

# MICHIGAN

Michigan's Pork Producers source for information.

# PORK



Pg. 2

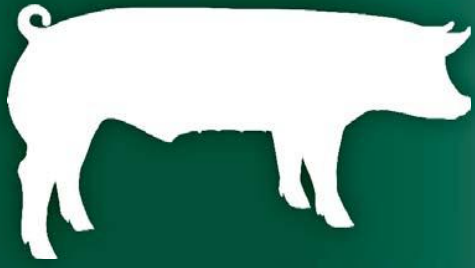
Statewide  
Swine Health  
Update Meetings

Pg. 4

Detroit Chef  
Wins Pork  
Competition

11

2020 Michigan  
Pork Symposium  
Registration



# Swine Health Update: African Swine Fever 101 – Time to Really STOP and Think.....

## Locations:

**January 7, 2020**

6:00-8:30 p.m.

Zeeland Farm Services  
2525 84th Ave.  
Zeeland, MI

**January 9, 2020**

6:00-8:30 p.m.

Cass County MSUE Office  
120 N Broadway St. Suite 209  
Cassopolis, MI

**January 14, 2020**

6:00-8:30 p.m.

Branch County MSUE Office  
570 Marshall Rd, Suite C  
Coldwater, MI

**January 16, 2020**

6:00-8:30 p.m.

Isabella County MSUE Office  
200 N Main St. Room 340  
Mt. Pleasant, MI

Designed for farmers that need to stop and think about the significance of an African Swine Fever outbreak in the United States to their farm. These educational meetings are focused on protecting the viability of Michigan's pork industry and preparing farmers to respond. Experts will discuss how pork producers can prepare for continued production if there would be an outbreak (Secure Pork Supply Planning). MDARD leadership will discuss their role in working with producers in such an event.

## Presentations:

- How does this impact or change my farm?
- African Swine Fever (ASF): Is the threat over?
- How important is your veterinarian during a Foreign Animal Disease (FAD) outbreak?
- Do you have a good plan for your farm?
- How is Michigan poised to respond to ASF or other FAD outbreaks? -Understanding MDARD's role and expectation of the farmer.

Dinner will be provided. Please RSVP to ensure your place at the meeting. RSVP at:  
[www.events.anr.msu.edu/ASF2020Roadshow/](http://www.events.anr.msu.edu/ASF2020Roadshow/)

For questions, call Michigan Pork Producers Association at 517-853-3782 or email [schmitt@mipork.org](mailto:schmitt@mipork.org)

# MICHIGAN

# PORK

Michigan Pork Producers Association  
3515 West Road, Suite B  
East Lansing, Michigan 48823  
(517) 853-3782  
www.mipork.org

2019, VOL. 44, NO. 4

## SPOTLIGHT

**Michigan Pork** is published quarterly by Michigan Pork Producers Association and has a circulation of more than 2,500 copies.

All editorial and advertising are screened along rigid standards, but publisher assumes no responsibility for accuracy or validity of claims, all rights reserved.

For any questions regarding Michigan Pork's mailing list, advertising or content please contact Emily Schmitt at [schmitt@mipork.org](mailto:schmitt@mipork.org) or 517-853-3782.

### MPPA Staff:

#### Mary Kelpinski

Chief Executive Officer  
Managing Editor  
[kelpinski@mipork.org](mailto:kelpinski@mipork.org)

#### Emily Schmitt

Program Director  
Editor  
[schmitt@mipork.org](mailto:schmitt@mipork.org)

\*\*\*On the cover: Chef Maxel Hardy of the Hardy Hospitality Group in Detroit took first place in the Pork on My Fork competition at the Michigan Restaurant and Lodging Show.\*\*\*

Pork on My Fork Competition Highlights ..... 4

## DEPARTMENTS

President's Page .....6  
Across My Desk .....8  
*MSU Pork Quarterly* .....center  
Capital Update..... 12  
Pork Checkoff ..... 14  
Calendar of Events ..... 21  
We're Listening..... 22  
Index to Advertisers..... 23

## FEATURES

Statewide Swine Health Update Meetings.....2  
NPPC Files Legal Challenge to California's Prop. 12.....5  
MPPA Donates Pork to Food Bank.....7  
2020 Michigan Pork Symposium .....10  
US House Approves Funding for More Ag Inspectors.....16  
MPPA Membership Application..... 17  
Beginning Farmer Series offered by MSUE..... 18  
Michigan Pork PAC ..... 19  
African Swine Fever Update.....20  
Now Accepting MPPA Scholarship Applications..... 22

## Detroit Chef Wins Pork on My Fork Competition

**By: Emily Schmitt**

MPPA PROGRAM  
DIRECTOR

**M**axel Hardy, Principal of the Hardy Hospitality Group based in Detroit, was awarded first place in the *Pork on My Fork* Competition at this year's Michigan Restaurant & Lodging Show. The *Pork on My Fork* Competition was held in Novi, MI on Tuesday, Oct. 15 and was sponsored by the Michigan Pork Producers Association.

Chefs from around the state competed to create new dishes that showcase pork and pork products at their finest. Competitors were graded on the taste of the pork including tenderness, texture and flavor; appearance of the dish and originality.

Hardy was awarded \$1,000 for his prize-winning dish. Taking second place, Chef Randy Froschheuser of the Smugglers Tiki Bar in Wyandotte was awarded \$750. Chef Mike Sheskey of Molasses Smokehouse and Bar in Midland placed third with his dish, winning \$500.

The audience was also an active participant in the contest as they selected the winner of the People's Choice award. Each dish, in its final form was set out for the public to see and vote on the dish that looked the most appealing. This year the audience chose Chef Jimmy Hill of Saffron Café in Coldwater. 🐷



*Pictured above, Chef Mike Sheskey prepares his dishes for judging. Above right, Chef Robert Shipman's dish awaits judging. At right, participants, judges and event sponsors gather during the awards presentation.*



Michigan Pork Producers Association

# NPPC, AFBF File Legal Challenge to California's Proposition 12

**T**he National Pork Producers Council and the American Farm Bureau Federation have filed a legal challenge to California's Proposition 12, which imposes animal housing standards that reach outside of California's borders to farms across the United States and beyond.

"Proposition 12 revolves around a set of arbitrary standards that lack any scientific, technical or agricultural basis, and will only serve to inflict further harm on U.S. hog farmers," said Jen Sorenson, NPPC vice president. "California represents approximately 15% of the U.S. pork market, and Proposition 12 will force hog farmers who want to sell pork into the populous state to switch to alternative housing systems, at a significant cost to their business. U.S. pork producers are already fighting to expand market opportunities overseas. We shouldn't have to fight to preserve our domestic market too," she added.

"This law was sold to California voters as a solution to improve animal welfare and food safety, but it has nothing to do with food safety, and many animals will suffer more injury and illness under its arbitrary rules," said AFBF General Counsel Ellen Steen. "The best way to protect animal well-being is to allow farmers to make farm-specific

and animal-specific decisions on animal care. Prop 12 will deny them that ability while driving up their costs. The hardest hit will be family farms, especially smaller independent farms. That means Prop 12 will also lead to fewer family farms and greater consolidation in the pork industry," she said.


Beginning Jan. 1, 2022, Proposition 12 prohibits the sale of pork not produced according to California's highly prescriptive production standards. The proposition applies to any uncooked pork sold in the state, whether raised there or outside its borders. Currently, less than









**AMERICAN FARM BUREAU FEDERATION®**



1% of U.S. pork production meets Prop 12's requirements. In order to comply with Proposition 12, U.S. hog farmers need to start making investment decisions today to be ready by the implementation date.

The complaint asks the courts to strike Proposition 12 as invalid under the Commerce Clause of the U.S. Constitution. 

 <p><b>82,000 PIGS/YEAR</b> ON RESEARCH TRIALS</p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p>PRODUCTION SCALE RESEARCH FACILITIES</p>	 <p><b>75</b> EXECUTED RESEARCH PROTOCOLS</p>
<p>WORKING IN</p>  <p><b>25</b> COUNTRIES</p>	<p>SINCE 1956</p>  <p><b>60</b> Years</p>	 <p>THE INDUSTRY LEADER IN SWINE NUTRITION AND RECOMMENDATIONS</p>
 <p><b>UNITED™</b> ANIMAL HEALTH</p> <p>Brant Graham 616-403-0944      Brandon Hill 269-251-6428</p> <p>UNITEDANH.COM</p>		

“2019...the year that just keeps giving.”

**H**ello again. I hope by the time you are reading this, all of you have been able to finish your harvest and are ready for the challenges and opportunities that winter here in Michigan offers us. 2019 has presented us with plenty of challenges. We started with record cold temperatures, then record spring rainfall that resulted in record acres of crops not planted. We have then had a wet fall harvest that included record snowfall, and again, record cold temperatures for the first part of November. All of this, while hog slaughter numbers seem to break new records on an almost daily basis, resulting in dismal live hog prices. Then, we think maybe, just maybe, we can focus our attention on getting new trade deals signed, and China tariffs lifted. But then along comes new proposed regulations from Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE) that will make life as a livestock producer even more difficult, if not impossible. 2019, the year that just keeps giving.

