

May 2014

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings fellow pork producers,

My name is Greg Gonzalez and it was my great honor to be elected as the president of the OPP board this March. I have been involved in pork production since 1979 and currently my wife Susan and I own West Coast Show Pig Genetics in Central Point.

I would like to say Thank you to our outgoing President, Nanette Bierma for her service the past two years. She will continue on the board as the Vice president and Co-chair of the nominations committee. Joining us on the board this year is Swede Salo of Oregon City and Shawn Blodgett of Klamath Falls.

As always, The Board looks forward to serving every one of the producers here in Oregon and are happy to help out whenever we can. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact any of our board members. You can find their contact information in every newsletter as well as on our website [www.oregonporkproducers.com](http://www.oregonporkproducers.com).

We have entered into this year with the latest threat to the health of our herds in the forefront of every producer's thoughts. The PED virus is quickly spreading across the United States and every herd no matter what size is at risk of contracting it. While it is always a



good idea to have a solid biosecurity program for your herd, this year it is imperative. The National pork producers have been supplying all producers with weekly updates on the virus. You can sign up to receive them at [www.pork.org/pedv](http://www.pork.org/pedv). I encourage you to visit their site and avail yourself to all the information they have gathered on the virus and make the decisions that best suit your facilities to protect your herds.

I hope your spring litters are going well and wish you all the best this summer.

Greg Gonzalez  
OPP President

## AGRICULTURE SECRETARY TOM VILSACK ANNOUNCES ADDITIONAL USDA ACTIONS TO COMBAT SPREAD OF DISEASES AMONG U.S. PORK PRODUCERS

### Required Reporting of Cases Latest Measure to Slow Disease Spread

St. Paul, Minn., April 18, 2014 - Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack today announced that in an effort to further enhance the biosecurity and health of the US swine herd while maintaining movement of pigs in the US, the USDA will require reporting of Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea Virus (PEDv) and Swine Delta Coronavirus in order to slow the spread of this disease across the United States. USDA is taking this latest action due to the devastating effect on swine health since it was first confirmed in the country last year even though PEDv it is not a reportable disease under international standards. PEDv only affects pigs and does not pose a risk to people and is not a food safety concern.

"USDA has been working closely with the pork industry and our state and federal partners to solve this problem. Together, we have established testing protocols, sequenced the virus and are investigating how the virus is transmitted," said Vilsack. "Today's actions will help identify gaps in biosecurity and help us as we work together to stop the

spread of these diseases and the damage caused to producers, industry and ultimately consumers."

In addition to requiring reporting of the PED virus, today's announcement will also require tracking movements of pigs, vehicles, and other equipment leaving affected premises; however, movements would still be allowed. USDA is also working with industry partners to increase assistance to producers who have experienced PED virus outbreaks in other critical areas such as disease surveillance, herd monitoring and epidemiological and technical support.

As part of USDA's coordinated response, USDA's Farm Loan Programs is working with producers to provide credit options, including restructuring loans, similar to how the Farm Service Agency successfully worked with livestock producers affected by the blizzard in South Dakota. In the case of guaranteed loans, USDA is encouraging guaranteed lenders to use all the flexibility available under existing guarantees, and to use new guarantees where appropriate to continue financing their regular customers.

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USDA is already providing assistance to researchers looking into this disease, with the Agricultural Research Service (ARS) working with the National Animal Disease Center in Ames, Iowa to make models of the disease transmission and testing feedstuffs. This modeling work is contributing to some experimental vaccines to treat animals with the disease. ARS also has a representative serving as a member of the Swine Health Board. USDA also provides competitive grant funding through the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative program and anticipates some applications on PEDV research will be submitted soon. In addition, USDA provides formula funds to states and universities through the Hatch Act and National Animal Health Disease Section 1433 for research activities surrounding this disease.

In conjunction with the pork industry, state and federal partners, the USDA is working to develop appropriate

responses to the PEDV and Swine Delta Coronavirus. A question-and-answer sheet on today's reporting requirement is available on the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service website here:

[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/publications/animal\\_health/2014/faq\\_ped\\_reporting.pdf](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/publications/animal_health/2014/faq_ped_reporting.pdf) (PDF, 31KB). For a summary of USDA actions to date, additional information is available here: <http://www.usda.gov/documents/pedv-summary-actions.pdf> (PDF, 150KB).

