

Pig Health – Lactation length in sows and weaning age in piglets

First Name:		Last Name:		
Email:			Veterinary Practice:	
Postcode:		Date:		

Please circle one answer only e.g. **A**

- Which of the following statements is true?
 - Weaning age of piglets and lactation length of sows are the same
 - In a continuously producing commercial pig farm average lactation length of the sow exceeds average weaning age of the piglets
 - In a continuously producing commercial pig farm average weaning age of the piglets exceeds average lactation length of the sow
 - In a continuously producing commercial pig farm actual individual lactation length of the sow exceeds actual weaning age of the piglets
- Using late foster sows to rear surplus pigs will tend to
 - Reduce average lactation length
 - Increase average weaning age
 - Increase average lactation length
 - Have no effect on either weaning age or lactation length
- The use of hyperprolific sows will
 - Reduce average weaning age
 - Increase average weaning age
 - Reduce average lactation length
 - Have no effect on either weaning age or lactation length
- Early weaning of sows will have the effect of
 - Improving subsequent fertility
 - Increasing subsequent litter size
 - Producing a piglet that is easier to rear
 - Decreasing subsequent litter size
- In the USA early weaning is still practiced successfully. This is achievable because
 - Sows are fed on plasma
 - Weaned piglets are fed on plasma
 - The energy costs in the US are high
 - It is demanded by US consumers
- The immunity gap in pigs occurs
 - Below 16 days
 - Below 21 days
 - Between 21&28 days
 - Beyond 28days
- The shorter the lactation length
 - The better will fertility be subsequently
 - The higher the farrowing index will tend to be
 - The more food can be consumed by the sow
 - The better the piglets will be at weaning
- A piglet weaned 1kg heavier
 - will reach slaughter 9-10 days earlier
 - will reach slaughter 9-10 days later

- c. will be more difficult to rear
 - d. needs plasma to be reared
9. In the UK the absolute minimum legal age for weaning a piglet other than in exceptional circumstances is
- a. 28 days old
 - b. 21 days old
 - c. 21 days old but only if weaned into a cleansed and disinfected pen away from other sows
 - d. 5 weeks of age
10. Which of the following is true of batch production systems?
- a. They have no effect on weaning age
 - b. They have no effect on lactation length
 - c. They assist weaning pigs of the same age
 - d. They risk weaning pigs of widely differing ages