While I will admit, like maybe some of you, it is easy to become pretty depressed some days while trying to deal with all that 2019 has given us. But actually it could be worse! What you say!?! Really?

What if we didn't have organizations like the National Pork Board, the National Pork Producers Council, and the Michigan Pork Producers Association working to help us deal with these challenges? What if there was no one in Washington D.C. talking to our national leaders about what pork producers are dealing with, how important trade is to our very survival? What if there was nobody promoting the consumption of the record amounts of pork we produce, or talking with our customers about how their food is produced, or educating us as producers about the things that we need to do to maintain our customers trust? What if we did not have a staff of professionals in Lansing attending the meetings and hearings with state legislators and bureaucrats about how rules and regulations effect the production of safe and affordable food for everyone? What if?

I encourage all of us to take the opportunity to be a part of the pork producers association, not just by paying your checkoff, not just by paying your dues, but by being a participant in the process. Hopefully you gave EGLE your input about the proposed permit changes. Don't think for a minute that “I don't have a NPDES permit, it doesn't affect me.” Trust me, it will. “Regulation creep” (as I call it) affects all of us. Also, I encourage you to join us for the Pork symposium on February 20. See what your organization is doing to help you deal with what 2019 has given us and take a look at what the future has in store.

So...GOODBYE 2019! Lets bring on 2020!! Here's wishing you and your family a very HAPPY New Year.




**By: Pat Albright**  
MPPA PRESIDENT

# MPPA Works with Clemens Food Group and the Michigan Agent Charitable Fund to Donate Pork to Local Food Banks

**T**he Farm Bureau Insurance of Michigan Agent Charitable Fund (ACF) has donated a refrigerated semi-trailer to the Food Bank Council of Michigan. The trailer is being delivered to the South Michigan Food Bank located in Battle Creek.

Michigan Pork Producers and the Clemens Food Group in Coldwater partnered with ACF by donating 900 lbs. of ham to fill the trailer.

Over the fall, Farm Bureau Insurance of Michigan employees, members and industry partners participated in the Punt Hunger Campaign, raising over \$21,000 with the goal of providing Michigan turkey, ham, potatoes, and milk to food banks for the holidays.

The South Michigan Food Bank is a hunger-relief network of more than 285 partner agencies and operates in eight counties across the state. In 2018, South Michigan Food Bank provided food for over 6.5 million meals in Barry, Branch, Calhoun, Hillsdale, Jackson, Kalamazoo, Lenawee, and St. Joseph counties. 



*Pictured above, Michigan Farm Bureau employees gather to celebrate the donation of a refrigerated truck to the Food Bank Council of Michigan..*

**Customized Nutrition**  
*that Works for you!*

Formulated with **EnMax**  
nutrition technology

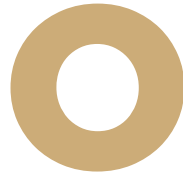
- Net Energy Formulation
- Supplemental Enzymes
- Crystalline Amino Acids
- Best-Cost Formulation

10015 Pierce St, Zeeland, Michigan  
Ben Kamp (616) 291-3697

**BAKKER**  
CONSULTING

Certified Distributor for:  
**RALCO**  
Animal Nutrition

## “Opportunities”



Opportunities come in many different forms especially in the pork industry.

This year, I had the opportunity to serve on the National Pork Board's International Marketing Committee. As part of that commitment, I was able to join the U.S. Meat Export Federation (USMEF) on a trade mission to explore opportunities for U.S. pork in Columbia. Along with several pork producers and other pork industry leaders, we visited Bogota and Medellin in early October.

Last year Columbia trailed only South Korea as the largest growth market for U.S. pork exports. The United States is the leading pork supplier to Columbia, capturing more than 90 percent of the import market. Columbians have been increasing their pork consumption and while most U.S. pork is used for further processing, there has been a recent shift in demand for retail cuts such as boneless sirloins. Columbia's expanding middle class, economic growth, increased tourism and changing consumer tastes have opened the door for pork exports.

We had opportunity to engage both current and prospective Columbian customers, distributors and traders and in-country USDA officials. We also participated in USMEF seminars that discussed global pork production, trade updates, efforts to prevent the spread of African Swine Fever, We Care<sup>SM</sup> sustainability, and pork quality assurance. Colombian customers discussed the confidence they have in the consistency and quality of U.S. pork.

In addition to the opportunities, we discussed some of the challenges such as the image of pork, infrastructure, cold storage capacity and currency exchange.

While all U.S. pork has zero percent duty through the U.S-Columbia Free Trade Agreement we have competition from other countries such as Canada, Chile and Mexico that have similar agreements.



**By: Mary Kelpinski**

MPPA CHIEF  
EXECUTIVE  
OFFICER

### Ag Disaster/Disease Planning & Response

- Secure Pork Supply
- Continuity of Business

Dean Ross  
dross8933@gmail.com  
517-819-8933



Michigan Pork Producers Association



Trade is critical to the financial well-being of U.S. pork producers. Over the past 10 years, the U.S., on average, has been one of the top exporters of pork in the world; we are the lowest-cost producer of pork. In 2018, more than \$51.37 of value per hog came from export markets and nearly one third of production was exported. There is a lot of opportunity to increase the amount and the value of pork exported with more Free Trade Agreements.

The recent announcement of the Japanese Parliament approval of the U.S.-Japan trade agreement, which will greatly improve access in Japan is exciting news. Japan is already one of our top export markets. In 2018 Japan alone contributed \$13.43 towards the value per hog processed.

Ratification of U.S. Mexico Canada Agreement is a top priority for U.S. pork producers ensuring zero-duty market access to two of our largest export markets. Last year, more than 40 percent of U.S. pork exported went to Canada and Mexico.

Securing zero-tariff access to China for U.S. pork would also be an economic boon for American agriculture and the country, according to the National Pork



*Pork producers and industry representatives serving on the National Pork Board's International Marketing Committee joined with the U.S. Meat Export Rederation on a trade mission to explore opportunities for U.S. pork in Columbia.*

Producers Council (NPPC). Based on an analysis by Iowa State University Economist Dermot Hayes, NPPC says unrestricted access to the Chinese chilled and frozen market would reduce the overall trade deficit with China by

nearly six percent and generate 184,000 new U.S. jobs in the next decade.

Our opportunities are limitless we just need to find ways to open the doors to share more U.S. pork with the world! 🐷

## Wooden Purebred Swine Farms

Production Tested F1  
 Hampshire Duroc, Yorkshire,  
 F1 Service Age Boars  
 Open, F1 & Purebred Gilts  
 Fresh Semen Available  
 Delivery Available  
 Quality 4H & FFA Show Pigs Available  
 Cassopolis, MI 49031  
 Dennis Wooden  
 (269) 445-8066  
 (517) 937-5568 (mobile)  
 dkswine@yahoo.com



**High Quality - High Health Aggressive**

# 2020 Michigan Pork Symposium

Thursday, February 20, 2020  
The Lansing Center, 333 E. Michigan Ave,  
Lansing, MI

8:30 a.m. Registration

## PRESENTATIONS

8:50 a.m. Welcome and Introductions

9:00 a.m. Keynote Address

10:00-10:45 a.m. Breakout Sessions for Growers Ranging from Sow Housing to Small Farm and Grow/Finish

11:00-11:45 a.m. Breakout Sessions for Growers Ranging from Sow Housing to Small Farm and Grow/Finish

## BANQUET LUNCH

12:00 Buffet Lunch

Awards Program

Guest Speaker: Bill Even, National Pork Board CEO

## PRESENTATIONS

2:00-2:45 p.m. Breakout Sessions for Growers Ranging from Sow Housing to Small Farm and Grow/Finish

3:00-3:45 p.m. Breakout Sessions for Growers Ranging from Sow Housing to Small Farm and Grow/Finish

## SPONSOR TRADESHOW

4:00-7:00 p.m. **Sponsor Tradeshow** - Talk with sponsors and industry representatives, meet researchers and learn about new research projects in the industry, enjoy appetizers and talk with the day's speakers.

For a complete agenda, visit [mipork.org](http://mipork.org). The registration form for the 2020 Pork Symposium can be found on the next page or at [mipork.org/news-events/michigan-pork-conference](http://mipork.org/news-events/michigan-pork-conference).



