



## Norman knocks breeding gilt ileitis on the head

Norman White relies on producing top-quality gilts to select the breeding females for his 500-sow closed herd, which produces bacon-weight finished pigs. But traditionally his unit has suffered a problem with acute ileitis in 5-10 per cent of gilts after they are moved from the finishing house.

The worry was that other gilts had the potentially devastating disease without showing symptoms and that their performance would be adversely affected, too.

Mr White, whose unit is at Egford, near Frome in Somerset, decided after discussions with his veterinary adviser to vaccinate his gilts with Enterisol® Ileitis, an oral vaccine only recently available in the UK.

That was just a few months ago. But, already, the results have been astounding, he says. "All clinical disease has gone, and there has been a brilliant improvement in the gilts. They are growing better, are a lot fitter and in better condition – better backfat levels, for example. Our vets were astonished at the level of improvement in such a short time."

He is so pleased with the productivity gained that he is now vaccinating all pigs from about weaning age.