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## PORK INDUSTRY LAUNCHES THREE-PRONG STRATEGY TO STEM PEDV SPREAD

The National Pork Board has announced additional funds earmarked for research in the fight against the further spread of Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea Virus (PEDV), which was first identified in the United States last May. The funds – \$650,000 through supplemental funding approved by the Pork Checkoff Board of Directors in early March and \$500,000 through a new agreement with Genome Alberta, will provide new opportunities for research.

“This has become one of the most serious and devastating diseases our pig farmers have faced in decades,” said Karen Richter, a Minnesota producer and president of the National Pork Board. “While it has absolutely no impact on food safety, it has clear implications for the pork industry in terms of supplying pork to consumers. Our No. 1 priority is to address PEDV.”

Additionally, the Pork Checkoff announced a new collaboration with a number of industry players, including the National Pork Producers Council, the American Association of Swine Veterinarians, the American Feed Industry Association, the National Grain and Feed Association, the National Renderers Association and the North American Spray Dried Blood and Plasma Protein Producers, which is made up of five member-companies throughout the United States and Canada.

Working together, this project will align swine, feed and veterinary groups to bring an even higher level of collaboration in the fight against the disease. Now active in some parts of Canada, PEDV continues to cause a heavy loss of piglets on farms across the United States.

“I am hopeful others will join our coordinated effort to specifically define risks and share information to contain the further spread of PEDV,” said Richter. The new effort was announced during the annual National Pork Industry Forum in Kansas City.

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, PEDV has surfaced in 26 states. Steve Meyer, president of Paragon Economics and a Pork Checkoff consultant, estimates the loss of more than 5 million piglets in the past several months, with 1.3 million lost in January alone.

“Losses of this magnitude will ultimately have a consumer impact through a reduction in supply,” Meyer said. “Some pork supply will be made up through producing higher market-weight hogs and through other loss mitigation actions, but today we are already seeing summer pork futures climb to record levels.”

Part of the Checkoff's supplemental funding of \$650,000 will be used for feed-related research to better understand the potential role feed may play in PEDV transmission. Also, a portion of the funding will be used to identify ways to increase sow immunity and to better understand transmission and biosecurity risks. This brings the current level of Checkoff-funded research to approximately \$1.7 million since June 2013.

“That investment will be centered on further containing PEDV with a specific focus on feed research and related issues, building the immunity of breeding herds and biosecurity measures,” said Dr. Paul Sundberg, vice president of Science and Technology at the National Pork Board.

In a related move, Genome Alberta is cooperating with the National Pork Board to identify research gaps in understanding PEDV and stem its spread. Genome Alberta has committed approximately \$500,000 toward a coordinated U.S./Canadian effort and is seeking additional funds from Canadian, provincial and regional agencies.

Every two weeks, the Pork Checkoff publishes the PEDV Update newsletter with some of the latest information and resources available. All Checkoff-funded PEDV-related materials are available at [pork.org/pedv](http://pork.org/pedv).

## PEDV AND ITS IMPACT ON US

by Russell Pedrett

*Printed with permission of CPPA*

Here at Ottenwalter Show Pigs, as we heard all of the stories this winter about show pig farms breaking with PEDv, we decided from the start that we weren't going to deal with this virus. We invested in half a dozen foaming mats, a fifty-gallon barrel of Synergize, hundreds of pairs of disposable coveralls, and thousands of plastic boots. We cut down farm traffic to a bare minimum, hung bio security signs all over the premises, and made our customers park a hundred yards away from the nearest barn. At our February 22nd Pig Sale, we watered down our driveway with Synergize and made every single person sanitize their shoes and hands, and then put on plastic boots just for good measure. We stayed away from livestock shows and the sale yard. We made sure none of the feed we were buying contained porcine blood plasma, and we avoided buying semen from boar studs affected by PED. In our mind, we did everything we possibly could to avoid contracting the virus. Yet somehow, some way, it made its way onto our premises. How it did, we truly have no idea. As I write this, our farm is nearly two weeks into our break with PEDv and it has been an exhausting and somewhat depressing month to say the least.

