

## New Fly Screen Reduces Risk of Infection

**SKOV contributes to a sustainable food production that ensures optimum conditions for the animals. The company is now launching a new fly screen that reduces the risk of infection in pig productions.**

“Viral diseases are a major threat to the global pig industry, as they not only cause pain for the infected animals but also result in severe economic losses for the affected farmer,” says Hans Ulrik Jensen, Pig Production Specialist, SKOV A/S. Nevertheless, many pig farmers are forced to face the reality of viruses such as PRRS, PED and African Swine Fever (ASF), as various farms across the globe contract viruses every year.

The most common path of infection in pigs is either through direct contact between sick and healthy animals or a more indirect transmission such as contaminated feed, water, vehicles, clothes, etc. However, for some outbreaks, the source of infection is unexplainable, as even farms adhering to strict biosecurity get infected too.

The unexplainable outbreaks have induced researchers to search for new alternative sources of infection. Flies are one of the objects that have been the center of the investigation and results from a recent Danish experiment have shown that flies can transmit ASF viruses if they either bite the pigs or if the pigs eat them. Other studies support these results as they have revealed that flies also can serve as vectors of other viruses such as PRRS and PED.

Hans Ulrik expresses his concern about these new findings. “The recent research that confirms the ability of the flies to transfer viruses is an incentive to take radical steps to reduce the number of flies entering the livestock houses. One of the means to reduce the entry of flies is to cover the areas where flies access the building, and that is the purpose of SKOV’s new fly screen.”

The new DA 1200 fly screen from SKOV is designed to cover the wall inlets in the livestock house so that air intake through the wall inlets would have to pass the fly screen and thus prevents potentially infected flies from entering the house. There are different fly screens on the market, but Hans Ulrik explains how SKOV’s product stands out from the other solutions. “SKOV’s fly screen is a standardized solution for wall inlet assembly facilitating both mounting and cleaning of the screens”.

The DA 1200 fly screen is released for sale at the end of November and is presented at SKOV’s booth at the EuroTier show on 13-16 November 2018 or the Agromek on 27-30 November 2018. At the Agromek show, the fly screen is nominated for the Agromek Award 2018.

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