup>th</sup> - April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021



# PROCEEDINGS

April 14<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>, 2021

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# WELCOME MESSAGE

Dear Ladies & Gentlemen, colleagues, and friends

The ESPHM 2020+1 was jointly organized by the European College of Porcine Health Management (ECPHM) that further engaged outstanding European pig practitioners (Veterinary Practitioner Council, VPC) and a Local Organizing Committee (LOC). However, the current situation regarding the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic has not improved compared to last year, but it is even worse today. Although vaccination campaigns have started all over Europe, the incidence rates remain high, lockdowns have been implemented in many countries, and it has become evident that travelling and/or meeting is neither possible nor even meaningful in this time. Therefore, the organizing committee - namely the ECPHM Board - together with the Professional Conference Organizer (Vet International) has taken the decision to substitute the physical meeting by an online event.

The ESPHM 2020+1 differs from previous editions of the Symposium that started in Copenhagen (Denmark) in 2009 with 220 delegates. Since the beginning, the congress has evolved at all levels, with more than 1,900 delegates in the edition in Barcelona, Spain, in 2018. This is an evident proof of the increasing interest that the scientific contents of the ESPHM offers, not only to European veterinarians but also to the international community. Although settled in Europe, the ESPHM aspires to be a source of updated knowledge and know-how in its field for the whole world.

None of the above has been and is feasible without the contribution of speakers, delegates, and chairpersons, or without the support of the funding of partners, sponsors, and supporters.

Our deep thanks to all of them; they are the core of the ESPHM 2020+1! Moreover, our deep appreciation to the board members of the ECPHM, the members of the Veterinary Practitioner Council (VPC), and the additional members of the International Scientific Committee since they care for the soul and the spirit of the ESPHM.

We provide the scientific content and valuable information from our partners, sponsors and supporters online. This enables all interested persons to update their knowledge and to stay informed about the most recent scientific and practical achievements in Porcine Health Management. Please enjoy the online content and proceedings of the ESPHM 2020+1.

We sincerely hope to see you all again in Budapest (HU) in 2022!

**Heiko Nathues**  
*President of the ECPHM*

# COMMITTEES

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## PROFILING MYCOPLASMA HYOPNEUMONIAE IN FIVE MACEDONIAN COMMERCIAL PIG FARMS USING SEROLOGY AND LUNG LESIONS SCORING

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### Background and Objectives

*Mycoplasma hyopneumoniae* is a causative agent of enzootic pneumonia in pigs and it has primary role in the porcine respiratory diseases complex (PRDC). The objective of the study was to profile *M. hyopneumoniae* infections in five Macedonian commercial pig farms by serology and by lung lesions assessment at slaughter.

### Material and Methods

Five commercial pig farms (A, B, C, D, E) vaccinating against *M. hyopneumoniae* were included in the study. During a single visit, blood samples were taken from five different pig categories including 6, 10, 14, 18 and 22 weeks of age. Ten animals per age group from each farm were sampled and analyzed for the presence of antibodies using ELISA. In total 250 lungs (50 lungs per farm) were evaluated and scored for lesions typical of *M. hyopneumoniae* at slaughterhouse.

### Results

All farms were seropositive to *M. hyopneumoniae*. Statistical differences in the prevalence of positive animals were detected in 10 weeks (range 0 to 80%), 14 weeks (range 20 to 100%) and 22 weeks (30 to 100%) old groups. Serological trend in farm A was similar with farm E, whilst farm B had similar serological response with farm C. Mean lung lesion score (LLS) for all farms was 11.5, while significantly higher LLS was observed in farms D (14.4) and A (13.6) in contrast to farms C (8) and B (9.5).

### Discussion and Conclusion

The results indicate that farms A and E revealed best serological response due to vaccination. Lower LLS found in farms B and C is probably associated with additional managerial practices besides vaccination. Combination of proper vaccination protocol and good managerial practices could improve overall profile in Macedonian commercial pig farms regarding *M. hyopneumoniae* and PRDC in general.