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Michigan Pork Producers Association  
3515 West Road, Suite B  
East Lansing, Michigan 48823  
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www.mipork.org

2021, VOL. 46, NO. 1

Michigan Pork is published quarterly by Michigan Pork Producers Association and has a circulation of more than 2,500 copies.

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For any questions regarding Michigan Pork's mailing list, advertising or content please contact Emily Schmitt at [schmitt@mipork.org](mailto:schmitt@mipork.org) or 517-853-3782.

MPPA Staff:

**Mary Kelpinski**  
Chief Executive Officer  
Managing Editor  
[kelpinski@mipork.org](mailto:kelpinski@mipork.org)

**Emily Schmitt**  
Program Director  
Editor  
[schmitt@mipork.org](mailto:schmitt@mipork.org)

\*\*\*On the cover: Michigan Pork Producers Association worked with Bob Evans Farms to donate 360 pounds of pork to the Greater Lansing Food Bank.\*\*\*

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## "There's A Pig In My Classroom" Virtual Fieldtrips Now Offered to Michigan Schools

By: Emily Schmitt

**MPPA PROGRAM  
DIRECTOR**

**M**ichigan Pork Producers Association and Michigan Soybean Committee are pleased to sponsor "There's a Pig in My Classroom" virtual field trips for Michigan students in third through sixth grade on April 21, 2021. This field trip will allow students to learn how pork gets from the farm to the plate. Teachers can go online to register their classrooms for this event. Registration is on a first come first serve basis. If you are unable to register due to space limitations, but would be interested in participating in the future, please email [schmitt@mipork.org](mailto:schmitt@mipork.org). If more spaces open up, your class will be notified.

During the virtual field trip, students will have the opportunity to visit the Fair Oaks Pig Adventure farm and learn all aspects of the pork industry.


Classes connect virtually with the Indiana State Fairgrounds and the Pig Adventure at Fair Oaks for an interactive adventure through the stages of a pig's life. Introductory lesson plans like "Fact or Hogwash" provide a fun way for students to learn terminology and other information prior to the virtual fieldtrip.



Students will learn how pigs are raised on the farm, production terminology, and information about purchasing pork in the grocery store. The field trip will be interactive and engaging for students as they learn about life on the farm.

In addition to the virtual field trip, teachers will also receive both an introductory and follow up lesson plan. In the introductory lesson plan, students will learn about terminology, breeds, nutrition and pig lifecycle. This allows students to be more engaged during the virtual field trip. The follow up lesson plan is a fun activity learning about pigs, careers and recipes. It even includes a grocery store scavenger hunt! This activity will help to reinforce concepts learned during the field trip. Students will benefit from this field trip by learning important information about the pork industry and how food travels from the farm to the table.

To participate in the field trip teachers will need a tech device with camera, microphone, and speaker capabilities and the ability to connect via Zoom. Classes meeting in person, virtual or hybrid can be accommodated with the activity. Space is limited so use the link below to sign up!

<https://isf.ungerboeck.com/prod/emc00/register.aspx?OrgCode=10&EvtID=18155&AppCode=RE&CC=121020926516> 

## MPPA Partners with Bob Evans Farms for Food Bank Donation



Michigan Pork Producers Association partnered with Bob Evans Farms to donate 360 pounds of ground pork to the Greater Lansing Food Bank in March 2021.

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## "Experiences"

**H**ello All! By the time you are reading this, we should be well into the spring season. For me, spring always brings a renewed sense of hope for the future. It appears we may be seeing the end of the Covid-19 tunnel. I hope planting and etc. are going well. It looks like pork prices are on the rise and some are even predicting that we might push new price records this summer. While it looks like we might need that increase to pay for higher priced inputs, it sure beats trying to pay for them with lower priced hogs.

Now I know this will date me. But when I first started participating in Pork Producers functions in the early 1980's (yes, the 1980's not 1880's as some of you might think!). I remember one of the biggest things we were dealing with was how BAD bacon was. It seemed it was almost to the point that you "ate bacon at your own risk". Surely a few bites would shorten your life expectancy by several years. My point is this: As an industry those seemingly dark times helped produce a stronger industry and by banding together to deal with this "threat", a stronger organization came out. Now jump ahead 40 years.....The Pork Board just reported that our industry sold 6 BILLION pounds of bacon last year! WOW!

As I am writing this, we are passing the one year anniversary of Covid-19 changing all of our lives. I think most of us look at this "experience" and see all of the negative effects it has had on our lives, families and farms. I know that I do. We all certainly have a reason to get upset and even depressed about some of the things we have been, and are still experiencing. But, lets look at some of the things that have happened, maybe there are a few lessons that we should learn. Here is my "take" on what we, as pork producers, have seen and should learn from, and try to focus some of our future efforts towards.

The vulnerability of our harvest/processing system. We all shudder when we think back to the plant shutdowns last spring. While thankfully, due to the foresight of Michigan Pork Producers and a few "producer pioneers" several years ago, we were able to bring the Clemens plant in Coldwater online. This, and other factors, helped Michigan producers avoid most of the devastating decisions that some of our fellow producers were faced with in some other places in the Midwest. While we still have much more to do, I think we now have a much more resilient system than we had prior. It forced us as producers to look at our own systems and find ways to make them less vulnerable to disruption. We were able to deal first-hand with what might happen if a foreign animal disease caused us to need to deal with large euthanasia events. While prior to Covid we all knew we needed to deal with these issues, actually doing them always got pushed to the back of the priority list.

Consumer connections. For the first time in most people's lives, they saw empty store shelves, even rationing of some products. While this created much distress and anxiety for most consumers, it also caused them to think more about their food and its availability. I think it will change a whole



By: Pat Albright  
MPPA PRESIDENT


generation's view of food and especially meat. As the owner of a small processing plant, we saw first-hand the rush of consumers to secure meat for their freezers. That is, IF they even had a freezer. While it was not really a surprise to me, I was still shocked to find out how many consumers were buying meat on what seemed to be only an "as needed" basis. It reminded me of a story I have told many times. I think I was a freshman at Michigan State University when I first realized that you could actually buy fresh meat in the store. In our house, when I was growing up, you always knew at breakfast, what the menu was for supper. Because my mother had already went to our family freezer and pulled out the meat and vegetables and set them on the counter or sink to start thawing. Some of this change and awareness also came from the fact that people could not rely on food service establishments for their food. This fact alone has had a profound negative effect on our farm because a lot of our customer base was high end restaurants and food service. At least some, probably even most, will not ever return. But, we still believe we can "pivot" our focus and be a part of this changing trend.

New producers. The spring of 2020 brought an unprecedented demand for small groups of feeder pigs and breeding stock from people who suddenly had extra time on their hands and thought that raising their own food would be a way to protect themselves from experiencing empty store shelves. While serving this segment of our industry has been a part

of our farms business for many years, we found that we needed to start asking many more questions when "potential" producers started inquiring about a purchase. We began to realize that part of our duty to the industry is to give out the proper advice to those who might need to more fully understand the responsibilities required, and inherited, when choosing to raise pigs. And sometimes, it is best to try to convince those who wish to be potential producers, that the best thing for them, is to be a more-informed consumer. But, regardless of all the good intentions, we had new producers enter our industry. I believe this presents a huge challenge for our organization. MPPA exists to represent ALL producers. I think as an organization we are challenged to reach out to these producers. It is imperative that they get the proper information about biosecurity and proper animal husbandry practices. You will find a

membership application in this issue of the magazine on page 17. I urge you to encourage any producers, big or small, to become a member. Hopefully they can then start getting the valuable information available.

While I believe that you should always be looking forward to your next goal, I do think that it is important to use your experiences to help you reach those goals. Again, while it is easy to look back on the last year and see the negatives, we should also use those experiences to make our industry stronger and more resilient.

Always, as usual, we need to thank Mary and Emily for continuing to advocate on our behalf, especially during the past year as we dealt with less-than-ideal conditions. Both of these pork professionals have been there for our industry. I encourage you to reach out to them with any questions that you might have or help that you might need. 

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By: Mary Kelpinski

**MPPA CHIEF  
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## You're Essential, So It's Essential...Get the COVID Vaccine

**N**ational Pork Producers Council has launched a campaign: "You're Essential, So It's Essential...Get the COVID Vaccine" to build awareness for the importance of vaccination for workers in the pork industry.

Across the country, the COVID-19 pandemic is having devastating effects on many families, businesses and industries. Here in Michigan, we have felt the pain and loss in our own community. While the pandemic has kept us apart, there is hope with the new vaccines that we can move closer to an end of this troublesome time.

Governor Whitmer proclaimed March as "Michigan Food and Ag Month" and moved the highest risk agricultural workers up in the line to get vaccinated.

Workers at the highest risk are those who must work in close proximity to other people for extended periods of time. This includes farmers and farm workers involved in raising, cultivating, harvesting, packing, storing, and distributing agricultural commodities, who are by the nature of their work in close proximity and contact with other people.

