

## THE PREVALENCE OF LEPTOSPIROSIS IN LITHUANIAN SWINE FARMS

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**Abstract.** Pig breeding is one of the main agricultural trades in Lithuania. Leptospirosis is one of the most common swine diseases in farms. The knowledge of the prevalence of leptospirosis in the Lithuanian swine farms would contribute to evaluation of risk and taking actions to avoid economical loses in farms. The study was conducted in 2010. In 2009–2010, blood Serum samples were randomly obtained from 1266 pigs, from 19 districts and 28 swine farms (13 small, 10 middle and 5 large swine farms). The samples were tested by microscopic agglutination method for antibodies against leptospira. Of 1266 blood sera, there were 542 positive reactions from 17 swine farms; only two districts (Šilalė and Rokiškis) were considered leptospirosis-free. The samples from swine farms in Anykščiai and Raseiniai were positive. The seropositive for leptospira swine herds from the middle size farms accounted for 71.8%. The serovar *L. bratislava* was the most common in blood samples. Other detected serovars were: *L. pomona*, *L. copenhageni*, *L. tarassovi*. For finding out which of the pigs were more seropositive than others, they was divided in 4 groups: sows, boars, fattening pigs, and gilts (young female pigs). The group of sows was most leptospira positive (51.7%). The serovar *bratislava* was most common in blood samples of sows from the middle size swine farms of Anykščiai and Raseiniai districts.

**Keywords:** *swine, Leptospira, leptospirosis, Lithuania, pig.*