Michigan Pork Producers Association

# 2020 Michigan Pork Symposium Registration



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Names (second registration \$25, third \$15, cap of \$100 fee per farm):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

**Single Conference registration \$60.00.**

**Group Rates:**

**Second registration for \$25.00**

**Third registration for \$15.00**

**Fourth or more registration free**

**(Cap of \$100 registration cost per farm)**

\_\_\_\_\_ Total Number of Registrations

\_\_\_\_\_ Total Registration Fees Enclosed

**What is your role in  
the industry?**

**Producer/Owner**

**Industry Rep.**

**Farm Employee**

**Other**

Payment Options:

Credit Card      Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_      Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Name and Zip Code on Card: \_\_\_\_\_

Check: Please make checks payable to MPPA and mail to 3515 West Road, Suite B, East Lansing, MI 48823.

For more information contact: Emily Schmitt (517) 853-3782 [schmitt@mipork.org](mailto:schmitt@mipork.org)



Information for an Industry on the Move

December 2019

Vol. 24 No. 4

## In This Issue...

**1 What is in the Near Future for Michigan's Pork Industry: No More Gestation Stalls as of April 1, 2020**

**3 Sampling Oral and Processing Fluids to Identify Disease in Pigs**

**5 Pest Control**

**7 New CAFO Permit Released**



This newsletter is edited by:

Casey Zangaro, MSU Extension Swine Pork Team, [zangaroc@msu.edu](mailto:zangaroc@msu.edu)  
& Emily Schmitt MPPA, Program Director

# What is in the near future for Michigan's Pork Industry: No more gestation stalls as of April 1, 2020

Dale Rozeboom, Beth Ferry, Janice Swanson, Madonna Benjamin

*This article considers enforcement of Act No. 117, Public Acts of 2009 and how farmers should be prepared for transparency about their breeding herd facilities and management.*

Nearly 10 years have passed since Act No. 117, Public Acts of 2009 was signed with a provision that it would become effective 10-years later, on April 1, 2020. Because of that legislation, after that date, "a farm owner or operator shall not tether or confine any covered animal on a farm for all or the majority of any day, in a manner that prevents such animal from doing any of the following: lying down, standing up, fully extending its limbs, and turning around freely."

Exemptions include sows undergoing individual treatment. According to Pork Quality Assurance Plus® and Common Swine Industry Audit (CSIA), treatment of an animal may include whether the sow has been identified by caretakers and are receiving attention and treatment. The farm's veterinarian can help to develop a treatment plan that includes isolating sick or lame sows in a stall. Another exemption to Act No. 117, allows sows to be held in stalls pre-farrowing for up to 7 days before their expected date of giving birth.

As the enactment date of this legislation nears, there are several questions for Michigan's pork industry. Are Michigan pork farmers, able to comply with this law by April 1, 2020? In the past 10 years, have all gestation facilities been converted to housing systems that allow for the criteria set forth in Act No. 117 to be met? If not, what does that mean for farming operations that may be out of compliance?

There are actions set forth by this legislation which are accompanied by penalties. The law states that the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) or the attorney general "may bring a civil action to restrain, by temporary or permanent injunction, any act or practice in violation of this section.

The action may be brought in the circuit court for the county where the defendant resides or conducts business. The court may issue a temporary or permanent injunction and issue other equitable orders or judgments.” Meaning a judge could suspend your ability to house sows in stalls which violate the law.

Dr. Jim Kober, Assistant State Veterinarian in charge of the swine program says that “MDARD’s role in verification will be a combination of looking at SOP’s and production records, discussions with farm personnel (including the herd veterinarian), and possible site inspections.” MDARD will follow-up on information submitted to them about sow farms that are not complying with this law. According to Act 117, if a third-party audit is required, the farm will be responsible for the audit costs.

If comments are made to local Animal Control officials, will they respond? At this time, it appears unlikely that animal control officers will respond to informants as they are not defined in Act 117 as having authority as a regulatory agency in these types of situations.


The most prominent enforcers of this bill may be the packers, processors, and retail chains, who will need appropriate organization and documentation to sell pork products into states that have passed a ban on the sale of pork from breeding animals “raised confined in a noncomplying manner” (California Proposition 12). Like other industries, appropriate organization and documentation of production practices and facilities will be required of the product chain. Traceability is being based on production practices. Enforcement will fall on the shoulders of the marketers so they can continue to sell pork products into states that have passed a ban on sale of pork from breeding animals “raised confined in a noncomplying manner.”

Enforcement will follow a corporate policy commitment to market in as many locations or states as profitable. California has passed such a law for meat and eggs. It states that all pork sold within their states be from the “immediate offspring of breeding pigs” housed in areas with 24 or more square feet of usable floor space where they can lie down, stand up, turn around, and fully extend their limbs, freely. Massachusetts, Washington, Oregon and very recently, Michigan, will have similar restrictions for the sale of eggs from cage-free systems, only. The market chain in each state will need to make sure that all farmers, within and out-of-state, whose eggs are sold in these states, follow each states legislation regarding production approaches.

Our industry audit programs PQAPlus and CSIA may provide packers, processors and retailers with the knowledge that some farms are not in compliance with Act 117. The possibility exists that housing pregnant females in stalls may be considered a “willful act of abuse” in states where the conventional gestation stall is banned. Act 117 will most assuredly increase the importance of these two auditing programs. If packers, processors, and retailers are not able to use industry audit programs, or choose not to use them, then the other possibility is that they would develop or strengthen their own auditing programs. We know that some have kept their own auditing programs even with the agreement to use the CSIA.

Currently, Proposition 12 in California addressed the offspring of pregnant swine only. It does not address clearly, pork harvested from the sows, themselves. If retailers in a state decide that all incoming products, like sausage, must be acquired from sows that were not housed in gestation stalls, we do not know how sow buying stations and sow packers will be impacted. A sow processor with a facility in Michigan, can at times, buy animals for harvest from multiple states. As some states do not have gestating sow-housing laws, individual sow identification related back to a premise ID will be required to keep track of sow origination.

Other records that likely will need to be kept, will be those associated with timing of ‘confirmation of pregnancy’ or ‘preg-checking.’ Act 117 governs the housing of “any confirmed pregnant sow.” The confirmation of pregnancy (days post-breeding or post-service) will vary from farm to farm. The confirmation and documentation of when a female is officially known to be pregnant will be a critical enforcement obligation. Printed reports of pregnancy confirmation generated by herd management software programs may be documentation requested in a MDARD investigation.

Some . . . many . . . most . . . swine producers in the state have made the changes to their facilities and confining/housing gestating sows according to the requirements of Act 117. They are ready to share with MDARD, packer, buying station, processor and retailer that they meet all requirements. These producers are poised to grasp the share of the domestic market that regulates sow housing. For those that may not have changed all their gestating sow housing, there is a risk for complaint-driven enforcement by public stakeholders and undercover activists. 

# Sampling Oral and Processing Fluids to Identify Disease in Pigs

*Monitoring your herd for diseases has been simplified by new tests using oral and processing fluids. These sampling techniques are inexpensive, easy to do and can be applied to individual pigs (as a diagnostic) or pens/litters (for herd surveillance).*

Madonna Benjamin, DVM, MS. Assistant Professor, Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences, College of Veterinary Medicine, Michigan State University  
Dave Thompson, MSU Extension Pork Team

Successful farmers know the importance of protecting their herds from disease. They know that preventing disease by purchasing healthy animals, using pig flow, appropriate nutrition, vaccines and practicing sound biosecurity is more cost-effective than treatment. But keeping animals disease-free is not always possible. Recent guidelines restricting use of feed-grade antibiotics have added to this challenge, as have concerns over the potential for outbreak of a foreign animal disease such as African Swine Fever. In this context, the next line of defense against disease transfer is early detection before infection spreads to pigs within the farm or other farms.

Traditional methods for disease detection required collection of blood or other tissues, was stressful for animals and required considerable technical skill, time and expense. Fortunately, new methods have been introduced that allow detection of several important diseases, at the herd or individual pig level, by sampling oral fluids (collected from the mouth) or processing

fluids (fluids derived from testicles or docked tails). Both oral and processing fluids are well-suited for identifying disease earlier. Both methods require little time or skill and involve no additional (or minimal/stress-free) handling, so animal performance is not adversely affected.

**Oral fluid.** Oral fluid consists of a mixture of saliva and oral mucosal transudate (antibodies and other proteins that enter the mouth by crossing blood capillaries lining the mucosa). Chewing stimulates oral fluids production. These fluids can be collected when pigs chew on a cotton rope suspended at pig shoulder height in the pen, typically for 20-30 min, and is processed using a simple 4-step procedure (Prickett et al., 2008). This approach is well suited for conducting surveillance in barns whereby the ropes are a novelty for most of the pigs in the pen and oral fluids are a pooled sample of multiple pigs. However, pigs raised outside, on straw, or in smaller groups may have other distractions and may not be sufficiently curious about suspended ropes. For these pigs there are a few other options: a) train the pigs to chew using attractants such as smeared peanut butter on the rope 2-3 days ahead of sampling, b) use segments of a cotton mop (which pigs typically find more interesting than a single rope) or, for an individual pig sample, c) fashion a cotton rope into a “harness” that passes through the back of the



*Figure 1 Cutting a cotton mop into 4 segments for collecting oral fluid from pigs in a pen. Photo courtesy of Dr. Renee Coyer*



*Figure 2: Oral sampling from an individual pig using a cotton rope “harness”*

pig's mouth and loops behind the ears (Fig. 2). Oral fluids can be used either for individual pig sampling or to reflect the pen infection rate. Swine diseases for which oral or processing fluid-based assays have been developed include PRRS, SIV-A, PCV-2, M.hyo, stomach worm and others (Bjstrom-Kraft, et al., 2018) (Figure 3).