Getting the COVID-19 vaccine adds one more layer of protection for you, your coworkers, your family, and your loved ones. Here are some key points about the COVID-19 vaccine:

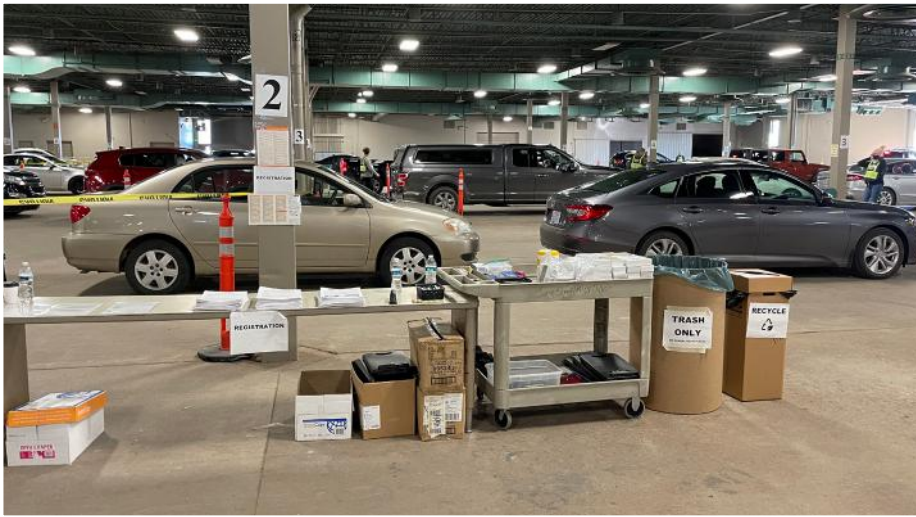
- All COVID-19 vaccines currently available in the United States are very effective at preventing the disease.
- The most common side effects are pain in the arm where you got the shot, feeling tired, headache, body aches, chills, and fever.

**"We all play a part in this effort, and I hope you will trust in science and get vaccinated as soon as possible."**

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• Stopping a pandemic requires using all the tools we have available—wearing masks, staying at least 6 feet apart from people who don't live with you, avoiding crowds and poorly ventilated spaces, washing your hands frequently, and getting vaccinated.








Recently, I was able to get my first vaccination. While working for the pork industry does not put me in the highest risk category, I regularly volunteer at a local homeless shelter and come in close proximity with people there. I regularly get my annual flu shot and felt getting a COVID vaccine was the right thing to do.

As I talk to consumers, I am constantly sharing stories of how farmers use modern production practices and science on the farm to produce pork as efficiently and environmentally friendly as possible. I believe getting vaccinated shows my trust in science.

We all play a part in this effort, and I hope you will trust in science and get vaccinated as soon as possible. 🐷

Pictured above, cars line up at the Michigan State University Pavilion for adults to receive their COVID-19 vaccines. Everyone was able to stay in their cars and drive through the line. After receiving the shot, we were asked to wait in our cars for a short time before exiting the building. The process went smooth and efficiently.



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# USDA to Conduct Surveys on Small and Large Swine Operations

From July 2021 through January 2022, the USDA's National Animal Health Monitoring System (NAHMS), in collaboration with the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), will conduct its sixth national study of U.S. large enterprise swine operations. The study will take an in-depth look at U.S. swine operations with 1,000 or more pigs and provide new information regarding health and management practices in the U.S. swine industry.

Approximately 2,700 operations will be selected from 13 of the nation's top swine-producing states, representing about 90% of U.S. swine operations with 1,000 or more pigs.

USDA said the Swine 2021 Large Enterprise study is designed to provide participants and industry stakeholders with benchmarking information on the U.S. swine industry. Information collected will contribute to critically important epidemiologic surveillance that will inform disease management and preparedness strategies to safeguard the swine industry.

Study objectives were developed based on multiple focus group discussions with industry (representatives from the National Pork Board, National Pork Producers Council, and the American Association of Swine Veterinarians) and through input from industry stakeholders via an online survey. The study will:

- Describe current U.S. swine

production practices related to housing, productivity, biosecurity, and morbidity and mortality prevention

- Determine the producer-reported prevalence of select pathogens in weaned market pigs
- Describe antimicrobial stewardship and use patterns
- Evaluate the presence of select economically important pathogens, and characterize isolated organisms from biological specimens

Participating in any NAHMS study is voluntary. If selected to participate in the Swine 2021 study, producers who decide to participate will answer questions that will represent many other producers in that state.

For producers that fully participate in the study, free Salmonella, E. coli, Campylobacter, and Enterococcus fecal cultures and antimicrobial susceptibility testing will be offered for grower/finisher pigs. In addition, oral fluid test results regarding the prevalence Seneca Valley virus (SVV) will be offered for grower/finisher pigs. Testing for SVV provides valuable aggregate data that can be analyzed across the swine industry.

Representatives from NASS will visit participating operations from July through August 2021 to complete a questionnaire. If a producer participates, USDA or state veterinary health professionals will visit you from September 2021 through January 2022 to complete a


second questionnaire and discuss the free biologic testing.

## Small enterprise study

USDA will survey small enterprises from May 2021 through July 2021. This will be the third national study of U.S. small enterprise swine operations (fewer than 1,000 pigs). It will provide new information regarding animal health and management practices used on these operations, as well as the alternative marketing strategies they implement. Approximately 5,000 swine operations from 38 states will be asked to participate in the study. These states account for about 95% of U.S. swine operations with fewer than 1,000 pigs.

"Small enterprise swine production is a growing sector of the U.S. swine industry due to its role as a primary supplier of many niche-market products. Small enterprise swine production in the United States is very diverse, which creates unique information needs for the industry," USDA noted.

In May 2021, selected producers will be mailed a letter describing the study and be provided with a questionnaire to be completed and returned either by mail or web. Selected producers that don't respond will be called by a NASS representative to arrange a convenient time to complete the questionnaire via telephone interview.

This article was written by Krissa Welshans and originally published by National Hog Farmer. 

# NPPC Submits Comments on Proposed USDA Rule for Gene-Edited Livestock

For more than two years, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has dragged its feet on the development of gene-edited livestock, an emerging technology with tremendous promise for livestock agriculture, causing American agriculture to fall behind in the global race to advance its development. Thankfully, under a recently proposed rule, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will have primary regulatory jurisdiction, which “will foster innovation, allow for producer access to this technology, and preserve the preeminence of American agriculture globally,” the National Pork Producers Council (NPPC) wrote in comments submitted to the agency.

Gene editing is used to make specific changes within an animal’s own genome. Gene editing will allow us to produce animals that are more disease-resistant, require fewer antibiotics and with a smaller environmental footprint. Notwithstanding its significant promise, U.S. agriculture had been in a holding pattern, as USDA and the FDA were locked in a regulatory tug of war over authority on gene editing in livestock. Meanwhile, China, Brazil, Canada and other global competitors moved ahead in the race to pursue this technology.

“...[M]any of our competitor nations have or are moving towards common sense, risk-based regulatory models that capture all agricultural applications and that offer clear pathways to commercialization.... Even the European Union, long viewed as a bastion against agricultural

innovation, is having meaningful discussion about accessing the benefits of gene editing. This is already placing U.S. livestock and poultry producers at a disadvantage,” NPPC wrote. “This disadvantage will be more acute if these countries approve the significant gene edits that we know are on the horizon long before the U.S. is able to do so. We simply cannot allow U.S. farmers and ranchers to lack the same animal health and food safety advantages as producers in other countries,” NPPC added.

In public comments, the current FDA commissioner said he would refuse to sign the memorandum of understanding between the FDA and USDA addressing gene-edited livestock.

“The USDA has put forward an open and transparent process to establish regulatory certainty surrounding a promising technology,” said NPPC President Howard “A.V.” Roth, a hog farmer from Wauzeka, Wisconsin. “We are disappointed that the FDA continues to engage in delay tactics that are holding back U.S. agriculture. U.S. pork producers are dedicated to rigorous, science-based policies to

ensure food safety for all consumers.”

“FDA regulation will result in an impractical, lengthy and expensive approval process,” added Roth. “U.S. agriculture can’t continue to be sidelined while our competitors move ahead with this critical technology. USDA needs to be in the driver’s seat on gene-edited livestock and we look forward to working with the Biden administration on its implementation.”

The USDA’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) already has a review process in place for gene editing in plants, which can serve as a model for livestock.