I was working late one evening doing some computer work, and before heading home I thought I would run through the farrowing rooms and check on sows due to farrow. Upon entering our newest farrowing barn, I was immediately stricken by an unusually foul smell. As I looked in at each of the nine litters in that room, all of the pigs were sopping wet with scours and some were vomiting. Most of the scours within the room were watery and whitish-clear in color, although some were an off-yellow. I knew right then and there that we had failed in our effort to keep PEDv off of our farm. The next morning, I did all of the other chores on the farm in different clothes and shoes than I had on the night before, before entering the infected barn. Myself and my boss, Mark, entered the barn with coveralls, plastic boots, plastic gloves, and masks on. Although we weren't certain which other areas of the farm had been exposed, we weren't taking any chances of spreading it further. We took some rectal swab samples to send to the lab at Iowa State and tried to dry off the pigs the best we could. Then we got on the phone and put a plan together with our consulting veterinarians.

For those reading this who have been fortunate enough to avoid the virus, I would strongly recommend investing in some Re-Sorb and Blue lite electrolytes, just to have on hand in case of a break. We broke with PED on a Friday, so it was very difficult to get the supplies we needed until UPS could bring them to us the following Monday. That day we bought up all of the Re-Sorb we could find within a 60 mile radius of our farm. I would also recommend keeping a

couple of bottles of gentamycin on your shelves, as we went through several bottles in a matter of days after the break. Four-Star Veterinary Service was very helpful to us, as not only did they have the products we needed, but also they were very knowledgeable and familiar with what we needed to do and how we needed to use those products. We went ahead and weaned seven of the nine litters in that particular farrowing room, ranging in age from nine to fifteen days old. We left the two three-day old litters on the sows, but took away their supplemental milk and replaced with Re-Sorb. We could not believe how much Re-Sorb the pigs drank! Seventy baby pigs drank gallons and gallons for several days, as we tried to introduce them to feed. It seemed like it took forever for their scours to subside -- in fact, some of these original pigs to break with PED were still scouring twelve days after their break. Another challenge we faced was keeping the scouring pigs warm. Since they were so wet from scours, they would all just pile up on top of each other. We set our nursery temperature to 90 degrees and placed mats over the grate flooring with heat lamps on them. The pigs still piled on the mats shivering, and we found ourselves constantly flipping the mats over to expose the dry side for the poor pigs. Finally, we found the pelleted shavings product that we use called Dry Den to be extremely helpful in keeping the pigs dry. We just sprinkled it on the mats and it helped to dry things out and keep the pigs warm.

Through strict farm bio security, we were able to keep the virus out of one of our other farrowing barns that had an even younger set of pigs in it for six days. Once that barn broke, we started the whole process over again, this time weaning five to twelve day old pigs and we left two litters of one and two-day old pigs on the sows. Between both farrowing barns, we've managed to keep our death loss at 13 total pigs out of about 120 head. Our consulting veterinarian believes that we may have contracted the "weaker" strain of PEDv since our death loss has been so minimal.

On the morning of Day 3 into our break, we decided to go ahead and infect the entire farm. The method we used worked extremely well. While we were weaning the infected baby pigs, we held them over a bucket and gently pressed their abdomens. This left us with quite a bit of watery fecal material, which we added water to and then filtered to get all of the solid matter out. We then put that liquid into spray bottles and sprayed every sow's nose with it on the entire farm. To infect our pens of growing pigs, we took the rubber mats out of our farrowing crates and sprayed them with this solution, and then threw the mats into their pens. One observation we found very interesting was it seemed like it took two full days between the time of

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exposure and the onset of symptoms for our sows, whereas it took one day or even less for the growing pigs to show symptoms. For those who are wondering, the symptoms are not easy to miss. As we walked through the barns during those few days, essentially every animal on the farm was either scouring, vomiting, or both -- sows and little pigs alike. We paid special attention to our sows who were closest to farrowing, and made sure we saw symptoms. There were several we had to re-expose to make sure they had contracted the virus. By this point, nearly all of our growing pigs were scouring badly, and many of the pens throughout the barns looked pretty worse for wear. We purchased two additional water medicators and got them set up throughout the barns. We ran one 2 lb. package of blue lite per gallon of stock solution through the medicators, and in addition we added 128cc/gallon of gentamycin. The pigs went through this rather quickly and it seemed to help quite a bit. As the days went by, we continued to work our tails off making sure all the animals on the farm were taken care of, being most attentive to the young pigs on the sows and in the nurseries. After a week or more, most of the scouring subsided, and as I write this two weeks later there remains only a handful of pigs on the farm that still have some scouring.

