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This document is to provide awareness and encourage action planning prior to your Spring swine weigh-in.

Holding a swine weigh-in at a single location can create biosecurity challenges similar to a buying station. All exhibitors' pigs coming from different growing sites may have different health statuses or disease history.

To establish perspective, we suggest viewing the fairgrounds as being potentially positive for swine diseases. Diseases such as PEDV (porcine epidemic diarrhea virus), swine influenza, erysipelas, PRRS (porcine respiratory and reproduction syndrome), Senecavirus A (Seneca Valley Virus) and others may enter the fairgrounds.

Why is this important?

To protect each youth exhibitor, our local pork producers and pork industry, to the best of our ability.

Example - PEDV which can be transmitted/spread in contaminated feces. If no biosecurity measures are followed, one pig infected with PEDV could contaminate the scale equipment, anything which contacted the pigs, and the area/ground from scale to truck if the pig defecated or straw/bedding came off the truck, **this could infect all subsequent pigs weighed in.**

Communication is key

The purpose of this document is to increase awareness and stress the need for everyone to communicate openly as the actions or inactions of one person can impact everyone.

Extension Staff: Week(s) prior to weigh-in: (Important for scheduling at weigh-in)

1. Establish potential PEDV status on each exhibitor **Confirmed Positive** (lab test), **Potential Positive** (diarrhea within 5 weeks of weigh-in), **Assumed Negative**.
2. Review volunteer personnel that help with weigh-in. Discourage producers with sow or farrow-finish operations. Consider requesting active pork producers to help with beef weigh-in and active beef producers to help with swine weigh-in to reduce biosecurity issues with PEDV.

Exhibitor: Prior to weigh-in:

1. If possible, house selected pigs for 3 days (prefer 7 days) in an isolation pen for observation.
2. **Watch for and report signs of illness** to the Swine Weigh-in Committee. Signs may include:
 - a. Loss of appetite (off feed or complete feed refusal) - while uncommon, report.
 - b. Loose stools (diarrhea) or vomiting.
 - c. Cough or hard time breathing ("thumping").
 - d. Nasal discharge.
 - e. Vesicles (blisters) around the snout or above the hoof wall.
 - f. Skin discoloration.
3. Focus on proper cleaning of all equipment.
 - a. All transport vehicles, trailers and other pig-handling equipment (sort boards, paddles, etc.) should be free of manure and bedding, cleaned, disinfected and dried prior to adding new bedding and loading the animals.

Select a disinfectant with a label claim for Coronaviruses such as Synergize, Tek-Trol®, DC&R®, Accel® and Virkon®-S and others.

PEDV likes to hitch a ride, separate yourself from cross contamination. PEDV within infected feces can survive on different materials and survive longer in cool, damp conditions. Organic matter (shavings, manure) or water, mud or snow can carry diseases on boots, clothing, tires, undercarriages, trailers, shovels, winter panels, sorting panels and people can infect healthy pigs. Other activities, such as walking into a contaminated barn, packing plant or veterinary clinic can increase risk for disease spread because boots and trailers can become contaminated with diseases you are trying to keep out. Assume every site you touch is a risk.

Extension Staff: Prioritize and Schedule weigh-in times or order of exhibitors based upon PEDV status.

1. Prioritize operation type and PEDV status on each exhibitor:
 - b. **Assumed Negative** with sows (farrowing).
 - c. **Assumed Negative** with only growing pigs.
 - d. **Potential Positive** (diarrhea within 5 weeks of weigh-in).
 - e. **Confirmed Positive** (lab test).

Exhibitor: At the weigh-in assume there is PEDV risk. Exhibitor, parent and pig handlers should wear clean clothes and footwear with no obvious fecal material.

1. Bring at least two people for process (one in trailer, one holder to transfer pigs to/from scale).
2. Remain in truck until it is your turn to weigh-in.
3. As exiting truck cab, each person puts on plastic boots.
 - a. Trailer person – put on second layer of plastic boots as enters trailer, remain in trailer until all pigs processed, will remove second layer as exiting trailer and finally remove first layer as re-entering truck cab.

- b. Pig holder person – do not enter trailer. Remove plastic boots as re-entering truck cab to leave.
4. If farm boots are worn, they should arrive clean with no fecal/organic material. Slipping disposable boots over these is the best way to protect the weigh-in area and the home farm. Once they hit ground/cement of weigh-in site assume they are dirty. These boots or plastic covers need to be removed as re-entering truck cab and boots placed in garbage bag/container to be washed or disposed before returning to the farm.
5. Have a garbage bag for disposing used plastic boots. Carry another for clothes that may be dirty. Dispose of disposable coverings before leaving weigh-in site.
6. Keep the health papers in a zip-lock bag in case you drop them on the ground.
7. Limit the exposure of your pigs to the facility and equipment as much as possible.
8. If an animal is suspect to be ill at the time of handling, manage that animal last.
9. Processing pigs. Weighing and Tagging:
 - a. Have exhibitor/holder transfer pig to/from scale.
 - b. Scale operator and tagger should wear disposable gloves.
 - c. Thoroughly wash and disinfect the scale, tagger, support equipment and area around it at the end of weigh-in before next exhibitor/pig source.

Exhibitor: Arriving home after weigh-in

1. Pigs should be placed in isolation.
 - a. **Work with your veterinarian for an isolation plan.** Establish the isolation/observation period ___ days before returning to contact with other pigs in order to detect an illness.
 - b. Isolation daily care –use different clothing, footwear and equipment than rest of swine operation.
 - c. Isolation daily care –care for these pigs at the end of the day and shower before going back to the other pigs during the same day.
 - d. Keep dogs, cats, birds and wildlife away from the isolation pens. Maintain effective rodent control.

- c. Consult a veterinarian if your pigs become ill.
2. Wash and dry all clothes, hats or gloves. Wash, disinfect and fully dry all transport vehicles, trailers and all equipment that was used at the weigh-in.

This document is to identify equipment management, people's actions and pig handling that may help reduce the chance of spreading swine diseases. This cannot eliminate the risk, but reduces the risk. Details make the difference.