Producer Notice

PigPass NVD attention to detail required

15 January 2018

Information

As we move towards mandatory movement reporting using PigPass National Vendor Declarations (NVDs) and the PigPass database, it is timely to remind producers about the requirements to have a validly and accurately completed PigPass NVD. Each PigPass NVD is a legal document, which producers are required to sign.

From time to time, government authorities from other countries audit export abattoirs. Where there are discrepancies between the numbers of pigs loaded and delivered as recorded on the PigPass NVD by the producer and the abattoir, the abattoir is expected to take Corrective Action. Consistent errors and Corrective Actions damage the credibility and reputation of Australia's traceability systems and casts a shadow over industry's ability to manage both animal diseases and food safety incidences in the mind of regulators and customers, causing significant problems for the associated abattoirs.

Currently, export (and likely domestic) abattoirs are experiencing ongoing and numerous inaccuracies, particularly relating to the numbers of pigs dispatched by producers. Sometimes this is merely a miscount of pigs and sometimes, an entire pen may not be counted. Export abattoirs are under pressure from the Australian Government Department of Agriculture and Water Resource (DAWR) to obtain an amended PigPass NVD from producers with the original and amended versions to be kept on file. This means that export abattoirs in particular may be seeking your cooperation to do this within a very limited timeframe.

To avoid this situation, and additional effort required by both the export abattoir and yourself, it would be greatly appreciated if:

- the number of pigs dispatched from your PIC **is accurately recorded** on the PigPass NVD (please refrain from under or over stating the number of pigs sent)
- that accurate declarations are made about the WHP or ESI period
- that the Part B QA declaration is for an approved QA program* and your certification is current (i.e. not lapsed or expired)
- you could please remind the transport driver to complete Part D of the PigPass NVD before handing it to the abattoir, saleyard or other receiver of your pigs.

*An approved QA program includes APIQ, Demeter, RSPCA, Proof, SQF1000, ISO9002, NASSA, and Humane Choice.

Key APL Contacts

General inquiries and further information	Deb Kerr APL GM Policy	0408 169 628