Our next task at hand was to make a couple very important decisions: 1) How and when do we start letting our customers and peers within the industry know about our break, and 2) What do we do about the twelve show pigs the Ottenwalter grand kids had on feed for the NJSA Western Regional coming up in three weeks? For us, decision number one was far easier to make than the latter. We have always believed in being "up front" with people in this business, and in regards to PED we believe that trait has become more important than ever. We began spreading the word and also developed an announcement that we posted to both our website and our Facebook page. Both of our consulting veterinarians believed it would be safe to go ahead with our April 6th Show Pig Sale as scheduled, providing we communicate well with our customers and also offer to house any of their purchases until a negative PED test could be provided, should they so desire. To our delight, many of our customers have been pleased to learn the animals they will be purchasing are now going to come with the added benefit of immunity for the upcoming show season. However, we still had a very tough call to make: Do we attend the Western Regional with the Ottenwalter grand kids' projects? At this point, their twelve show pigs had been off site at our isolation show facility three miles away, where the kids had been feeding and working with them. To our knowledge none of those hogs exhibited any symptoms of PED, and they were easily the best set of show gilts and barrows we had ever put together for that event. Furthermore, it was Makayla's first year showing (she is five years old) and both her and Lexi had put months of hard work and effort into their projects. After consulting some of our closest friends within the industry and after much

debate among our entire crew at Ottenwalter Show Pigs, we decided it best to stay home. Should any of our show string have any exposure to the virus, we did not want to be responsible for sharing it with others. More importantly, whether they had exposure to the virus or not, the last thing we wanted to be was a poor example to others who may not have fully understood our situation. After our decision, my boss Mark told me hauling those beautiful show gilts out to our isolation gilt pool was one of the hardest things he's ever had to do. I agreed completely.

In closing, it has no doubt been an interesting year in the show pig business that so far, has come with more than its fair share of disappointments. But on a more optimistic note, I am here to tell you that PED is not the end of the world. Through diligence and hard work we've kept our losses to a bare minimum, and if someone were to come visit the farm today without knowing our situation, there would be no visual indication that anything ever went wrong. There's no question there remains much to be learned about this virus and how it's going to affect the way we raise hogs. However, I believe the biggest obstacle we face in the show pig industry, especially here in California, is the level of responsibility we take as both breeders and as exhibitors at events. For me, it has been very interesting to note the actions of others within the industry and quite honestly I have been very disappointed in those of some. Breeders- let's step up and be positive examples for our youth buying and exhibiting show pigs. Familiarize yourself with the symptoms of PEDv and if you are not sure about your own status, have your animals tested. Hogs that are positive and in the shedding phase of the virus should not go to shows or be sold to unknowing buyers until they are confirmed negative. I realize there are many families out there who have a lot invested into their kids' show animals. I can assure you the breeders of those show animals have even more invested and far more to lose. Please don't misunderstand my message -- I'm all for showing pigs, as that's the business we're in and why we do what we do. However, knowingly "sharing" PED with others would not only be morally wrong, but it benefits nobody in the long run. If we can all do our best to act responsibly and to inform everyone - breeders and youth exhibitors alike, our chances of keeping this virus under control will be much greater. Then we can get back to showing hogs.





## OREGON PORK PRODUCERS PROVIDE INPUT ON CHECKOFF PROGRAMS

Greg and Susan Gonzalez, farmers from Central Point, Oregon, served as delegates to the Pork Act Delegate assembly March 6-8 in Kansas City, Mo. Greg and Susan were appointed as delegates by U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack.

“It was important to us to represent pork producers from across the U.S. as Pork Act Delegates,” said Greg. “As an industry, when we stand united and work toward a common goal we can yield positive results for pork producers.”