**Processing fluid.** Processing fluid provides another simple and efficient method of sampling for disease. Rather than discarding tissues during processing (castration and tail docking), the testicles and tails from littermates are placed in a clean bucket and the fluids are filtered through cheesecloth into a plastic bag. The contents are transferred into a sterile tube and shipped on ice to a veterinary diagnostic lab (Lopez et al., 2017). Typically, the process is repeated for 5-6 litters within a barn. Processing fluids are an important sample to be assayed to determine disease in piglets early and help to identify if infection is in the sow barns, before the pigs are weaned. Processing fluid testing has detected PRRS, PCV-2 and other diseases with high reliability (Lopez et al., 2017). The major disadvantage of using processing fluid for disease surveillance, relative to oral fluid, is that it can be collected at only a single timepoint (i.e., at processing) per animal.

**Role of your veterinarian.** Your veterinarian will provide advice regarding which tests to conduct (diseases to test for, number of litters to test and whether PCR or ELISA should be used). Samples you collect are typically shipped by your veterinarian to a veterinary diagnostic laboratory for assays (PCR or ELISA) that determine either the presence of the bacteria or virus or confirmation that the animal has been exposed (Figure 3). Test results are typically available directly to your veterinarian within 2-3 days for follow-up.

**Trends in oral and processing fluids diagnostics.** What's next for oral and processing fluids testing? Based on recent reports, oral fluid and processing

fluid are rapidly becoming the most important tools for detecting disease in pigs, already outpacing blood sample testing (Zimmerman, 2019). This is probably driven in part by the ease of collection and relatively low cost provided by these forms of diagnostic testing. Leveraging the full diagnostic power of oral fluid and processing fluid testing will require additional research to determine the optimal number of animals to sample, frequency of sampling, and how to design sampling protocols that are random yet also account for spatial patterns that typically characterize spread of disease within a barn (Zimmerman, 2019).

## References

1. Prickett et al. Oral fluid samples for surveillance of commercial growing pigs for porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome virus and porcine circovirus type 2 infections. *J. Swine Health Prod.* 2008; 16:89-91; <https://www.aasv.org/shap/issues/v16n2/v16n2p86.pdf>
2. Bjstrom-Kraft et al., The use of oral fluid diagnostics in swine medicine. *J. Swine Health Prod.* 2018;262-69.
3. Lopez et al. Processing Fluids for Detection of PRRS Activity in Neonates. 2017 ISU James D. McKean Swine Disease Conference. P. 65; <https://www.aasv.org/shap/issues/v26n3/v26n3p146.pdf>
4. Zimmerman, Population-based diagnostics pinpoint the power in numbers. 2019 Pig Health Today, Aug 24, 2019. 

Tissue	Detectable Diseases*	Vet Diagnostic Labs/Links	Cost per Sample
<b>Oral Fluid</b>	PRRS, PCV-2,3 PEDV, SIV-A, PPV, Classical Swine Fever Virus, FMD, Senecavirus A, Rotavirus, M.hyo, Lawsonia, Actinobacillus, Erysipelothrix, Haemophilus, Ascaris**	Iowa State U. <a href="https://vetmed.iastate.edu/vdl/diagnostic_tests/">https://vetmed.iastate.edu/vdl/diagnostic_tests/</a> U. Minn. <a href="https://www.vdl.umn.edu/">https://www.vdl.umn.edu/</a> S. Dakota State U. <a href="https://www.sdstate.edu/veterinary-biomedical-sciences/animal-disease-research-and-diagnostic-laboratory">https://www.sdstate.edu/veterinary-biomedical-sciences/animal-disease-research-and-diagnostic-laboratory</a>	\$10-40 (PRRS-\$25) + \$10 processing fee
<b>Processing Fluid</b>	PRRS, PCV-2,3, PEDV***, Seneca Virus***, M.hyo***	Iowa State U., U. Minn., S. Dakota State U.	\$25-35 + \$10 processing fee

\*This list is incomplete and expanding steadily for oral fluid and processing fluid diagnostics. Tests are PCR or ELISA based.  
\*\*In the configuration used at ISU, a variation on egg/larval stage detection is used.  
\*\*\*These assays are currently in experimental stages and not fully validated, but will typically be conducted upon request.

Figure 3: Oral fluid and Processing fluid options for health surveillance in pigs

# Pest Control

*With the fall and winter season coming to fruition, an increase of rodents and pests make their way into livestock facilities. Learn how to look for evidence of rodents and pests in your facilities and how they may affect your livestock.*

Elizabeth Ferry and Casey Zangaro, MSU Extension Pork Team

As fall and winter season come to fruition, so does the increased potential of rodents and pests coming into livestock facilities. Although minor infestations of rats and mice may not be worrisome for many, as it is common on farms, it is important to understand that even the slightest infestation can affect your bottom line. Pests can have many impacts on your daily operations. Examples of these are the rodent consumption of feed which does add up to feed losses and potentially contaminated feed, the potential for spreading disease to or within a facility, and issues with building maintenance as rodents tend to undermine building foundations, concrete slabs, electrical wiring, and infiltration openings throughout the facility. These factors, along with others, ultimately affects the economic viability of any swine operation and if a rodent control program is not implemented the facility is at risk for a major infestation.

Keeping up-to-date on the rodent control process is an on-going awareness and building a rodent control plan takes many steps. Farms should consider developing Standard Operating Procedures for the sites which will help bring consistency as the steps of the plan are completed and will meet the requirements of various assessment programs.

The first step to a comprehensive rodent control plan is to develop methods for decreasing the rodent population around a facility. There are various building design suggestions and operational recommendations that will help control the rodent population at a facility. Some of these include:

- Maintain a 19-inch barrier of stone or crushed concrete surrounding the site
- Complete routine inspections for signs of rodent infestations
- Keep trash and feed cleaned up around the facility
- Complete regular outdoor maintenance before

and after extreme weather

- Maintain baffles around cables and pipes
- Utilize kick plates on the lower edge of the doors
- Place flaps or crushed wire mesh on inlets

Another one of the major components of a rodent control plan is to develop methods of observation for increased signs of rodent populations. Along with routine baiting, employees and farm staff should be making observations about rodent activity and be ready to respond to increases in activity. It is important to understand that rodents are not active around daytime, but will be noticed more around dusk and nighttime. Although many times you will not see rodent movement throughout the day, employees should be trained to look for sign of rodents on the farm. These signs include:

- Vocalization or Squeaking
- Gnawing on wires and fabrics
- Droppings around walls, behind walls, and near food supply
- Burrow patterns around the outside of the facility
- Smudge marks in the dust on pipes and rafters

Special care should be taken when making observations in common places where evidence of rodents is typically seen:

- Doorways
- Feed bins or loose feed
- Near walls and or cracks around the facility
- Windows or ledges
- Areas of vegetation adjacent to or around facility

Another step to developing a rodent control program is to design a process for routine pest control and



baiting at your facility. A common control practice is to have rodent boxes with rodent bait inside. Boxes should be placed around major rodent pathways and near doorways. Rotating rodent baits is also a good practice, as well as continually checking and replacing bait when necessary.



The active ingredients in rodenticides vary from product-to-product and can be classified in 3 different ways; acute, sub-acute and chronic. Acute rodenticides are fast acting and normally are effective within 24 hours. Sub-acute rodenticides cause death after several days. The lethal dose of the rodenticide may be consumed early on and feeding of this bait may continue until death. Chronic rodenticides are slow acting and cause death as early as 2-3 days or on average from 5-7 days.

Understanding what ways you will be using rodenticides, preventing, control or eradication, will help you decide what product best fits your need.

When considering your bait products, you should also think about the different forms that bait is available in, these include; meals, cut or whole grain, pellets, wax blocks, edible lards/pastes/gels, contact gels or foams and gases. Particulate-based baits have been noted to be more palatable to rodents, compared to wax blocks. Whereas wax blocks are better in adverse conditions and areas like sewers and drainage pipes. What types of rodents and the damage you are dealing with may dictate what bait formation you choose?

