



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
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**PED Advisory for Washington Fairs and Exhibitions**

**May 1, 2014**

**Basic Facts**

- Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea (PED) is an emerging swine disease in the United States that was first confirmed in the US in Spring 2013.
- PED is caused by a Corona virus and is highly infectious to swine. The virus is shed in large quantities and the infectious dose is very small so cleanliness is critical.
- PED only infects swine. It is not infectious to people or other animals.
- When a herd is first exposed to PED the primary clinical sign is severe diarrhea in pigs of all ages.
- The virus is spread by ingestion of feces containing the PED virus. The sources for infected feces include pigs, trucks, boots and other fomites.
- The incubation period is 12 to 24 hours and the virus is shed for 7-10 days.
- PED can kill 100% of piglets less than 10 days old. Pigs older than 10 days are expected to recover
- Piglets born to recovered sows are protected by antibodies in the colostrum while nursing. They may become susceptible after weaning.
- Strict biosecurity is the best control measure to keep it out of a farm.
- If it already is on a farm treatment is supportive therapy to address dehydration. You can consult with your veterinarian regarding additional control measures.

**Guidance for Exhibitors**

- If you are purchasing feeder pigs for your project make sure you know where they are coming from. If they're from out of state ask to see the certificate of veterinary inspection.
- A rectal temperature is recommended prior to movement. The normal temperature is 101.5 to 102.5 degrees. If temperature is elevated do the right thing and leave the animal home. (In hot weather the temperature may be elevated. Cool the pig down and retake in 15 minutes.) If the temperature is still elevated, leave the pig home.
- If **any** of your pigs have diarrhea, **no** pigs from your farm should go to the fair.
- Make sure your show box and equipment is cleaned and disinfected prior to going to the fair. All organic material must be removed prior to disinfection. Do not share any equipment with other exhibitors.
- While at the fair avoid unnecessary contact with other swine and other exhibitor's equipment.
- Keep your pens clean. Minimize the tracking of manure from your pens to other areas. Keep your clothing and footwear clean.
- If your pigs become sick during the fair immediately notify the swine superintendent and fair veterinarian.
- Left over feed and bedding and material such as rough cut lumber are difficult or impossible to clean and disinfect. It is recommended these be discarded at the fair so bring only what you need.

- Isolate all pigs after returning home for at least 2 weeks. Observe pigs closely during this period and consult a veterinarian if any become sick.
- Clean and disinfect all equipment, clothing, shoes and trailers.
- Care for the isolated pigs last, **after** being in contact with other pigs on the farm. Make sure nothing from the isolated pigs comes in contact with the resident pigs. Ideally dedicated equipment and protective clothing should be used for handling the isolated pigs.

#### **Guidance for Pre-fair Weigh-in/Tagging Activities**

- It is recommended that wherever possible pre-fair weigh-ins where all the pigs are taken to a central location be **avoided**.
- If the weigh-in is held an effort should be made to avoid direct contact between swine from different farms. If possible the swine should remain on the transport vehicles.
  - More specifically with regard to weigh-ins: I received a great idea from another fair. They took a 55 gal plastic barrel and cut a large enough section out of the side-the full length, cut 4 holes in the side for handles and used it for a pig transport from the trailer to the scale and back. The pigs were not comingled and the “pig transporter” was cleaned and disinfected between exhibitors. I would expect the pigs could be tagged in that confined environment as well.
- Weigh-in staff should utilize good biosecurity practices when handling pigs. If it is necessary to enter vehicles protective clothing should be used and changed between uses. Disposable gloves or hand sanitizer should be utilized for staff having direct contact with pigs.
- Tagging equipment should be disinfected between uses. Ideally 2 or 3 sets of pliers should be utilized so pliers can rotate through a disinfectant bath.