Greg and Susan were two of 156 delegates who traveled from across the country to represent pork producers and importers who sell pork products in the United States. The duties of a delegate include nominating members to serve on the National Pork Board; establishing how much of the Pork Check off is returned to state pork organizations; and providing direction on the pork promotion, research and consumer information priorities funded by the Pork Checkoff.

America’s pork producers contribute 40 cents of every \$100 of sales to the Checkoff, and importers use a sales formula to contribute a similar amount. The role of the Pork Checkoff is to promote and enhance consumer demand for pork on a global basis; invest in research designed to improve production practices and safeguard the pork supply, environment, and animal well-being; and educate America’s pig farmers on modern livestock production practices through sharing techniques, training and certification programs.

The National Pork Board earlier approved a 2014 budget for national spending of \$64 million for promotion, research and education programs. The work of the Pork Checkoff is centered on protecting the ability of farmers to produce pork, reposition pork’s image, and enable producers to remain highly competitive on a global basis.

Included in the 2014 budget is approximately \$26.5 million focused on increasing domestic consumer pork expenditures

“We know from our research that more Americans are enjoying fresh pork more frequently,” said Greg. “A recent tracking study indicated that the size of the Pork Checkoff’s consumer target has grown to 43 percent of U.S. households, up from 27 percent in 2010. This growth indicates that the Pork Be inspired® campaign is making a difference in the marketplace.”

*The National Pork Board has responsibility for Checkoff-funded research, promotion and consumer information projects and for communicating with pork producers and the public. Through a legislative national Pork Checkoff, pork producers invest \$.40 for each \$100 value of hogs sold. Importers of pork products contribute a like amount, based on a formula. The Pork Checkoff funds national and state programs in advertising, consumer information, retail and foodservice marketing, export market promotion, production improvement, technology, swine health, pork safety and environmental management. For information on Checkoff-funded programs, pork producers can call the Pork Checkoff Service Center at (800) 456-7675 or check the Internet at [www.pork.org](http://www.pork.org)*

## SPRING SEMINAR AND ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

On February 15, 2014 members of the Oregon Pork Producers met at the Oldfield Animal Teaching Facility in Corvallis, Oregon. Presenters were Dr. Byron Wiegand, who is a Meat Science Specialist at the University of Missouri, Dr. Brad LeaMaster, Oregon State Veterinarian and Bryn Jennson



Dr. Byron Wiegand, University of Missouri, Meat Science Specialist

from the National Pork Board.

Dr. Wiegand discussed the effect different grains and additives in our pigs diets have on the taste of our finished product. He went on to explain how it takes two weeks of using various flavored products to change the flavor profile.

Dr. LeaMaster and Bryn Jennson both discussed in detail the PEDV disease and its impact on Oregon and the swine industry as a whole.

After a lunch prepared by the OSU Meat Science Department; members concluded the day with the annual meeting.

Three new board members were elected, incumbent Greg Gonzalez, and new members Swede Salo and Shawn Blodgett. 2015 NPB delegates will be Ed and Sharon Krische.



Dr. Brad LeaMaster, Oregon State Veterinarian

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## SHERRY LAFEVER - 2013 OPP DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENT



She and her husband Larry own 3 oaks ranch in Central Point. They bought their first pigs in 1979 to raise for meat. It wasn't long after that that their sons Greg, Shaun and John got involved in 4-H and soon after the family bought sows and started their own herd. Sherry became more involved in 4H serving as a leader and later the swine superintendent for the Jackson county fair. She started into raising purebred Durocs in the early 80's and along with

her son Greg started showing at local, regional and the state fair open shows. Sherry continued to be involved with the swine herd until 2002 when she turned over the whole herd to her son Greg and his wife Susan and retired but still finds herself going down to the barn and helping out where she can. These days she enjoys helping her Grandchildren with their 4H projects and watching them show.

## OBITUARY

Lawrence Lyle Beckner November 20, 1924 - March 30, 2014,

Lawrence L. Beckner 89, passed away in Salem Hospital following surgery from a fractured hip.