In summary, rodents can be a major economic threat to swine facilities if not routinely monitored. It is important to be constant in your rodent control measures, such as knowing and observing for signs of increased populations, checking and changing out rodent baits, removing of dead pests around facility, and regularly documenting all these practices. This, in return, should reduce the health and hazard risks for both the animals and employees on site. 🐷

## OBSERVING PEST POPULATIONS IN LIVESTOCK FACILITIES

SIGNS OF RODENT INFILTRATION	PLACES TO OBSERVE FOR EVIDENCE OF RODENTS
 <b>Squeaking</b>	 <b>Doorways</b>
<b>Gnawing on wires and fabrics</b>	<b>Feed bins or around loose feed</b>
<b>Dropping around walls, behind walls and near food supplies</b>	<b>Near wells and cracks around the facility</b>
<b>Smudge marks on pipes and rafters</b>	<b>Windows or ledges around the facility</b>
<b>Burrow patterns around the outside of the facility</b>	<b>Areas of vegetation adjacent to or around the facility</b>

## New Draft CAFO Permit Released

Erica Rogers, MSU Extension


Reviewed by Sarah Fronczak

Recently, the new draft CAFO General Permit was released from the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE). Many producers have been waiting to see what requirements and regulations the permit holds that differ from the old permit. Changes were made regarding the land application of CAFO waste, Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plans (CNMPs), the manifest of CAFO waste, storage structures, the magnitude of rainfall events, monitoring of discharges, and prohibitions in general. Below are a few such changes:

- No incorporation of waste is required within 24 hours on cover crops, but will be required on wheat stubble (unless applied on a no-till field)
- CNMPs are required to be written and developed by a CNMP provider not just approved
- The generator of CAFO waste must now have a recent soil test (within the last three years) from the recipient before manifesting the waste

- A value for residual solids must now be included within a storage volume design
- The land application of CAFO waste between January, February, and March 1st-19th is now prohibited (land application may be allowed, weather permitting, between March 20th-31st once the department has been notified)
- Likewise, the manifestation of CAFO waste between January, February, and March is prohibited

More changes and related documents can be found on EGLE's website at <https://miwaters.deq.state.mi.us/miwaters/external/publicnotice/info/-2412838348379967584/documents>.

Michigan State University Extension is committed to helping farmers navigate these permit changes moving forward and is available to answer questions that may come up along the way. For assistance please feel free to contact Erica Rogers or Sarah Fronczak (Environmental Management Educators). 

**MICHIGAN STATE**  

---

**UNIVERSITY**

**Extension**

All comments and suggestions should be directed to the:

# MSU Pork Team

**Dale Rozeboom:** Extension Specialist  
(517) 355-8398, [rozeboom@msu.edu](mailto:rozeboom@msu.edu)

**Madonna Benjamin:** Extension Swine Vet  
(517) 614-8875, [gemus@cvm.msu.edu](mailto:gemus@cvm.msu.edu)

**Melissa Millerick-May:** MSU, Division of Occupational and Environmental Medicine  
(517) 432-0707, [melissa.may@hc.msu.edu](mailto:melissa.may@hc.msu.edu)

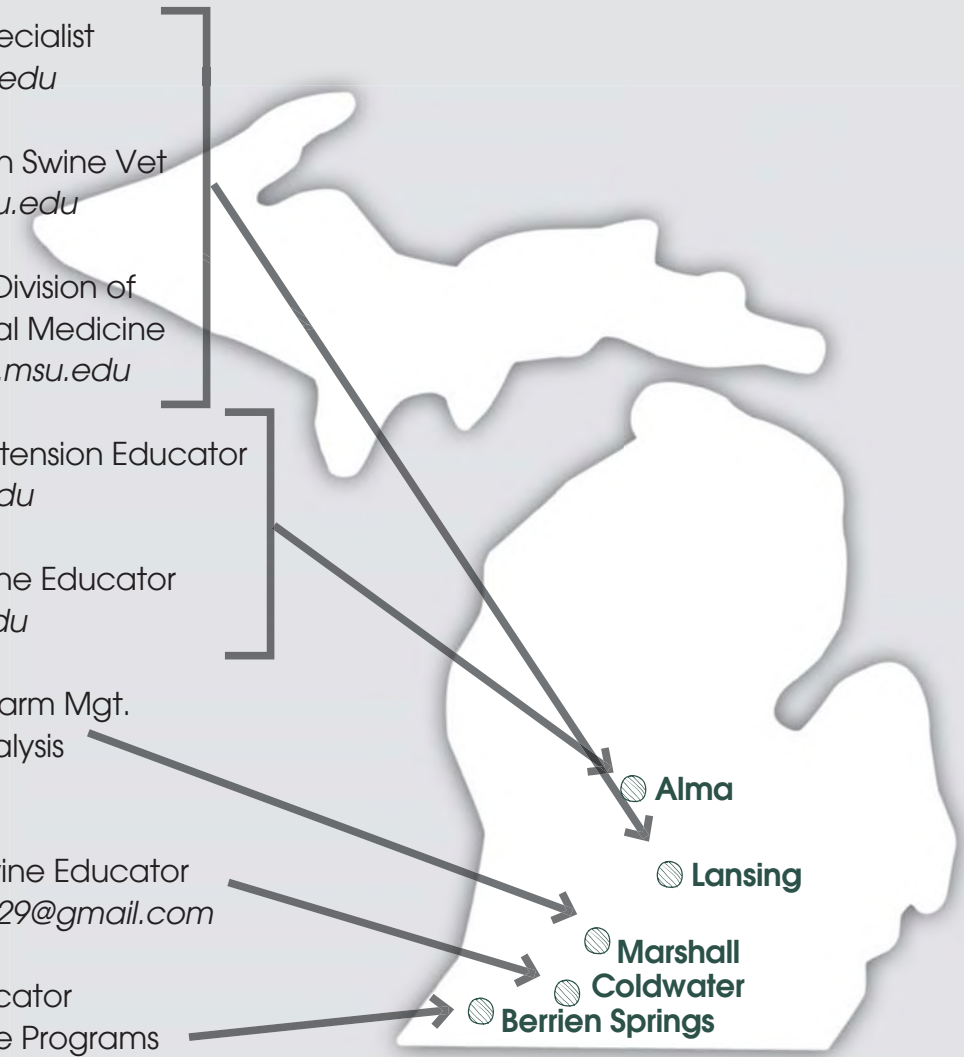
**Erica Rogers:** Environmental Extension Educator  
(989) 875-5296, [roger392@msu.edu](mailto:roger392@msu.edu)

**Casey Zangaro:** Extension Swine Educator  
(989) 875-5292, [zangaro@msu.edu](mailto:zangaro@msu.edu)

**Roger Betz:** Southwest District Farm Mgt.  
Finance, Cash Flow, Business Analysis  
(269) 781-0784, [betz@msu.edu](mailto:betz@msu.edu)

**Dave Thompson:** Extension Swine Educator  
(269) 832-8403, [davethompson729@gmail.com](mailto:davethompson729@gmail.com)

**Beth Ferry:** Southwest Pork Educator  
Management, Quality Assurance Programs  
(269) 876-2745, [franzeli@msu.edu](mailto:franzeli@msu.edu)



**Sign Up for  
the Latest  
News for  
Agriculture**

Want to stay updated on various MSU Extension topics? Sign up for news digests online! Visit [bit.ly/MSUENews](http://bit.ly/MSUENews), and follow the prompts to get customized email digests. Digests are electronic newsletters of recent articles published on the MSU Extension website. You can unsubscribe or change your areas of interest anytime. The digests contain information on categories including agriculture, business, community, family, food and health, lawn and garden, 4-H and youth, and natural resources. Each category has multiple subcategories, so subscribers can narrow down their choices to fit their specific interests.



# Capital Update

All activities reported under this heading are financed by non-checkoff funds.

## U.S. PORK CAN REDUCE OVERALL U.S. TRADE DEFICIT WITH CHINA BY NEARLY SIX PERCENT

Securing zero-tariff access to China for U.S. pork would be an economic boon for American agriculture and the country, according to the National Pork Producers Council (NPPC). Based on an analysis by Iowa State University (ISU) Economist Dermot Hayes, NPPC says unrestricted access to the Chinese chilled and frozen market would reduce the overall trade deficit with China by nearly six percent and generate 184,000 new U.S. jobs in the next decade. NPPC recently launched a digital campaign to spotlight the importance of opening the Chinese market to U.S. pork as trade negotiations continue.

“Were it not for China’s tariffs that are severely limiting access to American goods and other restrictions, including customs clearance delays, U.S. pork could be an economic powerhouse, creating thousands of new jobs, expanding sales and dramatically slashing our nation’s trade deficit. China’s actions would unleash tremendous benefits to U.S. pork producers, our nation and Chinese consumers who rely on this essential protein,” said Hayes.

According to Dr. Hayes’ analysis, U.S. pork sales would generate \$24.5 billion in sales if U.S. pork gained unrestricted access to the world’s largest pork-producing nation over 10 years.