Whenever new technologies are introduced, consumer acceptance is critical. The U.S. pork industry is committed to transparency when using this technology in the future; there are currently no gene-edited pigs entering the food supply. The focus now is on establishing a regulatory framework that will not stifle innovation and drive use of this breakthrough technology overseas. NPPC will always support the rights of consumers and hog farmers to have choice. 🐷

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Information for an Industry on the Move

March 2021

Vol. 26 No. 1

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- 6 Management over Medication: Strategies for Reducing Antibiotics Used in Pork Production



This newsletter is edited by:

Casey Zangaro, MSU Extension Swine Pork Team, [zangaroc@msu.edu](mailto:zangaroc@msu.edu)  
& Emily Schmitt MPPA, Program Director

## What Breeders, Exhibitors, County Fairs and Exhibitions need to know about Official Identification for Exhibition Swine 2021

Elizabeth Ferry, Michigan State University Extension  
Educator, [franzeli@msu.edu](mailto:franzeli@msu.edu)

Nick Babcock, Michigan State University Extension  
Educator, [babco116@msu.edu](mailto:babco116@msu.edu)



With the 2021 show season just around the corner, there are some important changes regarding swine tagging that breeders, exhibitors, county fairs, and exhibitions must know. Public Act 466 (Animal Industry Act) requires that pigs shown at fairs, exhibitions, or shows must have official individual animal identification (ID). The requirement reflects a change in how the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) will manage the animal identification program.

All pigs shown in Michigan will need to have official ID in the form of a USDA 840 tag, a PIN tag with a unique



animal number, or a NUES (National Uniform Eartagging System) tag, which may be from leftover inventory that was dedicated to specific county fairs. USDA 840 tags have a unique 15-digit number beginning with 840, are tamper resistant, and bear the U.S. shield. There are a number of approved distributors of USDA 840 tags in Michigan where individual 840 RFID tags can be purchased, or tags can be ordered from one's company of choice. When ordering from a distributor, tags are typically sold in a minimum quantity of 25. Manufacturing and shipping times will vary depending on the distributor, and individuals should plan for 3-4 weeks to receive their tags.



USDA 840 Tag

Also, a Premises Identification Number (PIN) is required to purchase USDA 840 tags or PIN tags from USDA-approved suppliers. If individuals would like to

obtain a PIN, they will need to register their premises with the state of Michigan by calling MDARD at 1-888-565-8626. It is important to remember that PINs are assigned to a physical address, not an individual. If a person moves locations, his/her PIN will not remain the same. MDARD can also be called at the number above to obtain a PIN that has been previously assigned. Also, even if there are multiple species on a farm, the PIN will be the same. For example, if you have cattle on your farm and obtain RFID tags, the PIN number needed to order USDA 840 tags or PIN tags for swine will be the same.

#### For show pig breeders

Under Public Act 466 (Animal Industry Act), show pig breeders are not legally required to place official ID in the pigs prior to selling them for exhibition if they are born and raised in Michigan. However, selling pigs that already have official identification should be looked at as a service for customers because breeders typically have an inventory of animals that makes the bulk ordering of USDA 840 tags or PIN tags feasible versus families that may only need one or two tags.

Breeders have raised the concern that by supplying USDA 840 tags or PIN tags linked to their specific premises, they might be held responsible for situations such as drug residues associated with the market-sized animal or diseases that may be identified in a herd. First, if a drug residue is identified, it will be traced back to the person selling the pig directly to the market, not the original breeder. Second, if a major reportable swine disease (i.e., African Swine Fever, Classical Swine Fever, Foot and Mouth Disease, etc.) is found, traceback will occur to the source herd of the infected animal. Whether an animal is purchased with the breeder's USDA 840 tag or an exhibitor places a USDA 840 tag associated with his/her premises in the pig, this traceback to the source herd will occur. However, with the occurrence of typical production diseases (i.e., swine influenza), this will not require traceback to the source herd.

#### For participants at county fairs and exhibition events

Exhibitors of a market swine project shown at a country fair or other exhibition event, are responsible for ensuring that the animal shown has the required official ID for exhibition. This means working with the breeder where you purchase your animal(s) from to receive the animal

with official ID in place or the exhibitor needs to obtain official ID tags themselves.

Official ID can be purchased for show pigs two different ways. Most companies typically require a minimum of 25 official ID tags to be ordered at a time. If the exhibitor will be showing pigs for several years, it makes sense to complete this investment for 2021 and future years as these tags do not expire and can be used every year to meet the official ID requirement. There are multiple approved distributors for these types of tags, and tags can be ordered from the company of choice.

If purchasing a bulk order of 25 tags or more does not make economic sense, there are two other ways that single USDA official ID tags can be obtained. Most Michigan livestock markets, and some additional retailers will sell single USDA 840 EID (electronic identification) tags to exhibitors. The markets and businesses that will supply single USDA 840 EID tags can be viewed on the MDARD website.

#### For county fairs and exhibitions

All country fairs and exhibitions that include swine will need to follow the requirement for official ID of swine. It is NOT the fair's or show's responsibility to provide the official ID tags for the exhibitors, but they are required to validate that every pig at the event does have some type of official ID. Repeated failure to complete this validation may result in needed oversight from MDARD.

In the past, county fairs had access to plastic NUES tags through MDARD for all of the swine projects that registered with their event. The fair was then responsible for completing corresponding paperwork, including maintaining a record of the exhibitor name and address that was linked to each tag.



USDA 840 EID Tag

Effective December 2020, MDARD will no longer provide bulk orders of official NUES ID tags for fairs or exhibitions. Instead, the owner of the animal (exhibitor) will be responsible for acquiring the official ID for the animal(s). This can be done by the exhibitor purchasing a pig that has already been tagged by the breeder with a USDA 840 tag or PIN tag with a unique animal number, or by placing an order for USDA 840 tags or PIN tags themselves. Exhibitors are strongly encouraged to request that the tags are placed in the pig before purchasing them. As stated above, currently there is no requirement for the breeder to provide official identification when selling animals.

If fairs have any remaining inventory of NUES tags, they are permitted to use them until they are gone. If a fair decides to use the tags in pigs exhibited at their event, records must continue to be kept on what tag number was provided to the exhibitor, the physical address of where the animal(s) is kept, and destination of the pig after the fair. Tags that are currently assigned to a fair may not be transferred to another organization for use. Any unused tags can be picked up by an MDARD staff member by calling 517-284-5686.

When validating official ID tags for pigs exhibited at an event, show organizers should look for USDA 840 tags, PIN tags with a unique animal number, or NUES tags (may see on swine imported from another state). All official ID tags are tamper resistant and bear the U.S. shield. Pigs with existing official ID, such as USDA 840 tags or PIN tags with a unique animal number, should not be given an additional NUES tag. It is also important to understand that it is illegal to remove any form of official ID from an animal.

Fairs can require fair-specific tags for their swine exhibits, along with the requirement for official ID. These non-official management tags are suggested for ease of readability and management of record keeping systems. Fair-specific tags may be applied by the exhibitor, parent, or a responsible party. Fair officials or volunteers may also complete the tagging process for official ID if assistance is needed. Please note some tag applicators will not work for all tags. If fairs intend to supply tag applicators, they will need to make sure that the equipment will work for various types of official ID or have multiple applicators on hand. 🐷



# Update on Antimicrobials Sold for Use in Pigs

Beth Ferry, Michigan State University Extension Educator, [franzeli@msu.edu](mailto:franzeli@msu.edu),  
Dave Thompson, Michigan State University Extension Educator, [thom1637@msu.edu](mailto:thom1637@msu.edu)

Antibiotics are an important tool used by pork producers to minimize the impact of disease in their herds. Specific recommendations for managing antibiotic use are included in the current certification program adopted by commercial pork producers and described in the Pork Industry Guide to Responsible Antibiotic Use<sup>1</sup>. To help ensure responsible antibiotic use, these guidelines stress the importance of pork producers working closely with veterinarians to develop disease prevention strategies best matched to their farm, sound record keeping/ transparency, and use of alternatives to antibiotics when possible.

## Annual Summary Report for 2019 for antimicrobials sold for use in food producing animals

The FDA Summary Report for 2019<sup>2</sup> shows that, when data are combined for all medically important antibiotic sales for all species of livestock, the amount (reported as total weight, not number of doses) increased by 3 percent over 2018; this translates to a net increase of 400,873 kg of drug (Table 1). Looking at data for sales and distribution of medically important antibiotics for use in pigs only, the year-over-year increase was about 9 percent (increased by 208,051 kg).

## Closer look at 2019 antibiotic sales data for use in pigs

Most of the increase in sales of medically important antibiotics used for pork production in 2019 came from sale of tetracyclines, which increased by 8 percent. This is not surprising, given that tetracyclines have accounted

for about 80 percent of the total U.S. market for feed grade antibiotics used in pigs during the past several years (Table 2). These compounds possess a broad spectrum of activity that includes Gram+ and Gram- bacteria, and are frequently used to treat scours caused by E.coli and respiratory diseases including atrophic rhinitis, pneumonic pasteurellosis and Mycoplasma infections. They are also easy to administer in safe doses and relatively inexpensive.

Sales of aminoglycoside and sulfa-containing antibiotics for use in swine increased by 12 percent and 58 percent



Photo courtesy of USDA.