Lawrence was born to Lyle and Verda Beckner in Salem, Oregon. After graduating from Salem High School in 1943, he joined the Army Air Corps. In 1946 he married Betty Jean Winegar, they were married 63 years. Lawrence first worked for Deluxe Ice Cream Co. and later went on to be a full time crop

and livestock farmer specializing in purebred hogs. He was an active member of Oregon Pork Producers.

Lawrence was a pioneer in Oregon's Pork industry and has helped many of producers advance their knowledge and improve their herds. He and his family have for generations showed and sold hogs on the local, state, regional and national levels.

Lawrence was always ready to talk hogs and enjoyed helping other

producers making the best choices in adding seedstock to their herds.

He is survived by his son, Robert (Sandra) and daughter Linda (Harold), 4 grandchildren, 10 great grandchildren with one due in August and one great great grandchild due in June.

Private family graveside services were held Saturday, April 5, 11 AM at Pioneer Cemetery, Brooks, Oregon. Services provided my Crown Memorial.

## QR CODES SHOWCASE WE CARE® VIDEOS

Consumers are more interested than ever in knowing where their food comes from. To bring the farm to consumers, the Pork Checkoff is creating new connections through quick-response (QR) codes printed on pork labels.

QR codes are small boxes containing an array of black or white squares. When scanned with a smartphone or computer tablet, QR codes direct the mobile device to display a video, text or other information. In this case, the QR codes on pork labels in participating grocery stores are highlighting the pork industry's We Care® principles.

"We wanted to find the best way to share this information with consumers," said Angela Anderson, food chain outreach manager for the Pork Checkoff. "We decided that short videos were the quickest, most effective way to catch people's attention and articulate the We Care principles."

The Checkoff developed a mobile website with four short We Care-related videos focusing on animal nutrition, animal well-being, feed additives and antibiotics. After scanning the QR codes, consumers can watch the videos to learn how pork producers provide safe, nutritious food.

**Putting Messages to the Test** Before the QR codes and videos were implemented, the Pork Checkoff developed a test round

of pork labels. These were distributed on the West Coast through a large retail chain to gauge consumers' response. "The results showed that we needed to give consumers an incentive to scan the QR codes and watch the videos," said Jarrod Sutton, assistant vice president of channel marketing for the Checkoff. After adding the chance to win a \$500 gift card from select retailers, the Pork Checkoff redistributed the labels in grocery stores across the country. This has increased the number of scans by consumers.

**Moving in the Right Direction** Retailers who have used the QR codes have been impressed with the results. "The program was outstanding, and I was encouraged by how many customers at Hannaford supermarkets participated," said Rick Wilson, pork category manager for Delhaize America Shared Services Group, LLC. "I look forward to partnering with the Pork Checkoff on other consumer education opportunities." The Pork Checkoff plans to survey select consumers who participated in the QR code promotion. The feedback will help fine-tune the content of future promotions with QR codes. "We have so many ideas on how to develop the program further," Sutton said. "The pork industry is headed in the right direction by being transparent and helping consumers learn more about the farm-to-fork connection."

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**WUERGLER  
FAMILY FARMS**  
Steve, Bonnie,  
Emily, Briana and Sarah

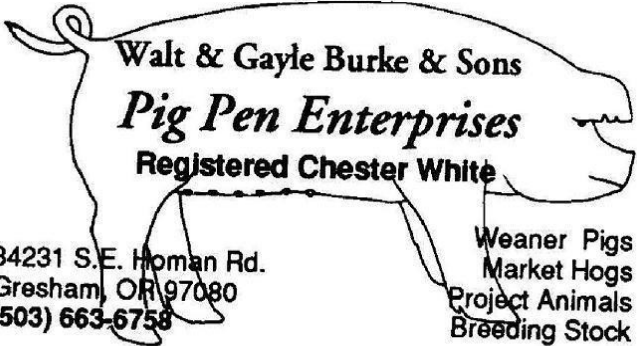
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## PORCINE EPIDEMIC DIARRHEA VIRUS AND IT'S EFFECT ON OREGON

Gene Pirelli, OSU Extension Swine Specialist.  
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The articles in this issue describe the experiences of a swine operation in dealing with an outbreak of PEDV and the increased surveillance of the disease by the USDA. We all need to work together to minimize the impact of this disease on Oregon's pork industry.

