

Canada: Stomach trouble disputed in GE hog feed study

The following is an edited excerpt.

The colour of a slaughtered hog's stomach lining shouldn't be taken as a sign that feed made with genetically-modified crops gave the live hog a belly ache, an Ontario veterinary professor warns.

Dr. Robert Friendship, a swine health management specialist at the University of Guelph's Ontario Veterinary College, was responding last week to a paper by an Australian-led team studying a U.S. hog herd in this month's issue of the Journal of Organic Systems.

Friendship wrote that it was incorrect for the researchers in the JOS report to conclude one group of hogs had more stomach inflammation than the other, "because the researchers did not examine stomach inflammation." Rather, he wrote, the team led by Australian biochemist Judy Carman "did a visual scoring of the colour of the lining of the stomach of pigs at the abattoir and misinterpreted redness to indicate evidence of inflammation. It does not."

Read the full story here: Stomach trouble disputed in GM hog feed study