Based on U.S. Food and Drug Administration's most recent Summary Report, sales of medically important antibiotics for use in pigs increased 9 percent in 2019.

Species	2016 Sales (kg*)	2017 Sales (kg*)	2018 Sales (kg*)	2019 Sales (kg*)	% Change (2016-2019)	% Change (2019 vs 2018)
Cattle	3,605,543	2,333,839	2,521,157	2,529,281	-30	+1
Swine	3,133,262	2,022,932	2,374,348	2,582,399	-18	+9
Chicken	508,800	268,047	221,774	192,964	-62	-13
Turkey	756,620	670,831	671,108	644,921	-15	-4
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,004,226</b>	<b>5,295,648</b>	<b>5,788,387</b>	<b>6,189,260</b>	<b>-23</b>	<b>+3</b>

\*Amounts reported in kg of active drug ingredient. Amounts include antibiotics given orally and by injection. However, injected drugs declined by 12% in 2019 and only accounted for 311,562 kg, or about 5% of total sold.

Table 1. Summary for all medically important antibiotics sold for use in U.S. livestock production, by species, for the period 2016-2019.

Antibiotic Class	2016 Sales (kg)	2017 Sales (kg)	218 Sales (kg)	2019 Sales (kg)	% Change (2016-2019)	% Change (2019 vs 2018)
Tetracyclines	2,520,680	1,579,145	1,902,950	2,062,275	-18	+8
Macrolides	337,295	189,503	192,175	195,441	-42	+2
Lincosamides	118,916	128,642	104,527	114,398	-4	+9
Aminoglycosides	65,850	63,602	90,779	101,270	+54	+12
Sulfas	40,215	31,024	45,581	72,126	+79	+58

Table 2. Summary of top 5 medically important antibiotics sold for use in U.S. swine production (only) for the period 2016-2019.

in 2019, while lincosamides increased by 9 percent. However, their net impact on total antibiotic sales for swine was small because amounts of these three classes combined was less than 6 percent that of the tetracyclines (Table 2).

In the FDA Summary Report, sales of medically important antibiotics sold as injectables (e.g., includes some macrolides, aminoglycosides, cephalosporins, quinolones) are combined for all species. Sales of injectables in 2019 declined by 12 percent from 2018. The combined amount of injectable antibiotics sold for use in livestock in 2019 was about 5 percent that of the combined sales of products administered orally; that pattern has been consistent since 2009 when tracking of these data began.

Sales of non-medically important antimicrobials, which includes ionophores and a few very small sales volume products not used in human medicine, saw U.S. sales for use in pigs of 404,343 kg in 2019; a reduction of 2 percent from 2018 levels. Ionophores are sold mainly for use in fed cattle and poultry, which together accounted for nearly 86 percent of their total sales in 2019.

#### Possible reasons for the 2019 increase in antibiotic use in pigs

The reasons why medically important antibiotic sales for use in U.S. pigs increased in 2019 have not been established. However, slaughter hog number, average weight of hogs at slaughter, and weight of pork produced increased between 2017 and 2018, and again between 2018 and 2019. Looking at commercial packer data for 2019, for example, pork production increased by 3 percent (from 25,437 to 26,177 million pounds). This increase in production probably accounts for part of the increase in sales of medically important antibiotics.

A second factor accounting for some of the increased sales of feed-grade antibiotics in 2019 may be related to farm labor shortages<sup>3</sup> which have been widely reported. Antibiotics delivered in-feed or water, as tetracyclines and sulfa drugs typically are, require less labor than is required for individual animal administration by injection. Although data on injectables is not broken down by species, the fact that injectables (for all species combined) declined by 12 percent in 2019 while sale of less labor-intensive in-feed and in-water products increased overall by 4 percent are consistent with the possibility that broadly reported shortages in farm labor, or efforts to reduce labor costs, played a role.

It is also possible that more feed-grade antibiotics were purchased in order to prevent or treat disease conditions that may have increased following VFD implementation in 2017. Information on U.S. herd health and potential impacts of VFD on swine health and farm practices will be obtained during the USDA/NAHMS Swine Survey 2021 conducted later this year. However, based on a more limited national survey conducted in 2018 by MSU-Extension (Veterinary Feed Directive Year 1 in Review<sup>4</sup>), 31 percent of swine producers who responded reported an increase in swine sickness following implementation of VFD guidelines, and 18 percent said they would like to learn more about non-antibiotic options for sick animals (follow-up action most frequently requested in the survey).

#### Strategies for preventing disease in pigs using management over medication

Strategies to prevent disease in pigs that rely on management practices instead of medically important antibiotics is the subject of a companion article by Casey Zangaro<sup>5</sup> in this issue of Michigan Pork Quarterly. Because

pig health issues can vary markedly year-by-year and are often regional or even farm specific, your veterinarian or nutritionist are also good sources of ideas for strategies to reduce the use of medically important antibiotics for your herd.

U.S. pork producers are committed to responsible use of antibiotics

Antibiotic sales data reported to FDA provide a useful but imperfect indication of how and why farmers are using antibiotics. Not all data are reported by species, and there is always more than a year-long lag between when the products are used and when they get reported. Numerous factors influence when and how antibiotics are used to combat disease in pigs and other livestock. In spite of the modest increase recorded in 2019, the FDA data suggest overall use of medically important antibiotics in pigs was still the 3rd lowest, for the year, since 2009 when this metric for antibiotic sales to livestock producers was first reported. Importantly, 96 percent of medically important antibiotic for use in pigs in 2019 came with a veterinarian's prescription or under a VFD. This high level of compliance with VFD guidelines by pork producers is consistent with the findings from 2018. These findings demonstrate that, in spite of the modest increases

reported in 2018 and 2019, overall use of antibiotics for swine production, when normalized against pounds of pork produced, remains well below historical averages.

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## Management over Medication: Strategies for Reducing Antibiotics Used in Pork Production

Casey Zangaro, Michigan State University Extension Educator, [zangaroc@msu.edu](mailto:zangaroc@msu.edu)

Antibiotics have been an important tool for preventing and treating some of the most important diseases in pigs for 70 years. However, in response to One Health and WE CARE<sup>SM</sup> initiatives, US pork producers are committed to reducing use of medically important antibiotics to help preserve their effectiveness against diseases that infect both pigs and people. Many diseases in pigs can be prevented or their effects minimized by practicing sound husbandry, biosecurity, vaccines and strategic use of antibiotics. Advice for implementing these practices is the subject of an on-line program MSU-Extension/Pork plans to release beginning this June.

U.S. swine production has increased over the years to keep pace with the growing global demand for animal protein. Beginning in the early 1950's, farmers began using feed-grade antibiotics in livestock to prevent disease and, in some cases, promote growth and feed efficiency. Use of antibiotics in livestock production increased steadily in the U.S. until 2017 when the Veterinary Feed Directive

(VFD) was implemented as a U.S. meat industry response to rising public concern over perceived excessive use of antibiotics in livestock, and its potential impact on antibiotic resistance. VFD bans use of medically important antibiotics (classes used in human medicine) in animal feed and water to promote growth and improve feed efficiency, while allowing their continued use, under closer



supervision by veterinarians, to prevent or treat disease. In the first year following implementation of VFD, sales of feed-grade ABs for use in swine production declined by 43 percent; use of these products specifically for growth and efficiency declined by 94 percent. However, use of these antibiotics in swine rebounded by 17 percent in 2018 and 9 percent in 2019 (last year for which data are available). Based on data reported to FDA, these increases were under veterinarian supervision and in compliance with VFD guidelines, implying they were driven by medical need.

Swine producers understand that use of feed-grade antibiotics, though highly effective against some diseases, are not a suitable replacement for sound animal husbandry, biosecurity, appropriate vaccine strategy and judicious use of antibiotics, including injectables. Some of the most important, evidence-based management practices you can implement for your herd are described briefly below. These management practices will be considered in greater detail through an on-line program MSU-Extension/Pork Working Group is creating this year. This program will include video demonstrations, fact sheets and other materials describing the when, why and how for each of these practices, including the scientific research underpinning them and expected cost: benefit of each:

- Managing the barn (and pen) environment to minimize disease. This module will describe the importance of maintaining appropriate thermo-neutral conditions, especially in the farrowing facility, and how to best accomplish that. It will also consider strategies for minimizing spread of air-borne pathogens, and keeping levels of ammonia, CO<sub>2</sub>/CO and sulfur-containing gasses within acceptable range.
- Keeping up with basic biosecurity, from developing and continually reinforcing a sound plan for how visitors/ food/equipment is brought onto the farm and into the facilities, How rules governing entry into different facilities might differ, The importance of disinfecting everything brought across the line of separation, How just having

separate clothing, showering, and daily upkeep on the facility will help the pigs thrive.

