Introduction

An efficient and effective swine herd health program addresses proper nutrition, housing, and ventilation; animal welfare and comfort; appropriate pharmaceutical use; and disease prevention and control strategies. **Biosecurity is the cornerstone of disease prevention.** By implementing biosecurity precautions, the herd can be protected from the entry of potentially devastating diseases such as porcine respiratory and reproductive syndrome, classical swine fever, brucellosis, pseudorabies and circovirus infections. The biggest threat is purchased pigs that may harbor infectious agents, without exhibiting overt clinical signs. Wildlife, pets, people, inanimate objects, and wind can carry disease-causing organisms onto a swine facility. The California Department of Food and Agriculture’s (CDFA) Animal Health Branch, in partnership with the National Pork Producers Council, State associations, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), and University of California Cooperative Extension are committed to assisting producers in developing biosecurity strategies. The following biosecurity principles may be tailored to meet the individual producer’s situation.

**Quarantine New Additions:**
- Work with your veterinarian to determine the health status of the source herd and individual animals that you are purchasing.
- Isolate newly purchased breeding stock, as all-in/all-out for a minimum of 60 days.
- Clean and disinfect the isolation facility between groups of new additions.
- Use the isolation period to medicate and test new additions to assure their health status before exposing your herd to them.

**Manage to Prevent Disease:**
- Use all-in/all-out air space.
- Thoroughly clean and disinfect each room or building between groups of hogs.
- Maintain good air quality.
- Work with your veterinarian to develop:
  - Vaccination programs,
Do not allow employees or visitors to enter the facility wearing rings or watches. They are difficult to completely disinfect.

Establish a traffic pattern for employees and visitors that prevent exposure of young hogs to older animals.

Provide effective boot disinfectant solutions and dedicated protective clothing at high-risk areas in the facility (such as the nursery and farrowing house).

Change clothing and shower after visiting other farms, livestock markets, or livestock fairs and shows.

Do not allow unnecessary vehicles to enter your facilities. Make sure trucks are clean when they arrive at your farm.

If you transport your own hogs to market:
- Wear protective clothing while unloading.
- After unloading, put contaminated clothing in a plastic bag in your truck until they are washed or disinfected.
- Do not let hogs run off and then back on the truck while at the market.
- Wash your truck before returning to your facility.

It is not recommended that animals leaving your facility be allowed to return. However, if this occurs, isolate these returning animals as new additions.

Participating in Fairs and Shows:
- Allowing hogs to participate in fairs and shows and then return to your facility increases the risk of an infectious disease entering your herd.
- Animals returning from a site where swine have co-mingled should be isolated as new additions.
- Your veterinarian will assist you in developing a plan to test and monitor the animals for a period of time (60 days minimum) before they re-enter the herd.

Participate in a Quality Assurance Program

Producers interested in participating in the Pork Quality Assurance Program should contact the National Pork Producers Council at P.O. Box 10383, Des Moines, IA 50306. Telephone number: (515) 223-2600.

For more biosecurity information visit:
http://www.pork.org/Resources/971/SwinehealthPublications.aspx

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<tr>
<th>CDFA Animal Health Branch Offices</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sacramento (HQ)</td>
<td>916-654-1447</td>
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<td>Modesto</td>
<td>209-491-9350</td>
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<td>Ontario</td>
<td>909-947-4462</td>
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<td>Redding</td>
<td>530-225-2140</td>
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<td>Tulare</td>
<td>559-685-3500</td>
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<td>USDA/APHIS/VS</td>
<td>916-854-3900 or 877-741-3690</td>
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Visit our Web site at http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/ah