“The U.S. pork industry is missing out on an unprecedented sales opportunity in China when it most needs an affordable, safe and reliable supply of its favored protein,” said NPPC President David Herring, a hog farmer from Lillington, N.C. “The United States is the lowest-cost producer of pork in the world, but with 72 percent tariffs we are not nearly as competitive as Europe, Brazil, Canada and other nations.”

Pork is a staple of the Chinese diet and a major element of the country’s consumer price index. China’s swine herd has been devastated by African swine fever, a disease affecting only pigs with no human health or food safety risks, reducing domestic production by more than 50 percent and resulting in a mounting food price inflation challenge for the country.

NPPC has launched a digital communications campaign to broaden awareness for the unique opportunity for U.S. pork in China.

## HOUSE COMMITTEE APPROVES AG LABOR BILL

The House Judiciary Committee approved legislation that attempts to address the severe labor shortage in U.S. agriculture. H.R. 4916, the Farm Workforce Modernization Act, would expand the H-2A foreign guestworker program and provide a path to legalization for farm workers. The bill, whose original sponsors are Rep. Zoe Lofgren (D-Calif.) and Dan Newhouse (R-Wash.), is headed to the House floor for further action. The measure creates a new “Certified Agricultural Worker” (CAW) program that grants legal status to workers with at least 180 days of agricultural employment over the last two years, establishes a capped H-2A program for employers seeking to bring in temporary workers to fill year-round needs, and dedicates an additional 40,000 green cards per year for agricultural workers. The U.S. pork industry is suffering from a serious labor shortage both on farm and in packing plants. Without visa reform to support a sustainable workforce, production costs will increase, leading to higher food prices for consumers. While NPPC applauds the lawmakers for jumpstarting this critical conversation, we view the bill as an incomplete fix. Although NPPC fully supports opening the H-2A program to year-round labor, the bill unnecessarily caps the year-round visas at just 20,000. A cap of

the year-round program unfairly biases seasonal agricultural industries over hog and other livestock producers that need more than just seasonal workforces. The measure further disadvantages pork producers by reserving half of the year-round H-2A visa for the dairy industry. Finally, the bill's changes only apply to labor on farms and not in plants.

## JAPAN APPROVES U.S. TRADE DEAL

This has been a momentous time for the U.S.-Japan trade deal, as Japan's legislative Diet approved the agreement recently. This allows the agreement to take effect on Jan. 1, 2020. "I commend Japan's quick action to approve these important trade agreements between our two nations, which are the world's first and third largest economies.....Now, U.S. farmers and ranchers will have significantly improved access to Japan's market, and America's leadership in the growing digital economy will continue to flourish to the benefit of all our workers," said U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer. President Trump will sign an implementing proclamation on the agreement. Once implemented, the trade agreement will place U.S. pork producers back on a level playing field with international competitors in one of our most important export markets. Dr. Dermot Hayes, an economist at Iowa State University, estimates exports to Japan could grow from \$1.6 billion in 2018 to more than \$2.2 billion over the next 15 years under market access terms included in the agreement.

## MEXICO APPROVES USMCA REVISIONS; NPPC CALLS FOR CONGRESSIONAL VOTE THIS YEAR

Mexico approved U.S. changes to the U.S.-Mexico-Canada (USMCA) trade agreement, paving the way for a congressional ratification. The Trump administration worked closely with Congressional Democrats to address their concerns in the revisions to the agreement. The National Pork Producers Council (NPPC) applauds the administration, Congress and the governments of Canada and Mexico for working hard to fine-tune the trade deal so that Congress can vote

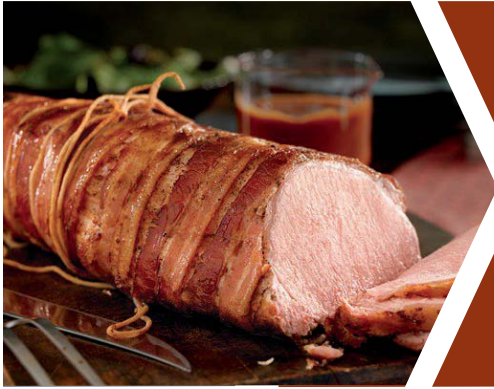
this year.

"Mexico's approval of USMCA changes proposed by the United States is welcome news for U.S. pork producers and all of American agriculture," said NPPC President David Herring, a pork producer from Lillington, N.C. "Members of Congress can count on hearing, yet again, from pork producers as NPPC is unleashing a grassroots call to action. We want a vote this year and NPPC will score this critically important trade agreement as a key vote."

Last year, Canada and Mexico took over 40 percent of the pork that was exported from the United States and a similar percentage is expected this year. U.S. pork exports to Canada and Mexico support 16,000 U.S. jobs. Last year, U.S. pork exports to Mexico totaled \$1.3 billion and exports to Canada totaled \$765 million.

## USDA RELEASES SECOND TRANCHE OF TRADE RETALIATION PAYMENTS

The U.S. Department of Agriculture recently announced the second tranche of 2019 Market Facilitation Program (MFP) payments, aimed at providing trade retaliation relief to American farmers. Producers of MFP-eligible commodities were eligible to receive 25 percent of the total payment expected, in addition to the 50 percent they had already received from the 2019 MFP. As the agency announced in July, eligible U.S. pork producers will receive \$11 per head based on inventory between April 1-May 15, 2019. The USDA also announced it will make pork purchases of \$208 million to support its programs for the food insecure. USDA's second trade retaliation relief package is valued at \$16 billion, with \$14.5 billion dedicated to producer payments, \$1.4 billion for commodity purchases and \$100 million through its Agricultural Trade Promotion Program to help U.S. farmers and ranchers identify and access new export markets. As USDA explained, this is the second of up to three tranches of MFP payments. "The third tranche will be evaluated as market conditions and trade opportunities dictate. If conditions warrant, the third tranche will be made in January 2020," the agency noted.



## Pork Checkoff

Reports on checkoff-funded promotion, research and consumer information programs.

### GIVING TUESDAY LAUNCHED FOURTH ANNUAL HAMS ACROSS AMERICA INITIATIVE

When it comes to giving back to their communities, pig farmers across the U.S. like to adopt the “go big or go home attitude”, and this Giving Tuesday was no different. U.S. pig farmers, the National Pork Board, the National Pork Producers Council (NPPC), Smithfield Foods, Inc., Prairie Fresh Pork, JBS USA Pork and state pork associations kicked off the fourth annual Hams Across America campaign.

“Each year Hams Across America kicks off on Giving Tuesday, which is the first Tuesday after Thanksgiving,” said David Newman, president of the National Pork Board. The program’s concept is simple: Give a ham to those in need or to those you care about this holiday season.”

Pig farmers and those involved in the pork industry are encouraged to extend their giving through Dec. 23 with Hams Across America. Individuals can participate by purchasing a gift of ham (or any pork product) and paying it forward to those in need. Participants are encouraged to share their pay-it-forward stories on social media using #HamsAcrossAmerica and #GiveAHam. They also are encouraged to challenge others they know to pay it forward and to share how they live the We Care<sup>SM</sup> ethical principles. The We Care principles include: Food Safety, Animal Well-Being, Public Health, Environment, Our People and Our Community.

“Hams Across America illustrates key We Care value of America’s pork producers – community support,” said National Pork Producers Council President David Herring. “We’re honored to share our products with those in need so they can enjoy delicious, healthy meals this holiday season.”

The National Pork Board and the NPPC have been partnering with many state pork associations across the United States to extend the Hams Across America campaign through the holiday season.

“Smithfield Foods is proud to again be a part of Hams Across America and to contribute protein to those in need this holiday season,” said Jonathan Toms, associate manager of charitable initiatives for Smithfield Foods. “Hunger relief is at the center of everything we do at Smithfield, and we are humbled to be able to provide support through this partnership with the National Pork Board and the National Pork Producers Council.”

“Our producers at Seaboard Foods and Triumph Foods believe it’s important to support our communities and neighbors whether they are next door or across the country,” said David Eaheart, senior director of communications and Prairie Fresh brand marketing at Seaboard Foods. “With the hope of making the holiday season brighter for those facing food insecurity, we’re glad to join the National Pork Board, NPPC and other U.S. pig farmers in supporting Hams Across America with our Prairie Fresh pork products.”

JBS USA Pork is proud to support the Hams Across America campaign with a donation of 20,000 pounds of pork to the Food Bank of the Rockies. “Hunger relief is an integral part of JBS and we are grateful to be included in this incredible nationwide effort to help feed our communities,” says Bob Krebs, president at JBS USA Pork.

This year, the National Pork Board is partnering with nine YouTube creators who will put their own spin on paying it forward with pork to share the message with consumers. The #HamsAcrossAmerica YouTube campaign runs through the end of the year and is projected to engage 5 million viewers. The roster

of creators includes Good Mythical Morning, Guga Foods, HellthyJunkFood and Binging with Babish. The campaign video playlist and more information on how to get involved can be found at [pork.org/HamsAcrossAmerica](http://pork.org/HamsAcrossAmerica).

