DOES GROUP SIZE IMPACT EFFICIENCY OF MARKET HOG MOVEMENT?

Seaboard Foods Pork Processing Facility Guymon, OK

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Misconceptions of employees regarding animal movements?

- Idea of “more hogs moved at once is faster”
- Less trips back and forth from lariage pens to staging/stunning
- The more hogs moved per sort the less “chain gaps”
- Supervisor perception is employees are working harder
- Management further down the system will be satisfied with my work performance
ENTERING STAGING AREA
Hypothesis or “Question” Posed

- Does group size or overfilling stunner alleys impact efficiency of hog movement and time from lairage to stunners
Observations of Higher Stocking Density in Stunner Pens

- Increased rearing
- Increased vocalization
- Sorting difficulties
- Excessive hog movement
Data Collection

Measured:

*Elapsed time from staging to stunning
Staging Pen Observation
Area 1

Target (28 hogs)

Trial (38-43 hogs)
AREA 2
Staging Pen Observation
Area 2

Target
(42 hogs)

Trial
(58-60 hogs)
Data:
Times observed when pens were over target

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area 1</th>
<th>Area 2</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Average of 5 min. for the entire group to go into the stunners</td>
<td>Average of 7 min. for the entire group to go into the stunners</td>
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Data:
Time observed when pens were filled with the target numbers (Area 1 - 28 and Area 2 – 42)

Area 1: Average of 3 min. for the entire group to go into the stunners
Area 2: Average of 5 min. for the entire group to go into the stunners
Time Influencing Hogs Per Minute

Bleed Chain - Goal Per Hour

• =1150 hogs per hour
• =19 hogs per minute

Project

• Average of 2 minutes saved by moving hogs in smaller groups
• An average of 38 hogs gained per hour using smaller group sizes
QUESTIONS?

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