- Developing and implementing a vaccine strategy with your veterinarian that considers your farm's history and the disease status of neighboring farms, cost: benefit of various vaccines available for the diseases you need to prevent.

- Use non-medically-important antibiotics (such as ionophores) and other high value nutritionals (pre and pro-biotics, enzymes) to promote herd health.

- Strategic use of medically-important antibiotics, including best options for minimizing the impacts of scours (which might include in-feed or water), and use of injectables whenever possible, including best practices for saving drug and labor when this is done.

- Record keeping and maintenance of commonly used equipment will decrease the risk of disease and distressed animals.

- Communication between employees is often overlooked as a key tool as well. Simply noting why you marked a pig or moved a pig will increase awareness for not only that pig's health and wellness but the whole herd too.

Emphasizing an effective management over medication approach in your swine system can benefit your herd's health while saving money. It can also help maintain a positive eye on your swine operation from the consumer's perspective. Keep an eye on this space and [www.canr.msu.edu/pork/](http://www.canr.msu.edu/pork/) for more details around management over medication for your herd. 🐷



All comments and suggestions should be directed to the:

# MSU Pork Team

Dale Rozeboom: Extension Specialist  
(517) 355-8398, rozeboom@msu.edu

Madonna Benjamin: Extension Swine Vet  
(517) 614-8875, gemus@cvm.msu.edu

Melissa Millerick-May: MSU, Division of  
Occupational and Environmental Medicine  
(517) 432-0707, melissa.may@hc.msu.edu

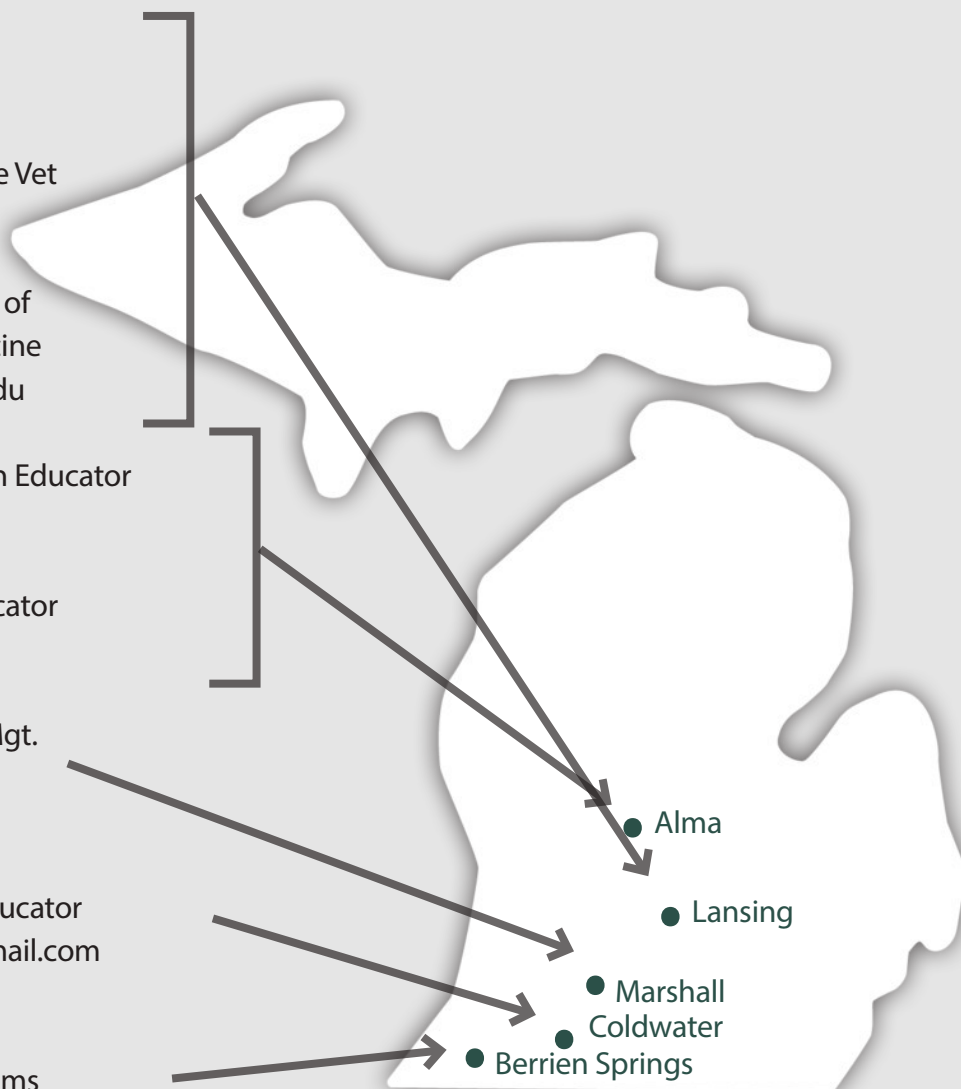
Erica Rogers: Environmental Extension Educator  
(989) 875-5296, roger392@msu.edu

Casey Zangaro: Extension Swine Educator  
(989) 875-5292, zangaro@msu.edu

Roger Betz: Southwest District Farm Mgt.  
Finance, Cash Flow, Business Analysis  
(269) 781-0784, betz@msu.edu

Dave Thompson: Extension Swine Educator  
(269) 832-8403, davethompson729@gmail.com

Beth Ferry: Southwest Pork Educator  
Management, Quality Assurance Programs  
(269) 876-2745, franzeli@msu.edu



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# Capital Update

All activities reported under this heading are financed by non-checkoff funds.

## HOUSE BILL INTRODUCED TO ADDRESS AGRICULTURAL LABOR SHORTAGE

One of NPPC's top priorities this year is labor reform to address the serious labor shortage on U.S. hog farms and in processing plants. Legislation introduced recently in the U.S. House of Representatives would reform the H-2A visa program to address the agricultural labor shortage. The Farm Workforce Modernization Act, introduced by Reps. Zoe Lofgren (D-Calif.) and Dan Newhouse (R-Wash.), would amend the H-2A program to allow a capped number of visas for farm workers to work year-round, among other provisions. "It's no secret that there's a labor shortage in our industry," NPPC President Jen Sorenson, communications director for Iowa Select Farms in West Des Moines, Iowa, said in an interview with "Adams on Agriculture." "Livestock care is every single day. It's not seasonal," she added. Without visa reform to support a sustainable workforce, production costs may increase, which could lead to higher food prices for consumers, she noted. NPPC looks forward to working with Congress to enact meaningful labor reform that both opens the H-2A program to year-round labor without a cap and provides legal status for agricultural workers already in the country.

## NPPC ELECTS NEW BOARD MEMBERS

NPPC elected new officers and members to its board of directors during its National Pork Industry Forum. Jen Sorenson was introduced as the 2021-2022 NPPC president. For the past decade, she has been with Iowa Select Farms, an Iowa farming business that markets more than five million hogs per year. She grew up on a livestock farm, raising pigs and row crops. In addition to serving on NPPC's board, Sorenson chairs NPPC's Labor Security Task Force. Sorenson takes over from Howard "AV" Roth, a hog farmer from Wauzeka, Wisconsin, who becomes NPPC immediate past president and chairman of the council's

trade and nominating committees. Terry Wolters of Pipestone, Minn., was elevated to president-elect. Wolters owns Stoney Creek Farms, where he has ownership in several sow farms and is a partner in Pipestone System. Additionally, Scott Hays of Monroe City, Mo., was elected to serve as NPPC vice president. He is a fifth-generation pork producer and the CEO of Two Mile Pork, LLC. "Guided by their many years of experience and diverse backgrounds, Jen, Terry and Scott will bring new insight and enthusiasm to NPPC and our producers," said NPPC CEO Neil Dierks.

## SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE APPROVES USTR NOMINATION

The Senate Finance Committee approved the nomination of Katherine Tai to be the next U.S. Trade Representative. During her confirmation hearing, she vowed to implement former President Trump's trade deal with China, but also didn't indicate a rush to finalize a U.S.-U.K. trade deal, or restart negotiations on rejoining the Comprehensive and Progressive Trans-Pacific Partnership, saying she would need to review current negotiations. It's unclear when the full Senate will vote on her nomination. In January, NPPC joined more than 100 national and state farm groups in sending a letter to Congress in support of her nomination.

## NPPC JOINS AMICUS BRIEF OVER LABELING ON MEAT PACKAGING

NPPC joined six other agriculture trade associations in filing a friend of court brief in opposition to a class action lawsuit filed by animal activists challenging terms such as "all natural" on the label of various Conagra products sold in California. Specifically, the plaintiffs alleged that USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) failed to protect consumers by approving what they view as false advertising claims on these products' labels. This is the latest in a series of challenges these activists have filed around the country, attacking the consumer marketing of



animal protein. The friend of court brief defends FSIS' role and the ability to continue to sell pork and other animal protein products with approved FSIS labels.

