

Dear Members,

Invitation to the joint PVS/SFT Autumn Meeting, Forest of Arden 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> November, 2023

It is with great pleasure that we invite you to join the joint PVS/SFT Autumn Meeting. This meeting has been jointly arranged by the PVS and SFT and has been kindly sponsored by DSM and we are extremely grateful for their support. This provides a really excellent opportunity for vets, nutritionists and allied industry members to come together to discuss and debate the important issues and topics affecting the pig industry currently.

The scientific programme has been organised by Eduardo Velaquez and Tom Iveson from PVS and Richard Remmer, Tegan Whiting and Emily Marshall from the SFT. We are extremely grateful to them all as well as MYT and Jemma Stephenson, the PVS webmaster, for the organisation of what we hope is going to be another excellent meeting.

The meeting will start with a session focussing on the marketplace discussing key areas such as the finished pig price, feed and raw material trends and finishing with a look at consumer demand. After lunch we will move on to look at life beyond therapeutic zinc oxide and focus our minds as current stocks of zinc oxide have, or nearly have, run out. The session will begin with Roberto Bardini, an Italian vet and now working as a nutritionist, who will share his practical experiences without zinc oxide. This will be followed by Dr Ramon Muns who will discuss the research he has been involved with, into alternative strategies to cope without zinc. The session will finish with Dr Anisha Thanki who will update us on the potential use of bacteriophages as a tool to help us in the future.

The third and final session of day one will focus on reducing the risk of disease introduction and we are delighted to have Dr Scott Dee joining us. Scott will cover the area of viral transmission in feed, an area he has been working in for several years. This will be followed by Dr Kristian Moller who will present the PRRS eradication programme he is involved with in Denmark. The session will close with Dr Vittorio Guberti who will update us on the ASF situation in Italy.

The PVS will then hold their OGM which will be followed by the conference dinner which will allow a great opportunity to network and make new contacts as well as enjoying the social occasion.

Day two begins with the clinical club run by the young PVS members and will be filled with new, challenging or interesting cases from both vets and nutritionists. There will also be a presentation from the Edgar Pye Scholarship winner James Cullen on the topic of "Investigating the impact of sanitisation of the feeding system on the bacterial and fungal microbiota of liquid feed and liquid feeding systems for pigs". This will be followed by our Sponsors Slot from DSM-Firmenich which will cover Vitamin D: from conception to slaughter and be presented by Xandra Benthem de Grave from Schothorst.

The final session of day two will cover welfare and will begin with Professor Rick D'Eath covering the work he has done in the early detection of tail biting using cameras. We will then move on to the area of calcium and phosphorus requirements in relation to sows and gilts and the effect on replacement rates and longevity. We are delighted to have Professor Tom Crenshaw join us to present his work on calcium and phosphorus requirements. He will be followed by Dutch nutritionist Rene Bonekamp who will take a practical look at gilt rearing and sow longevity with a focus on welfare.

Finally, a couple of quick reminders regarding registration and our meeting formats. Registrations are done via the PVS website (<https://www.pigvetsoc.org.uk/meetings/2023-autumn-meeting>). SFT delegates need to be members of their own society before they can register on the PVS website. If you experience any problems, please contact PVS Webmaster: [webmaster@pigvetsoc.org.uk](mailto:webmaster@pigvetsoc.org.uk) for PVS members or Inge Verwoerd the SFT Secretary [secretary@sft.uk.com](mailto:secretary@sft.uk.com)

Please note Early Bird Registration closes 2 weeks before the meeting and if you wish to benefit from the substantially cheaper registration (and help our meetings organisers immeasurably) it is wise to get registered before this time.

Our meetings are members-only, closed events. We wish the current format to be maintained whereby all members can benefit from both the science, and opinion, discussed at our meetings, and indeed feel free to contribute openly. Sharing of presented material on social or other media should not be done without express, advanced permission of the presenter and meeting organisers. Non-members are welcome to attend by prior agreement – requests should be made to [president@pigvetsoc.org.uk](mailto:president@pigvetsoc.org.uk). We look forward to seeing as many of you as are able to attend.

Your sincerely

Lysan Eppink  
PVS President 2023–2024

Richard Remmer  
SFT President 2023–2025

The Pig Veterinary Society (PVS) is a specialist division of the British Veterinary Association. The membership of PVS includes veterinary surgeons and scientists who work in the pig sector, and the Society aims to assist its members in their professional lives by ensuring they have access to the latest information with regards pig health and production. PVS also represents the membership at a national level, making sure that pig welfare is a priority considering the latest research with regards health and management on farm.

The SOCIETY OF FEED TECHNOLOGISTS (SFT), which was formed in 1967, provides a forum open to those interested in the production and welfare of farmed livestock, to meet and discuss common issues and developments in a non-competitive environment. Membership is multi-disciplinary and is open to animal nutritionists, feed technologists, recipe formulators, academics, pharmacologists, veterinary surgeons, geneticists, feed mill managers, farm advisors etc.