#### **Guidance for Fairs**

- All facilities holding animals are required to be cleaned and disinfected prior to the fair.
- An isolation area for sick animal should be established. This area should be utilized if sick animals cannot be immediately removed from the fair grounds. This area should be away from the general exhibit traffic and other animals. Disposable coveralls and boots should be utilized as well as a hand wash station or hand sanitizer.
- Swine should be observed at check-in by the veterinarian or animal health inspector prior to unloading if possible. The required certificates of veterinary inspection will be reviewed at this time. If sick pigs are observed they ideally should not be unloaded and immediately removed from the fairgrounds. If that is not possible they should be moved to the isolation area. The veterinarian will determine if the entire load must be removed from the grounds.
- The swine superintendent and veterinarian/animal health inspector should check the exhibit on a regular basis for sick pigs. You should have a thermometer available to check temperatures if necessary. The veterinarian should be immediately notified if a sick pig is observed. The pig should be moved to isolation if the veterinary exam is going to be delayed.
- All pens must be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected between exhibits or after a sick pig is removed. A pen that held a sick pig should not be reused during the fair. Any walkways, bath stalls and scales used by suspect pigs must be cleaned and disinfected.
- When cleaning and disinfection are necessary, follow these steps:
  1. Dry clean: Remove as much soiled material as possible with shovel and broom. Avoid generating clouds of dust (lightly spray area with water if necessary to keep dust to a minimum). Dispose of soiled materials in a way that doesn't expose other swine.

2. Wet clean: Use hot water and detergent to remove as much organic material as possible. Avoid using large quantities of water that run into other pens.
  3. Rinse: Again, avoid using too much water.
  4. Disinfect: Chemicals such as Virkon, Tek-Trol, One-Stroke, and Clorox will all work against PEDv. **Follow the label instructions exactly.** Using more than the label instructs is counterproductive and possibly illegal. When using Clorox, remember that bleach is quickly de-activated by organic material, so thorough cleaning is very important.
  5. Allow the area to dry out.
- If a sick pig is removed from a pen, the neighboring pigs should remain in place unless removed to go home or to slaughter. These pigs should be closely observed.
  - The show area should be kept clean during the shows and cleaned and disinfected between shows.
  - Do not use a pressure washer on animals or equipment.
  - **It is recommended that fairs only hold market class or auction class swine shows where pigs are slaughtered after the show and do not return home. Breeding swine classes are discouraged.**
  - **It is recommended that sow with litter exhibits be avoided.**

#### **Guidance for Veterinarians**

- If PED is observed or suspected on a farm, a certificate of veterinary inspection should not be issued for any swine from that farm.
- The practice of inspecting swine on designated fair exam days on numerous farms the same day should be reconsidered. If you are going to proceed with fair exam days, please pay close attention to biosecurity measures between animals and farms.

#### **Washington Swine—Importation and testing requirements (WAC 16-54-111)**

- **Import health requirements.**
  1. All swine entering Washington State must be accompanied by an entry permit, a certificate of veterinary inspection, and official USDA approved identification.
  2. Feral swine are prohibited in Washington State.

**Emergency rule for all swine entering the state - Washington now requires that the certificates include the following statement:**

- a) "To the best of my knowledge, swine represented on this certificate have not originated from premises known to be affected by Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea virus (PEDv), and have not been exposed to PEDv within the last 30 days."
  - b) The certificate must be signed by the animal owner as well as a veterinarian.
- **Import test requirements.**
    1. **Brucellosis.** All intact male and intact female swine more than six months of age must be tested negative for brucellosis within thirty days before entering Washington state or must originate from a USDA validated brucellosis free herd or state (Swine Brucellosis Control/Eradication State-Federal-Industry Uniform Methods and Rules, April, 1998).
    2. **Pseudorabies.** No test is required from states recognized as Stage IV or Stage V by Pseudorabies Eradication State-Federal-Industry Program Standards, November 1, 2003.
    3. A negative Pseudorabies test within thirty days before entry is required for swine from any state or area that loses Stage IV or Stage V status.