## PORK ALLIANCE MEMBERSHIP VISIONARY INDUCTED INTO HALL OF FAME

Al Deutsch, a longtime pork-industry stalwart who was instrumental in building NPPC's Pork Alliance membership was inducted into the organization's Hall of Fame. Deutsch received the honor during the National Pork Industry Forum. "Those who have skin in the game could meet together and better understand each other's issues and needs," he explained. "I am most proud of the way it expanded the voice of the industry, while still staying true to its roots as a producer-run organization. Working together is better than working in silos," he added. Thanks in part to Deutsch's visionary leadership and volunteer efforts, there are now more than 100 members and partners of the NPPC Pork Alliance. "By expanding NPPC membership and broadening our base, we can better understand and serve the needs of our producers. For his ongoing leadership in our industry, we are pleased to induct Al into the Pork Industry Hall of Fame," said NPPC CEO Neil Dierks.

## LONGTIME MISSOURI PORK EXECUTIVE HONORED

Missouri Pork Producers Association (MPPA) Executive Vice President Don Nikodim was presented with the Paulson-Whitmore State Executive Award at the National Pork Industry Forum. The award, named after former Minnesota and Wisconsin Executive Directors Don Paulson and Rex Whitmore, recognizes the outstanding leadership and commitment of state pork organization executives, and was jointly presented by NPPC and the National Pork Board. In his nearly 40 years at MPPA, Nikodim has helped expand pork promotion, education and public policy efforts in Missouri, was instrumental in navigating Missouri's Right-to-Farm legislation to ensure common-sense policies for producers and has effectively addressed opposition from animal rights' activists. "Throughout his career, Don Nikodim has been a well-respected, strong advocate for U.S. pork producers. His steady demeanor, fairness and insightful leadership have served the industry well for nearly four decades," NPPC CEO Neil Dierks said.

## TEN STUDENTS AWARDED PORK INDUSTRY SCHOLARSHIPS

NPPC awarded scholarships to 10 college students who intend to pursue careers in the pork industry. The Lois Britt Memorial Pork Industry Scholarship program is sponsored by CME Group and the National Pork Industry Foundation, and managed and administered by NPPC. The award was announced at NPPC's annual National Pork Industry Forum. The 2021 winners of the \$2,500 scholarships were: Don Banks, North Carolina State University; Claire Christensen, Iowa State University; Grace Christensen, Iowa State University; Carla Edleman, Iowa State University; Aly Francis, Oklahoma State University; Seth Mitchell, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; Abigail Ross, Iowa State University; Leah Ruen, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities; Heather Snow, University of Missouri; and Isaac Wiley, Iowa State University.

## THE WORLD PORK EXPO SET FOR JUNE 9-11, 2021 AT THE IOWA STATE FAIRGROUNDS

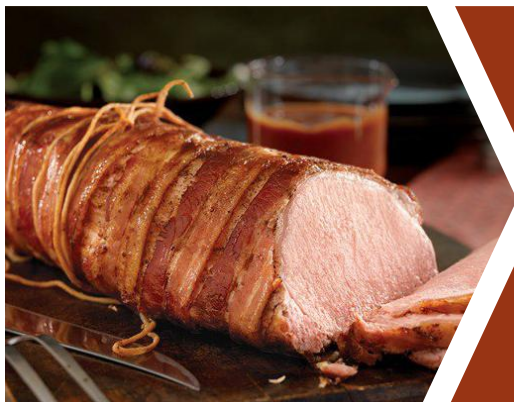
The 2021 World Pork Expo will take place at the Iowa State Fairgrounds in Des Moines, Iowa. Professionals in the pork industry can expect three days of networking, education and innovation from June 9-11.

"We're more than thrilled to be hosting World Pork Expo this year," said NPPC President, Jen Sorenson, communications director for Iowa Select Farms in West Des Moines, Iowa. "We look forward to connecting with our fellow producers, business partners and others who contribute to our nation's essential pork production system."

NPPC will continue to monitor developments in COVID-19 guidelines (local, state and federal) for the World Pork Expo to ensure the health and safety of all participants. NPPC will provide guidance to exhibitors and attendees.

"A safe event is our number one priority," said Sorenson. "We will implement appropriate precautionary measures to ensure a great experience for all World Pork Expo participants."

Registration information will soon be available online for those who plan to attend the 2021 World Pork Expo, June 9-11. For more information, visit [worldpork.org](http://worldpork.org).



## Pork Checkoff

Reports on checkoff-funded promotion, research and consumer information programs.

### NEW REPORT: PORK INDUSTRY MAKES GAINS IN SUSTAINABILITY

For every pig farmer in 2021, it could pay big dividends to know the answer to this simple question: How much feed never gets eaten by your pigs and ends up as waste? Whether it's in a manure pit below a farrowing or gestation barn or under multiple grow-finish barns, feed wastage this year could translate into massive losses, especially with corn prices above \$5 per bushel and soybean meal north of \$400 per ton.

The answer to the feed wastage question is most certainly that "you don't know." However, this is truly a case of what you don't know may hurt you, especially in a high feed-cost environment. Regardless, it is likely to be far more than we would care to admit.

The current elevated grain prices have dramatically increased the cost of feed and have had a negative impact on every pork producer's bottom line. So, it pays to think about the many ways in which feed might be wasted and address these through management practices to reduce costs.

#### Math reveals waste toll

John Patience, a swine nutritionist at Iowa State University, says producers are frequently surprised by how much feed is wasted, regardless of the feeding method used.

"The few studies that have been done suggested minimum waste is 2-5%. Indirect measures suggest that wastage is often much greater than this."

While many variables may affect any method of calculating waste, long-time experts know that many producers are wasting far more feed than thought.

If feed wastage in the U.S. ranges between 2-5% in many phases of pork production, this represents a substantial opportunity to reduce feed use and costs. However, during

times of high feed costs, it becomes essential to focus on reducing feed waste. Because even a small improvement can result in substantial cost savings.

With some back-of-napkin math, we can assume a sow consumes 2,200 pounds of feed annually and 5% is wasted in the system. That is 110 pounds of feed not productively used by her. Let's assume a cost for gestation and lactation feed averages \$220 per ton. That 110 pounds of wasted feed costs \$12. Since the average sow produces 27 pigs in a year, that represents an opportunity to save \$0.44 per weaned pig annually—not a small amount in years when breakeven is elevated.

While these numbers may not be totally correct for your farm, they serve to illustrate the point that reducing feed waste can substantially improve the financial bottom line. During times of elevated feed costs, it pays to reduce feed waste by training animal caretakers, monitoring feed delivery systems, and repairing or replacing feeders.

#### Primary causes of waste

There are primarily two routes for feed to become waste in a pig barn. The first way is by passing through pigs and exiting in the form of manure, which is essentially the undigested, unabsorbed portion of the feedstuffs making up the pigs' diet. Fortunately, the bulk of the feed placed in feed bins is consumed by the pigs and is converted into productive gain.

During the process of digestion, absorption, and metabolism, much of the nutrients in swine diets are quite efficiently used by pigs. This is done to maintain their bodies, mount an immune response and grow. In the case of breeding females, feed nutrients are also used for fetal growth and milk production.

The second way feed can become waste is by passing through the flooring and entering pits beneath hog barns. This route is when feed enters manure pits and is through the slats directly from the feed delivery system or during

feed delivery. Unfortunately, we know very little about how much feed enters the pit this way.

#### Neglected part of production

According to Mike Tokach, a swine nutritionist at Kansas State University, "There haven't been any good studies on feeder design and wastage in many years. There is even less literature on sow feeders and feed waste in lactation and gestation."

Tokach notes that in most cases feed use during gestation is reduced when sow farms are converted to group housing and use electronic sow-feeding stations. This fact provides a clue that feed waste in many gestation barns may be substantial.

Above all, now is the time to work with animal caretakers and contract growers to properly train them to always be on high alert for feed-related issues when feeding pigs in all phases. They need to properly monitor, adjust and repair feeding equipment, take steps to prevent or limit feed spills and always clean up feed spills promptly and properly.

#### 7 steps to reduce feed waste

While feed waste appears to be a priority for some farms, for many it's not on the radar. Far too often feeders are improperly adjusted, or feed piles can be found in the breed rows when sows are in heat. Although waste is never good, historically it has likely gone unaddressed due to the low feed costs we enjoy in the U.S. However, that's not a current luxury anyone has. So, with that in mind, here are some practices that should help curb feed waste.

1. Properly adjust feeders and repair or replace broken ones.
2. Reduce "leftover" feed in nurseries or finishing barns after a turn by calculating feed delivery with respect to when the barn will be empty.
3. Carefully monitor feed augers to prevent auger over-run.
4. Be attentive to sow feed intake during times of transition especially from gestation to lactation and then from lactation back to gestation.
5. Clean feeders in farrowing, nursery and grow-finish before feed begins to sour.
6. Clean up feed spills and overfeeding and provide to animals as a "second opportunity."
7. Replace or repair broken or rusted boots at the bottom of feed bins.