“Partnering with influencers to share our pork story has been an important piece of our digital strategy. This is especially important since YouTube reaches 95% of Gen Z, a demographic with whom we need to start building relationships with now,” Newman said. “We are excited for these amazing creators to help share pig farmers’ commitment to our communities.”

## HUMPHREYS, MATSEN JOIN NATIONAL PORK BOARD LEADERSHIP TEAM

The National Pork Board recently named two new executives to its leadership team. Bryan Humphreys has been named the vice president of producer, state and industry relations, and Jacque Matsen has been named vice president of strategic communications. Both assumed their new roles Dec. 16.

Humphreys grew up working on the family farm in Iowa raising hogs, corn and soybeans. After receiving his bachelor’s degree from Iowa State University, he organized grassroots efforts and managed multiple political campaigns around the country. In 2009, he joined the National Pork Producers Council (NPPC) as the director of grassroots, where he encouraged pork producers to tell their stories and interact with influencers and key decision makers. As part of this role, Humphreys also spent time in more urban areas helping educate elected officials and other influential decision makers on modern pork production practices.

In 2014, Humphreys became the executive vice president of the Ohio Pork Council, where he led efforts around some of the most pressing social and environmental issues of the day.

“Bryan is highly respected by pork producers in

Ohio and his colleagues around the country,” said Bill Even, chief executive officer of the National Pork Board. “Ohio Pork has led from the front in terms of innovation and consumer engagement under his leadership, and we’re excited to have him bring a new approach to the national organization’s producer and state outreach efforts.”

Matsen, an Ames, Iowa native, earned degrees in Journalism and Political Science from Iowa State University. She comes to the Pork Board from the Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA) where she served as administrator of the marketing & communications division, which also includes the Iowa Tourism Office. In this role, she oversaw strategic marketing and communication efforts in support of IEDA’s mission to strengthen economic and community vitality across the state.

Before joining IEDA, Matsen was a senior vice president in the Kansas City office of Fleishman Hillard. There, she counseled clients on building markets for new products, crisis response and media engagement. Prior to her agency experience, Matsen oversaw global public affairs for DuPont Pioneer (now Corteva Agriscience) where she managed issues such as biotech/GMO acceptance, and was responsible for executive communications, thought leadership and traditional/social media efforts. Matsen joined Pioneer after spending more than 10 years at the National Cattlemen’s Beef Association in Denver, Colorado, where she led beef industry responses to animal welfare videos, bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), and the use of lean, finely textured beef.

“Jacque’s experience as a leader in ag communication will be invaluable to us as we launch ‘Checkoff 4.0,’” said Even. “Her experience in association, business, and government communication, as well as shaping consumer perception about products and practices will be vital to the pork industry as we face a dynamic, rapidly changing marketplace and increasing threats to production from foreign animal disease.”

# U.S. House Approves Funding for More Ag Inspectors



On December 17, the U.S. House of Representatives approved an additional \$19.6

million in funding for more agricultural inspectors at land, air and seaports to prevent African swine fever (ASF) and other foreign animal diseases (FAD) from entering U.S. borders.

This funding, included in the fiscal year 2020 Department of Homeland Security appropriations bill, is a top priority for the National Pork Producers Council (NPPC), according to a NPPC statement.

“For more than a year, NPPC has advocated for an increase in the number of agricultural inspectors at our borders,” said NPPC President David Herring, a pork producer from Lillington, N.C., in a NPPC statement.

The most likely path for a FAD to enter the country would be through the importation of infected animals or contaminated products. An outbreak of certain FADs would immediately close U.S. pork export markets, with significant harm to our farmers, consumers and overall economy.

“We applaud the House, especially Reps. Vela, Thompson, Peterson, Axne, Carbajal, Gonzalez, Costa, Rouzer and Fortenberry, for approving an essential provision to reduce the risk of ASF and other FADs and to protect the rural economy from a devastating outbreak. We also thank the USDA and Customs and Border Protection for all they have done to strengthen



*Beagles like this one help locate meat products being brought into the country at international airports. that could potentially carry foreign diseases.*

U.S. biosecurity,” Herring said in the statement.

NPPC continues to advocate for other FAD preparedness measures, including establishing a U.S. Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD) vaccine bank as provided for in the 2018 Farm Bill.

It’s critical to note that FMD, an infectious viral disease that affects cloven-hooved animals, including cattle, pigs and sheep, it is not a food safety or human health threat. The disease is endemic in many regions of the world and would have widespread, long-term fallout for U.S. livestock and crop agriculture, including the immediate

loss of export markets.

The United States does not currently have access to enough vaccine to quickly contain and eradicate an FMD outbreak. An outbreak would result in \$128 billion in losses for the beef and pork sectors, according to Iowa State University research. It would also cause losses of \$44 billion and \$25 billion, respectively, to corn and soybean farmers, and more than 1.5 million lost jobs across U.S. agriculture over 10 years.

*This article was written by Jennifer Shike and originally published by the Pork Farm Journal.*



**United Producers, Inc.**  
Fowler, Mich.

**Denny Thelen, Regional Sales Manager**

Call: (989) 640-1091

Email: [dthelen@uproducers.com](mailto:dthelen@uproducers.com)

Web: [www.uproducers.com](http://www.uproducers.com)



# 2020 Michigan Pork Producers Association Membership Application



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zipcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check one:

- \$40.00 Regular Member: Individuals or firm with over \$30,000.00 gross annual sales from hogs.
- \$100.00 Gold Regular Member: Individuals or firm with over \$30,000.00 gross annual sales from hogs.
- \$40.00 Associate Member: Person or companies associated with the pork industry.
- \$100.00 Gold Associate Member: Person or companies associated with the pork industry.
- \$5.00 Student Member: Individuals under 21 years of age. Student members do not have voting privileges.
- \$250.00 Gold Industry Member Contributor: A Gold Industry Contributor provides additional support for MPPA programs requiring the use of unrestricted (non-checkoff) funds.

Payment Options:

Credit Card: Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_ Billing Zipcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Check: Please make checks payable to MPPA and mail to 3515 West Road, Suite B, East Lansing, MI 48823

As a result of changes made by the 1993 Tax Act, 25% of membership dues are not deductible for federal income tax purposes.

# New Beginning Farmers series offered online by MSU Extension

**P**eople who are exploring new farm businesses will benefit from participating in the Michigan State University Extension 2020 Beginning Farmer Webinar Series. New and expanding farm businesses provide jobs, income, increased economic and social stability, and increased food security to rural and other communities. Providing basic, practical information on sound production practices, business management and marketing to people interested in, or already engaging in, new and expanding farm enterprises of any size helps these small businesses succeed.

From January to April 2020, MSU Extension will offer 13 one-hour long online programs that will take place Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. EST. These programs will provide valuable start-up information on general and more specific farming topics, including:

“Getting started with....”

- New farm start-up – Jan. 15
- Wash-pack facilities – Jan. 22
- Michigan cottage food – Jan. 29
- Growing hemp in Michigan – Feb. 5
- CSAs in Michigan – Feb. 12
- Safe use of animal-based soil amendments – Feb. 19
- Agroforestry: Silvo-pasture options – Feb. 26
- Selling to food hubs – March 4



- Farm labor – March 11
- No-till vegetable production on small scale – March 18
- Pricing products for different markets – March 25
- Hosting on-farm educational events – April 1
- Measuring soil health – April 8


Participate from the comfort and convenience of your own home or office. A fee of \$5 per webinar is required, or you can register for the entire series for \$32.50. Webinar recordings will be provided to all registered participants. A high-speed internet connection is required. You will receive webinar connection information after you register.

Registration, a brochure containing details on each individual program and online or mailed

payment options can be found at <https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/new-beginning-farmers-series-offered-online>. You may register for all or any of the courses at any time, even if the session has already taken place. In that case, you will get a link to the recorded program.

If you experience any problems with registration, please contact the Alger County MSU Extension office at 906-387-2530 or [isleibj@msu.edu](mailto:isleibj@msu.edu).

Several archived recordings of MSU Extension Beginning Farmer Webinars on a variety of topics from previous years are available for viewing at the Beginning Farmer Webinar Series website.

Contact the Alger County MSU Extension office at 906-387-2530 or [isleibj@msu.edu](mailto:isleibj@msu.edu) for more information. 

## SWINE VETERINARY SERVICES OF MICHIGAN

*\*Partner of 4 Star Veterinary Services\**

60 Veterans Dr. #7, Holland, MI 49423

**616-355-PIGS (7447) FAX 616-355-7110**

Joanna Kane, D.V.M.

[svsmi@4starvets.com](mailto:svsmi@4starvets.com)

# MI Pork PAC

Helping elect friends of the Michigan pork industry.

