



H1N1 Flu (Swine Flu)

Q & A for Swine Fair Exhibitors

Q: What is the current situation with H1N1 Flu (Swine Flu)?

In March and April 2009, two cases of human infection with H1N1 Flu (Swine Flu) viruses were first reported in Southern California. The individuals had no contact with swine. Additional human infections of H1N1 Flu have since been diagnosed in multiple states and several other countries. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, with State and local Public Health agencies, are investigating the current outbreak.

Q: Are any California swine infected with H1N1 Flu (Swine Flu)?

A: H1N1 Flu is circulating in humans. There are no known cases of H1N1 Flu (Swine Flu) in California swine. CDFA is closely monitoring the situation and evaluating the health of California's swine herd. Remember, there are other forms of swine influenza in pigs.

Q: Can I show my swine at the fair?

A: Currently, there are no restrictions for showing healthy swine at fairs. Swine with signs of respiratory illness, including nasal discharge or coughing, should not be taken to the fair. If your swine are showing signs of respiratory disease, contact your veterinarian or the nearest California Department of Food & Agriculture (CDFA) Animal Health Branch District Office.

Q: What signs should I watch for in my fair pig?

A: Pigs with swine influenza may show signs of disease including:

- coughing
- runny nose and/or eyes
- sneezing
- depression
- lack of appetite
- difficulty breathing
- fever.

Q: How is swine influenza spread?

A: Influenza can be spread by:

- direct contact with infected pigs
- contaminated equipment
- contaminated clothing or boots
- respiratory excretions, which become airborne and carried a short distance.

Q: How can I protect my pig at the fair?

A: Proper hygiene and health management practices should be used when working with animals. The following practices should be implemented:

- Limit contact between animals
- Clean and disinfect equipment between use
- Wash hands before and after working with animals.

Q: My pig is vaccinated for swine influenza, can it still get sick?

A: Influenza vaccines for pigs can help, but are not 100% effective. There are several strains of influenza that can infect swine and current vaccines do not protect against all strains.

Q: Is it safe to eat pork?

A: H1N1 Flu (Swine Flu) is not spread by food. You cannot get H1N1 Flu from eating properly cooked pork or pork products. Eating properly handled and cooked pork products is safe.

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Sacramento (HQ)	916-654-1447
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