Written by Chris Hostetler, National Pork Board

### **PORK INDUSTRY HONORS ROY POAGE WITH THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD**

The National Pork Board honored Roy Poage with its Distinguished Service Award during the 2021 National Pork Industry Forum. Poage is a retired swine geneticist from Coleman, Texas.

Each year the Distinguished Service Award is presented at the U.S. pork industry's annual business meeting to an outstanding leader and in recognition of a lifelong contribution to the pork industry.

"Roy has offered exceptional leadership and service to the pork industry," said Jan Archer, a pork producer from North Carolina who started her career at DeKalb Swine Breeders and was mentored by Poage. "The people he led and trained at DeKalb Swine Breeders have scattered across the world to swine-related businesses, becoming leaders throughout the industry. Those leaders are now training and inspiring the next generation of producers and suppliers by leveraging tools given to them by Roy."

Poage grew up in rural Texas and received a degree in geology from Texas Tech University in 1959. That year, he began raising hogs in partnership with his father-in-law, the late T. Euel Liner. In 1961, with just 20 sows, the two men founded Lubbock Swine Breeders on a farm near Posey, Texas. By the end of his career in 1998, as president of DeKalb Swine Breeders, Poage led the second largest supplier of swine breeding stock and genetics in the world.

"He developed several new training programs and influenced modern pork production practices. Roy's impact on the pork industry can not be overstated," said Archer.



# Introduction to Michigan Site Selection and Odor Control GAAMPs for new or expanding livestock facilities

**W**hat are GAAMPs (Generally Accepted Agricultural Management Practices)?

The Site Selection GAAMPs are an opportunity to cushion your investment from nuisance lawsuits. These generally accepted practices supersede local zoning. In most cases, they provide guidance for identifying suitable locations which can help mitigate nuisance lawsuits and provide critical protection for your farming operation. Michigan State University Extension has more information about GAAMPs at [www.canr.msu.edu/news/new\\_right\\_to\\_farm\\_site\\_selection\\_gaamps\\_needs\\_local\\_government\\_attention](http://www.canr.msu.edu/news/new_right_to_farm_site_selection_gaamps_needs_local_government_attention).

## How and why, were GAAMPs developed?

The Site Selection GAAMPs were written to help promote a positive image of agriculture by providing consistent statewide criteria for locating livestock facilities. Prior to the Site Selection GAAMPs, local units of government could enact ordinances restricting the size of facilities or more stringent setback requirements. Site Selection GAAMPs level the playing field across the state and provide statewide standards for constructing new or expanding an existing livestock or poultry facility.

## Recent Changes

The Site Selection GAAMPs are reviewed and updated annually. Those who officially went through the process of getting a determination of their facilities and who have not expanded since then, should feel confident about the site of their livestock facilities. However, if your farm has expanded by adding animals or building a manure storage structure, it is recommended that you request a new determination.

Because it can be challenging to know if you meet the current GAAMPs, the MAEAP partnership has developed a new tool for you to work through with your local technician. We encourage all livestock producers to take advantage of the new MAEAP site selection screening tool and help us protect the positive image of animal agriculture. Visit [maeap.org](http://maeap.org) for more information.

## Proactive vs Reactive

The time to find out if you have Right to Farm (RTF)



protection is not when you receive notice of a pending lawsuit. We need to be proactive in creating positive images of our farms. The time to conduct a site selection screening or proactive GAAMPs review is before an expansion occurs. Due to the labor and cost of building a facility, not conforming to the GAAMPs may be a costly mistake. Thinking ahead and conforming to GAAMPs while we are planning our facilities, affords us flexibility while maintaining protections afforded under the Michigan Right to Farm Act.

## Why it is important for a farm of any size to go through the site selection verification process

It really does not matter how big or how small your facility is, Site Selection GAAMPs apply to all farms with livestock. That is probably obvious when we think about larger facilities, but smaller farms can have neighboring challenges as well. Knowing your farm is in compliance allows for positive dialogue with neighbors and customers and may allow your farm to access environmental programs that benefit all for generations to come.

## What steps need to be taken to have your farm screened with the new siting tool?

Contact your MAEAP technician, or consultant and get to work on the MAEAP Site Selection Screening tool. You have nothing to lose, there is no downside, no penalties, and like everything in MAEAP, it is completely confidential.

This article was written by Kevin Gould, MSU Extension, Josh Appleby, MDARD and Dean Letter, MMPA. It was published by Michigan State University Extension. 🐾

# 2021 Michigan Pork Producers Association Membership Application

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zipcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_



Please check one:

- ☐ \$40.00 Regular Member: Individuals or firm with over \$30,000.00 gross annual sales from hogs.
- ☐ \$100.00 Gold Regular Member: Individuals or firm with over \$30,000.00 gross annual sales from hogs.
- ☐ \$40.00 Associate Member: Person or companies associated with the pork industry.
- ☐ \$100.00 Gold Associate Member: Person or companies associated with the pork industry.
- ☐ \$5.00 Student Member: Individuals under 21 years of age. Student members do not have voting privileges.
- ☐ \$250.00 Gold Industry Member Contributor: A Gold Industry Contributor provides additional support for MPPA programs requiring the use of unrestricted (non-checkoff) funds.

Payment Options:

☐ Credit Card: Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_ Billing Zipcode: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Check: Please make checks payable to MPPA and mail to 3515 West Road, Suite B,  
East Lansing, MI 48823

As a result of changes made by the 1993 Tax Act, 25% of membership dues are not deductible for federal income tax purposes.

# MI Pork PAC

Helping elect friends of the Michigan pork industry.

*The Michigan Pork PAC is the bi-partisan political action arm of the Michigan Pork Producers Association. The MI Pork PAC enables producers to pool their resources together and become directly involved in the election process.*

*A strong political action committee compliments our advocacy efforts at the state Capitol. By contributing to the MI Pork PAC, you are helping to elect legislators who support your industry. By working with our elected lawmakers, we can be assured that we will have maximum impact in shaping policy issues that impact you. A strong PAC assures us that pork producers and candidates who support us will be at the table when decisions impacting your industry are being made.*

*Please keep in mind that contributions may be accepted from individuals, partnerships, LLC's, and Sole Proprietors. However, NO CORPORATE CONTRIBUTIONS CAN BE ACCEPTED.*

*Contributions to the PAC are not deductible as charitable contributions for Federal income tax purposes.*

## MI Pork PAC Contribution

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to contribute:

\$250    \$150    \$100    \$50    Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Payment Options

Credit Card:

Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Name and zip code on Card: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Check:

Please make checks payable to: **MI Pork PAC**

Mail to: Michigan Pork Producers Association,  
3515 West Road, Suite B,  
East Lansing, MI 48823

**Working for you...**  
**by urging legislators to enact**  
**responsible legislation**  
**and regulation.**





## Public Notice by MPPA and the National Pork Board

The election of pork producer delegate candidates for the 2021 National Pork Producers (Pork Act) Delegate Body will take place at 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, June 16, 2021 in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of Michigan Pork Producers Association in the GreenStone Farm Credit Services Building at 3515 West Road, East Lansing, MI 48823. All Michigan pork producers are invited to attend. Contact [kelpinski@mipork.org](mailto:kelpinski@mipork.org) for virtual meeting information.

Any producer, age 18 or older, who is a resident of the state and has paid all assessments due may be considered as a delegate candidate and/or participate in the election. All eligible producers are encouraged to bring with them a sales receipt proving that hogs were sold in their name and the checkoff deducted. For more information, contact Michigan Pork Producers Association, 3515 West Road, Suite B, East Lansing, MI 48823, 517-853-3782. 🐷



## Calendar of Events

### April:

14-15 NPPC Spring Legislative Action Conference

### June:

9-11 World Pork Expo  
Des Moines, Iowa

16 MPPA Board Meeting  
East Lansing, MI

### Sept.:

15-16 NPPC Fall Legislative Seminar  
Washington, D.C.