There are no documented cases in Oregon at the present time. Dr. Brad LeaMaster, Oregon Department of Agriculture State Veterinarian, Dr. Charles Estill, OSU Extension Veterinarian, Dr. Jerry Heidel, Director of the OSU Veterinary Diagnostic Lab and myself, developed a fact sheet for Oregon titled "Help Oregon Take a Stand Against a New Deadly Pig Disease – Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea Virus." It is available on my Animal Sciences Extension Swine web site at <http://anrs.oregonstate.edu/content/swine-extension>

The recommendations contained in this fact sheet have not been popular but they are prudent and helpful in delaying the virus from entering the state. County fair boards around Oregon met with local swine superintendents and auction committees to determine what type of swine show will be held this summer. Most programs cancelled the pre-fair swine weigh-in. Some have cancelled breeding shows and many are opting for a terminal market show.

I have had many emails and phone calls from pork producers and exhibitors during the past two months regarding the recommendations contained in our fact sheet. Honestly, some have not been very pleasant. The group that wrote the recommendations did so with the health and safety of the overall pork industry in Oregon. We will get through this and I anticipate that by 2015, an approved vaccine will be available so that we can get back to business as usual.

Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea Virus (PEDV) has been relatively common in Asia and Europe since the 1970s. The first US case appeared in Iowa last May and has now spread to over 30 states, some of them close to Oregon such as California, Idaho, and Montana. To date, this disease has killed millions of young pigs in the US.

The clinical signs of disease are very age-specific; being much more severe in younger animals. In suckling pigs (less than 7 days old) there is profuse, watery diarrhea which is often yellow in color. In many cases, the pigs also vomit, lose their appetite, become dehydrated and die. It generally affects entire litters and up to 50-100% of the litter may die. Pigs over a week of age typically recover. When older animals (nursery, grower, finisher, sows, boars) become infected they may go off feed for 2-4 days, have loose manure (similar to a cow pie) and vomit. The death rate is very low in post-weaning animals (1-3%) but the entire herd may have clinical signs after initial exposure.

The incubation in individual animals is as short as 22-36 hours and the first cases are usually observed 4-5 days after exposure. The disease will spread rapidly within a herd. There are other diseases that cause very similar clinical signs, such as coccidiosis, transmissible gastroenteritis, rota viral diarrhea, Clostridium perfringens enterotoxemia, and E. coli scours. It is essential to submit proper samples to a veterinary diagnostic laboratory for diagnosis.

It is important to note that PEDV only affects swine and cannot spread to humans, nor does it cause a health risk to those who consume pork products derived from infected animals.

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## HOW PEDV HAS EFFECTED MY SHOW SEASON BY SHELBY WIENRICH

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As I prepared for the show season, I was aware of the PEDv virus and worked hard to keep it away from our show barn. I took strict bio-security measures when visiting my breeder; I had a can of Tektrol in the car, in the truck, and at the back door to spray before I entered the barn. We dipped our feet in Synergize before and after entering the barn and we had an extra set of coveralls in the barn – basically we took all of the extra measures we could when we began hearing of PEDv.

We started out the show season with a plan – well that plan soon was changed when, after taking our pigs out for the first weekend to a show, we broke with PEDv, within forty eight hours of returning home. We immediately sent a sample to Iowa State for testing and two days later it came back with the worst news possible – positive for PEDv. From there we began diligently learning more and talking to our veterinarian from Indiana, Dr. Dale Hendrickson from Four Star Veterinary Service, regarding the virus. We spoke to our breeder, Ottenwalter Show Pigs, and then we came up with a plan.

This plan meant the end to my show season or at least that is what it felt like. We had to expose the entire show barn and watch them all go off feed. Some scoured, some vomited, and some did both. I was confused as to why we had to do this – why do you

have to expose a perfectly healthy show pig to this nasty virus? Why can't we show even after the pig's symptoms subside?

