

# SWINE EXHIBITION AND SALE BIOSECURITY

Organizers of swine exhibitions and sales can take steps to reduce the risk of disease spread at their events. Implementing biosecurity measures may reduce disease spread to swine at an exhibition or sale.

## PLANNING FOR AN EXHIBITION OR SALE

- Engage a veterinarian to assist with:
  - Contacting the state animal health official's office for animal health and identification requirements
  - Animal check-in
  - Daily health evaluations during the event
  - Sample collection and submission
  - Defining the handling of sick pigs, such as removal from the event, isolation, or treatment
- Post the veterinarian's contact number in the event office.
- Establish an isolation area for any sick pigs identified.
  - Utilize an area away from the main event and control who has access.
  - Define biosecurity measures for staff working in the isolation area.
- Ensure all staff for the event understand:
  - The clinical signs of a sick pig (e.g., fever, off-feed, lethargy, nasal discharge, cough, or diarrhea)
  - The risks of a sick pig to people and animals
- Animals, like cats and dogs, can carry and spread pathogens that can make pigs sick.
  - Do not allow pets to come in contact with your pigs.
  - Do not allow pets at the exhibit.



## DURING CHECK-IN

- Review health certificates signed by an accredited veterinarian if required by the event.
- Evaluate each pig for signs of illness.
- Follow strict biosecurity measures to prevent potential disease spread.
  - Avoid entering trailers. If entry is necessary (e.g., to examine an animal), wear disposable coveralls and boots and dispose of these items after evaluation.
  - Use a hand-washing station between loads or have hand sanitizers or wipes available.
  - Any pigs that appear sick should not be unloaded.

### DISEASE PATHOGENS LIKE TO HITCH A RIDE

Bacteria and viruses can survive in different types of materials, such as organic matter (e.g., shavings, manure), feed, water, mud, or even snow. Without implementing biosecurity measures, contaminated boots, clothing, tires, undercarriages, trailers, shovels, winter panels, sorting panels, and people can spread pathogens and infect healthy pigs.

**KEEP PIGS HEALTHY!  
PREVENT CROSS CONTAMINATION!**

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## DURING THE EXHIBITION OR SALE

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- Consult with the on-site veterinarian when sick pigs are identified.
- Be prepared to move any pigs appearing ill into isolation or remove them from the grounds.
- Follow strict biosecurity measures when moving sick pigs to isolation or from the grounds.
- Limit foot traffic in and around the emptied pen prior to cleaning.
- Clean out the emptied pen.
  - Remove any bedding or manure from the pen using dedicated equipment (e.g., broom, shovel, manure cart).
  - Dispose of material in a predetermined isolated location.
  - Avoid cross-contamination in the event area.
  - Do not restock the sick pigs' emptied pen until after proper disinfection and approval of the on-site veterinarian.
- Wash hands after handling sick pigs or cleaning emptied pens.
- Change into clean clothing and footwear after cleaning or handling sick pigs.

## KEY POINTS

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Biosecurity measures for disease prevention can take time to implement, but with careful planning, these steps can become part of the process and help prevent disease spread.

- Work with your veterinarian to ensure you understand all necessary documentation that will be needed and an effective biosecurity plan for your event.
- Isolate and implement strict biosecurity measures immediately when sick pigs are identified.
- Clean, disinfect, and dry all equipment and vehicles used to handle or transport animals.

Additional biosecurity recommendations for event organizers are available at [porkcheckoff.org](https://porkcheckoff.org).