

Patterns of Pre-weaning Piglet Mortality and Economic Losses in Field Condition

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Abstract—*The study was purposively taken up with the objective to find out the patterns of pre-weaning piglet mortality and economic losses in field condition. The study was purposively taken up in the Gorkhaland Territorial Administration area where pig farming is a common practice. The study shows that overall pre-weaning piglet mortality was 15.62 percent where it was slightly higher in exotic than indigenous breed. Highest pre-weaning mortality was recorded among 0-15 days age group piglets mainly during winter months and in third parity of dam. The major reasons of pre-weaning piglet mortality found in the study area were chilling, piglet anaemia and scouring. Overall economic losses due to pre-weaning piglet mortality were more than 12 lakhs during last 3 years in which it was around Rs 3.5 lakhs in indigenous breed and around 8.5 lakhs in exotic breed during last 3 years. Economic losses due to pre-weaning piglet mortality was recorded highest for scouring followed by chilling and low birth weight in indigenous breed whereas it was highest for piglet anaemia followed by chilling and scouring in exotic breed.*

Keywords: *Piglet mortality, Indigenous breed, Exotic breed, Piglet anaemia*