



FACT SHEET

PORCINE EPIDEMIC DIARRHEA VIRUS (PEDV)

PEDV has infected 680 sow farms (approximately 2.3 million sows) in the USA. It is estimated that infected farms have lost up between 1.6 to 3.5 pigs per breeding sow, i.e. piglet losses are estimated to be between five to eight million piglets. Since January 2014, a number of herds in Canada have also been confirmed to be infected with PEDV.

APL is urging ALL producers to take extra precaution with their herd's biosecurity.

General PEDV Disease Facts

- Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea (PED) is caused by a porcine coronavirus and results in vomiting and occasionally scouring in adult pigs, severe diarrhoea, vomiting and usually death in piglets, scours and vomiting in weaned pigs, and scours reductions in feed intakes and scours in grower-finisher pigs. It doesn't cause a fever. On average pigs that live take an extra two weeks to market
- PED is a pig-only disease which does not affect other species or humans
- PED has been present in Europe and Asia since 1971 but severe outbreaks with high mortalities have been rare in Europe. More recently severe outbreaks with high morbidities and mortalities have become more commonplace in China
- Until May 17th 2013, PEDV has never been reported in the US
- The US strain is 99 per cent similar to the Chinese strains
- Within our naïve pig populations the number of pigs affected will likely be near 100 per cent and mortality may range anywhere from 50–100 per cent in suckling piglets, and one to three per cent in the grower-finisher pigs and negligible in adults
- Incubation time is typically less than 24 hours in piglets less than six days of age, whereas four week old weaners may take three to five days for onset of clinical signs. The virus may be shed from 24 hours post-infection for up to 28 days although piglets may only scour for 14 days.

Recommendations

Biosecurity Considerations-Producers

- Implement biosecurity for workers returning from international travel:
 - Consider implementing a down time of seven days for all workers that have travelled overseas to countries where PEDV has been reported.
- Limit visitors to farms:

Maintain a visitor register which visitors have to sign indicating that:

 - They have showered and changed clothes since their last exposure to pigs;
 - They have not returned from overseas travel within the last seven days; and
 - Unnecessary visitors that will have contact with your pigs should be discouraged.
- Follow other generally accepted biosecurity practices:
 - Routinely clean clothing and footwear
 - Control entry to the farm
 - Implement a policy which does not permit staff to own or work with other pigs
 - Maintain a visitor register which visitors have to sign indicating that:
 - They have showered and changed clothes since their last exposure to pigs;
 - They have not returned from overseas travel where PEDV has been reported within the last seven days; and
 - Exactly where they were and on what dates and where they visited pigs.
 - Keeping non-farm vehicles outside of farm or at least their drivers inside their vehicles.



Biosecurity Considerations-Stock Transporters

- Clean and disinfect pig stock trailers and trucks/prime movers after every movement of stock
- Sanitising and drying pig stock trailers is effective against PEDV
- Washing of trailers with clean water as opposed to recycled water has been shown to be more effective
- Preliminary results suggest that it may be possible to inactivate PEDV in the presence of faeces by heating trailers to 72°C for 10 minutes or by maintaining them at room temperature (20°C) for at least seven days
- Keeping trailers dry is the key to PEDV inactivation as the virus can survive in wet areas for at least 28 days.

Biosecurity Considerations-Feed Manufacturers

- Contaminated feed and/or feed ingredients have been suggested as possible causes for the outbreaks of PEDV in the USA
- Consider implementing a quarantine time of seven days for all imported goods and containers that have been imported from countries where PEDV is present
- Feed samples from the first Canadian farm infected were PEDV positive
- Although the heat generated through many processes used to prepare feed and various feed ingredients should inactivate the virus, the risk of cross contamination still exists
- Biosecurity processes during feed manufacture should be re-examined to ensure that the risk of re- or cross-contamination is significantly reduced.

Disclaimer: The opinions, advice and information contained in this publication have not been provided at the request of any person but are offered by Australian Pork Limited (APL) solely for informational purposes. While APL has no reason to believe that the information contained in this publication is inaccurate, APL is unable to guarantee the accuracy of the information and, subject to any terms implied by law which cannot be excluded, accepts no responsibility for loss suffered as a result of any party's reliance on the accuracy or currency of the content of this publication. The information contained in this publication should not be relied upon for any purpose, including as a substitute for professional advice. Nothing within the publication constitutes an express or implied warranty, or representation, with respect to the accuracy or currency of the publication, any future matter or as to the value of or demand for any good.