Introduction

In some area of France, almost 20% of the farms are concerned with enzootic neonatal diarrhoea (END) (Sialelli et al., 2009). On-farm investigations conclude that many different bacteria such as Clostridium perfringens type A, Clostridium difficile, Enterococcus durans and others may be isolated but not consistently (Gin, 2008). Our hypothesis is that END origin at the sow level. The aim of this study was to describe the parturition in herds with END in comparison of herds without END.

Material and Methods

Selection of herds: among 100 herds from the same Coop (COOPERL-Arc Atlantique, Brittany, France), nine commercial herds were retained according to presence or absence of END but also on the level of productivity, hygiene, management and stockmanship: 4 herds were regularly affected by END and 5 herds without any history of diarrhea. The farrowing has been followed in 26 sows (Table 1).

Measures: chronoparts (individual time at birth of littermates), piglets’ weight at birth and at 24 h of age (in order to estimate colostrum production) and colostral data (IgG) were obtained.

Results and Discussion

Only data on farrowing duration is reported. Data on IgG in colostrum and piglets’ sera has been previously reported (Sialelli et al., 2009).

Parities 1 and 2 sows presented more risk to develop piglets’ END (OR=3.6, p<0.05). Duration of farrowing was longer in affected sows in affected herds than in unaffected ones. In affected herds, the duration of farrowing of unaffected sows was intermediate between unaffected sows and sows from control herds (Table 1). Pattern of farrowing is different according to the size of the litter (Figure 1).

Conclusion

END is probably a consequence of a problem at the sow level. Investigations are under evaluation to approach farrowing in herds affected by long farrowing (Sialelli et al., 2010).

References

Sialelli J-N et al., Proceedings IPVS 2010