22 MPPA Board Meeting  
East Lansing, MI



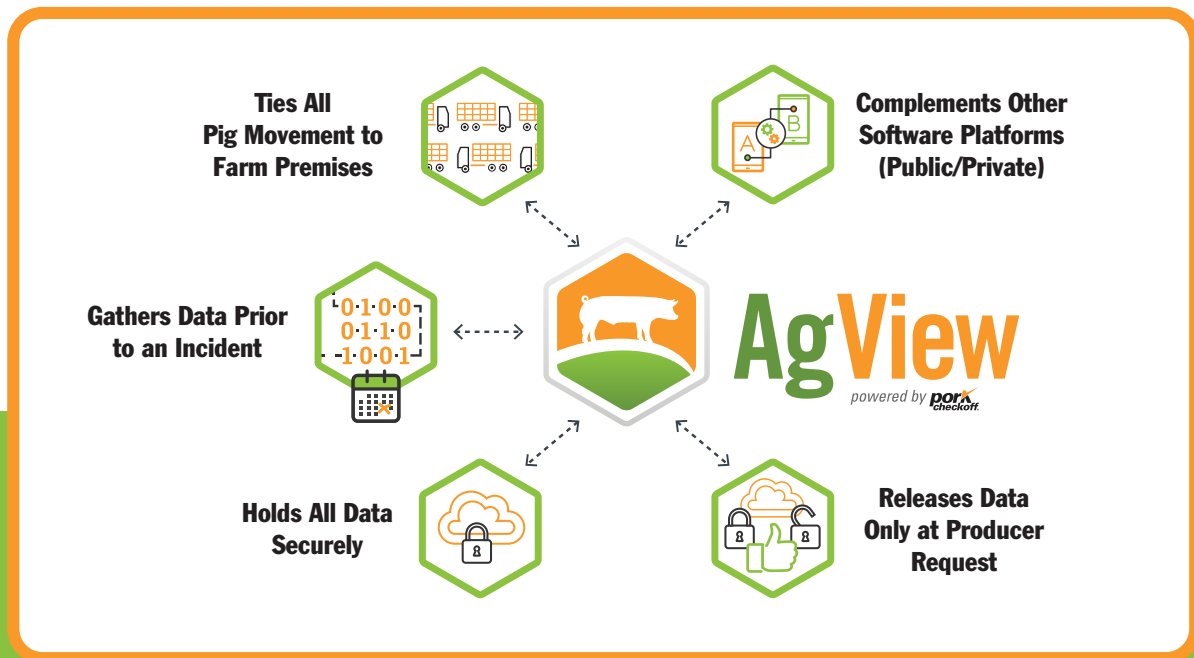
# AgView: A New Tool for a Unified, Real-Time Approach for Foreign Animal Disease Response

A rapid, informed response is vital for quickly containing a foreign animal disease (FAD) outbreak. While reporting protocols are in place on local and state levels, AgView is a free, opt-in technology solution that helps producers provide disease status updates and pig movement data to state animal health officials in real-time. When producers grant permission to share this data, it can be invaluable to creating a faster response to a suspected or confirmed FAD.

## AgView's Value to the Industry

The AgView platform promotes business continuity for America's pig farmers by uniquely making disease traceback and pig movement data available to the USDA and state animal health officials on Day 1 of a foreign animal disease incident.

## Important AgView Features



In the event of an African swine fever (ASF) or another FAD outbreak, state veterinarians and other animal health officials will rely on reviewing a massive amount of important data from producers to assist in contact tracing of infected animals/herds. AgView is a permission-based system that is able to rapidly share disease data from producers to animal health officials. Once the data-sharing is approved, AgView can quickly share this vital information, including:



Where the pigs are and the size and types of farms state vets are dealing with



Compliance with the U.S. Secure Pork Supply plan



Magnitude of animal movement, and more importantly, positive traces



Verification of criteria needed for permitting movement



Lab results from ASF or another FAD

## African Swine Fever – A Very Real Threat to the U.S. Pork Industry

A foreign animal disease (FAD) outbreak such as African swine fever (ASF) could be a major setback for the U.S. pork industry. The impact would be catastrophic on the whole supply chain – from grain farmers and pig farmers, to packers/processors and retailers – and the industry may not recover quickly.

COVID-19 ravaged the pork industry leading to billions of dollars in losses for America's pig farmers, and the threat of ASF or another FAD could be far worse. According to an April 2020 study completed by economists at Iowa State University<sup>1</sup>, the economic impact of a hypothetical ASF outbreak could:



Cost the pork industry more than  
**\$50 billion over 10 years**



Mean a difference of  
**\$15 billion in losses versus \$50 billion in losses**  
for the industry in a scenario where ASF is controlled in two years versus 10 years



Equate to  
**140,000 job losses in the U.S.**  
in a scenario where it took 10 years to gain control of ASF

Cause hog prices to fall by  
**47% in the first year of the outbreak**  
with prices stabilizing to 1.8% lower in the 10-year scenario versus prices starting to climb to baseline levels as soon as pork exports begin to recover in the two-year scenario

Reduce pork production by almost  
**30% in the 10-year scenario**  
versus a very small contraction in the industry over the long term in the two-year scenario, pending export access is re-established

## Integrating AgView for Producers and State Animal Health Officials

We never know when an outbreak of a FAD will occur, so everyone must be prepared and plan ahead to protect their farms, the pork industry and the agricultural economy. Routine updates on swine disease trends in a producer's area can help manage diseases more effectively. To make this easier for producers and ensure data is up to date, AgView can integrate with many systems that producers are already using. For producers that do manual record keeping, AgView also accepts imports from Excel records. With state-of-the-art features, AgView can complement existing software systems that state veterinarians may be using too. Using real-time information, state veterinarians can improve their disease response and FAD investigations.

To learn more, get a demonstration or see how to participate in the pilot process now, visit [pork.org/agview](http://pork.org/agview).

### Questions?

[pork.org/agview](http://pork.org/agview) | [help@agview.com](mailto:help@agview.com) | (800) 767-5675

AgView, powered by  
the Pork Checkoff,  
is our industry's  
*Path to Protection.*

1. Impacts of African Swine Fever in Iowa and the United States, Hayes, et al., Iowa State Univ., 2020  
© 2021 Copyright. National Pork Board. This message is funded by America's Pork Producers and the Pork Checkoff



# We're Listening

Dear MPPA,

Thank you for your donation to Michigan State University, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. Your contribution to the FFA Foundation is greatly appreciated.

Whether for scholarships, faculty or programming support, your gift is an important investment in our land-grant mission of education, research and outreach which helps advance the quality of life for the people of Michigan and the world.

Ronald Hendrick  
Professor & Dean, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources

Dear MPPA,

Thank you for your gift to the Michigan 4-H Foundation in support of 4-H Volunteer Leader Training and State Youth Awards Program.

Michigan 4-H Youth Development provides experiential learning programs to youth. In 4-H, they build leadership, independence and life skills to help prepare them for tomorrow.

Sheila Kneeshaw  
President, Michigan 4-H Foundation

Dear MPPA,

Thank you for your generous donation to the LEAP Foundation. By making the donation, you are supporting a growing effort to educate our communities about the benefits of pig production.

The funds raised by donors go towards live virtual field trips for elementary kids, support of scholarships in animal sciences, internships in livestock production and more.

Nick DeKryger  
Leading Education About Pigs  
Foundation



An advertisement for Albright Swine Farms. At the top left is a logo with a sun and the text "Albright Swine Farms". Below it is contact information: "Doug: 517-416-5781 Pat: 989-429-5215" and "965 Flint Rd. Coldwater, MI". In the center are two photos of pigs: a black and white pig on the left and a brown pig on the right. To the left of the photos is a list of breeds: "Berkshires", "Durocs", "Yorkshires", "Herefords", and "Crossbreds". To the right of the photos is a list of products: "Boars", "Semen Sales", "Open Gilts", "Bred Gilts", and "Feeder Pigs". At the bottom right is the website "www.brightswine.com" and the text "Visit our website for more information!".



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## ADVERTISERS

22	Albright Swine Farms
7	Bakker Consulting
9	United Animal Health
8	United Producers, Inc
5	Wooden Farms

## Air Fryer BBQ Pork Riblets

### INGREDIENTS:

- 3/4 cup water
- 1 pound bone-in St. Louis pork sparerib portions (cut 1 to 1½ inches thick)
- 1 tablespoon Kansas City style barbecue seasoning rub (or
- Homemade BBQ Seasoning, see recipe, below)
- canola oil cooking spray
- 2/3 cup barbecue sauce (bottled, heated)

### INSTRUCTIONS:

Place water in bottom of air-fryer pan (underneath the basket). Preheat air fryer to 350°F according to manufacturer's directions.

Meanwhile, cut rib portions between the bones into 1- to 1½-inch pieces; place in a large bowl. Sprinkle barbecue seasoning over rib pieces; toss until evenly coated. Lightly spray rib pieces with cooking spray; toss.

Lightly spray the air-fryer basket with cooking spray. Place rib pieces in the basket. Lightly spray tops of pork pieces with cooking spray. Cook for 6 minutes. Shake rib pieces in basket or toss with tongs; lightly spray with cooking spray. Cook for 12 minutes more, shaking basket or tossing rib pieces after 6 minutes.

Lightly brush rib pieces with some of the sauce; cook for 1 to 2 minutes or until sauce slightly caramelizes. Transfer rib pieces to a bowl and toss with remaining sauce. Let cool for 3 to 5 minutes before serving

Homemade BBQ Seasoning: In a small bowl combine 2 teaspoon packed dark brown sugar, ¾ teaspoon smoked paprika, ½ teaspoon garlic salt and 1/8 teaspoon ground black pepper. Makes 1 tablespoon.