I look forward to showing each year with my family and friends in the California Junior Livestock Association. Along with my Pappy, my mother, my sister, and Russell Pedrett from Ottenwalter Show Pigs, I decided it was ethically a better decision to keep the show pigs in the barn until the PEDv had completed its shedding phase. This was one of the hardest decisions I have ever had to make, but in the long run I know I can hold my head high knowing I was one person in this wide spread show industry that worked hard at keeping the virus in my barn and not spreading it to others.

PEDv Has taught me many valuable life lessons, the most important being that competition isn't everything and that it is equally important not to spread the virus to others. I know as an industry we will find an answer to PEDv and overcome this but as someone who has sat out a whole show season because of it, I would ask other to become more proactive. If you have any signs or symptoms in your barn or you are unsure, have the feces tested and, based on the outcome, develop a plan so we stop the spreading of this. It will save tears and more than that, the extra work the virus creates in your barn. Let's all help each other.

As year end approaches Oregon Pork Board would like to remind you to remember to pay your pork checkoff.


Oregon Pork Producers rely heavily on checkoff funds for their budget. Our various clinics and newsletters our brought to you with those checkoff funds.

Checkoff is 40 cents per \$100 of your income made from pigs sales. A small investment you can make in your industry.

Oregon has many pork producers who may be unaware of the mandatory checkoff so we would like to ask you to become proactive in spreading the word of Pork Checkoff.

More producers paying checkoff means Oregon can bring you more programs in different areas around the state.

**PLEASE PAY CHECKOFF**





# OREGON PORK QUARTERLY

May 2014

Vol. 7 Issue 2

## PORCINE DIARRHEA (PEDV/TGEV) PCR PANEL

I have attached the information that will soon be on our website, regarding testing for PED. We will be using a PEDV / TGEV multiplex PCR assay that is currently used by several other AAVLD accredited Vet Diagnostic Labs. Any specimens producing what are considered "suspect" PEDV results, will be re-tested using 2 different genes for PEDV for confirmation of results.

There will be an additional 10% discount on listed prices for USDA surveillance submissions.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions. Donna M Mulrooney, Lab Supervisor-Molecular Diagnostics, Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, College of Veterinary Medicine, Oregon State University, Lab - 541-737-6615 Office - 541-737-5793 FAX: 541-737-6817 donna.mulrooney@oregonstate.edu

**Test Name:**

Porcine PEDV/TGEV Multiplex PCR Panel

**Diagnostic Section:**

Molecular Diagnostics

**Fee:**

\$35.00\*

**Species:**

Porcine

**Set up days:**

M, Tu, W, Th, F

**Turn Around Time:**

2-4 days

**Specimen Requirements:**

~2-3 grams fresh feces, fecal swab, small intestine, intestinal contents or intestinal scraping.

**Collection Protocol:**

Place specimen in a sealed leak proof container. OB sleeves or gloves are not acceptable.

**Shipping Requirements:**

Refrigerated, leak proof container. Ship overnight with ice packs.

**Additional Information:**

Test includes detection of Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea Virus (PEDV) and Transmissible Gastroenteritis Virus (TGEV) \*\$35.00 each for the first 2 samples, then \$28.00 for each additional sample.

## OREGON PORK QUARTERLY ADD RATES

	BLACK & WHITE	COLOR
QUARTER PAGE ANNUAL	\$80.00	\$100.00
QUARTER PAGE	\$20.00	\$25.00
BUSINESS CARD ANNUAL	\$25.00	\$35.00

**Advertising Deadline:**

The Oregon Pork Quarterly is scheduled to be mailed the first week in the months of January, April, July and October. Deadline for all advertising is no later than the 10th of the month prior to publication. Ads may be sent electronic format or hard copy.

Please contact us with any questions.

Call Today—541-513-3881 E-mail: [bonniewuergler@yahoo.com](mailto:bonniewuergler@yahoo.com)

Your advertising support will not only improve your business opportunities but also assist the Oregon Pork Producers Association

### Yearly Membership Rates:

January 1 through December 31

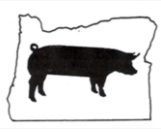
**Individual/Farm Membership - \$20.00**

**Junior – 21 & Under Membership - \$5.00**

Download application at:

<http://oregonporkproducers.com/FileLibrary/States/OR/2013Revis>

# OREGON PORK PRODUCERS



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