*The Michigan Pork PAC is the bi-partisan political action arm of the Michigan Pork Producers Association. The MI Pork PAC enables producers to pool their resources together and become directly involved in the election process.*

*A strong political action committee compliments our advocacy efforts at the state Capitol. By contributing to the MI Pork PAC, you are helping to elect legislators who support your industry. By working with our elected lawmakers, we can be assured that we will have maximum impact in shaping policy issues that impact you. A strong PAC assures us that pork producers and candidates who support us will be at the table when decisions impacting your industry are being made.*

*Please keep in mind that contributions may be accepted from individuals, partnerships, LLC's, and Sole Proprietors. However, NO CORPORATE CONTRIBUTIONS CAN BE ACCEPTED.*

*Contributions to the PAC are not deductible as charitable contributions for Federal income tax purposes.*



## MI Pork PAC Contribution

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to contribute:

\$250    \$150    \$100    \$50    Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Payment Options

Credit Card:

Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Name and zip code on Card:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Check:

Please make checks payable to: **MI Pork PAC**

Mail to: Michigan Pork Producers Association,  
3515 West Road, Suite B,  
East Lansing, MI 48823

## Working for you...

by urging legislators to enact  
responsible legislation  
and regulation.

# African Swine Fever Update

## Indonesia: Latest Country to Get ASF

**T**he spread of African swine fever (ASF) continues across much of Asia. The minister of agriculture for Indonesia announced the confirmation of the country's first outbreak of ASF in its North Sumatra province (far northwest part of multi-island nation) on Dec. 12. The official announcement is not unexpected since reports of increased pig mortality have come from this province and others since late September. Even though the majority of Indonesians practice Islam, more than 80 percent of the people living on the tourist island of Bali identify as Hindu and consume pork.

The United Nation's Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) is coordinating with Indonesia's directorate general of Livestock and Animal Health Services. The nation's animal health director requested that the FAO provide recommendations on containment

and control of the virus, which the organization is doing.

Meanwhile, travelers entering Taiwan from Indonesia will face fines if they are caught bringing pork products into the nation, according to Taiwan's Central Emergency Operation Center for African Swine Fever. Visitors from ASF-affected and high-risk countries and regions who try to bring pork products into Taiwan will face fines of NT\$200,000 (US\$6,597) for first-time offenders, followed by fines of up to NT\$1 million for repeat offenders.

Indonesia joins Cambodia, China, Hong Kong, Laos, Macau, Mongolia, Myanmar, North and South Korea, the Philippines, Russia, Thailand and Vietnam as countries from which travelers entering Taiwan must have their carry-on luggage checked due to confirmation of ASF in those countries or territories. 

## Aussies Bolster ASF Response with \$66 Million Package

**O**n Dec. 11, the Australian government announced \$66.6 million to address the immediate threat of African swine fever (ASF). Specifically, this funding will deliver:

- More biosecurity officers and six new detector dogs Two new 3-D x-ray machines that will be installed in Sydney and Melbourne mail centers A new squad of post-border biosecurity officers to help identify and target incorrectly declared products brought into Australia for sale
- Market access negotiations to facilitate continued trade if the country has an ASF outbreak
- Development of mobile capability through the implementation of portable devices to manage passenger biosecurity – This will include the roll-out of a portable device to issue infringements and accept payments, enabling biosecurity

officers to infringe on the spot in airports.

While ASF has never occurred in Australia, the virus' changing and growing global distribution means it's a significant biosecurity threat to the country. The ASF-positive site in the country of East Timor is less than 500 miles from the Australian mainland.

Australian Minister for Agriculture Bridget McKenzie recently said, "If this disease gets in, it could decimate our pork industry that contributes A\$5.2 billion to our farmers' hip pockets, regional economies and the nation's bottom line. Our agricultural sector, already battling drought, can't afford to take a hit of that magnitude. We export 70% of what we grow, and we're in demand internationally because of our reputation for safe, clean and green food and fiber – a reputation built on our pest- and disease-free status. Right now, the threat is ASF. There's no cure, no vaccine and about a quarter of the world's pigs have been wiped out because of it." 

## ASF Continues to Grow in Poland

Unfortunately for Polish pork producers and exporters, a pocket of ASF spread by wild pigs has continued to grow over the past month in Lubusz province near the German border. However, a bigger concern now is the adjacent new ASF-positive area of Wielkopolskie province, which is home to 36% of the nation's pigs, the most of any in the country.

Although the actual report of ASF in Lubusz province was 30-some miles from Germany, which is the EU's top pork producer, the European Commission (EC), which oversees animal disease control zones and other items has extended Poland's ASF control zone all the way to the German border itself.

According to a recent report by Bloomberg News, Poland has grappled with the virus since 2014, but until last month most cases had been detected in the country's eastern area. While the disease hasn't been found on a domestic pig farm in the Wielkopolskie province, the outbreak poses an increased threat to output. This reality threatens the EU's ability to supply pork to China where the virus has devastated herds.

For German pig farmers, the increase in positive ASF reports from neighboring Poland is very unwelcome news. Some are asking Poland to construct a border-type wall to deter infected wild boar from entering Germany such as those already in place in Belgium where a small number of infected wild pigs still exist. As another step, German officials are issuing leaflets, posters and social media messages in several languages urging people not to throw away waste food in border areas. 🐷



## Calendar of Events

### Jan.:

- 7 Swine Health Update Meeting**  
Zeeland, Mich.
- 9 Swine Health Update Meeting**  
Cassopolis, Mich.
- 14 Swine Health Update Meeting**  
Coldwater, Mich.
- 16 Swine Health Update Meeting**  
Mt. Pleasant, Mich.
- 24-25 Green and White Swine Show**  
East Lansing, Mich.

### Feb.:

- 20 Michigan Pork Symposium**  
East Lansing, Mich.
- 21 MPPA Board Meeting**  
East Lansing, Mich.

### March:

- 4-6 National Pork Forum**  
Kansas City, MO

# We're Listening

## Dear MPPA,

Thank you for your donation to the Michigan State University College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. Your contribution, designated to the Livestock Judging Team, is greatly appreciated.

With programs from food and health to agriculture and 4-H, MSU Extension brings research and education together, making it accessible for people in all 83 Michigan counties. Gifts like yours are critical to the success of our programs and our students. Thank you for your continued support.

**Ron Hendrick**, Professor and Dean,  
College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, MSU




## Now accepting MPPA scholarship applications

**T**he Michigan Pork Producers Association awards more than \$3,000 annually in scholarships to high school seniors, college freshmen, sophomores or junior students. The Pork Industry Scholarship is available to all youth interested in the pork industry or a related field. Students attending four-year colleges and technology programs are eligible to apply. The judging will be based on the written application.

**The deadline to apply for the 2020 Michigan Pork Producers Association's scholarship is February 4, 2020. Winners will be announced at the Michigan Pork Symposium February 20, 2020.**

The applications are available at [www.mipork.org/michigan-pork-industry-scholarship/](http://www.mipork.org/michigan-pork-industry-scholarship/)

Please contact Emily Schmitt with questions at [schmitt@mipork.org](mailto:schmitt@mipork.org) or 517-853-3782. 

**Albright** Swine Farms  
Doug: 517-416-5781 Pat: 989-429-5215  
965 Flint Rd. Coldwater, MI

**Berkshires**  
**Durocs**  
**Yorkshires**  
**Herefords**  
**Crossbreds**

**Boars** **Semen Sales**  
**Open Gilts** **Bred Gilts**  
**Feeder Pigs**

Visit our website for more information!  
[www.brightswine.com](http://www.brightswine.com)

# MPPA Board of Directors:



Afton Blight Maksimchuk  
Homer, (517) 488-4938

Lee Carte  
Remus, (989) 967-3669

Bob Dykhuis  
Holland, (269) 751-7189

Erin Ehinger  
Zeeland, (616) 218-5079

Beth Ferry, MSU Extension  
Cassopolis, (269) 445-4438

Brandon Hill, United Animal Health  
Mason, (269) 251-6428

Scott McKenzie  
Marcellus, (269) 506-8718

Ed Reed  
Marcellus, (269) 646-2431

Jeff Russcher  
Zeeland, (269) 208-9832

Rick Sietsema  
Allendale, (616) 895-7493

Zack Snider  
Hart, (231) 873-5912

Fred Walcott  
Allendale, (231) 873-1635

Andy White  
Jones, (269)506-1978

Dennis Wooden  
Cassopolis, (269) 445-8066

## Executive Committee:

Pat Albright, President  
Coldwater, (517) 238-5817

Tim Kruithoff, Treasurer  
Kent City, (616) 675-7787

Ryan Hunter, Vice-President  
Vicksburg, (269) 649-0764

Brian Pridgeon, Secretary  
Montgomery, (517) 296-4543

## ADVERTISERS

- 8 | **Agrosecurity Consulting**
- 24 | **Albright Swine Farms**
- 7 | **Bakker Consulting**
- 20 | **Swine Vet Services of Michigan**
- 5 | **United Animal Health**
- 18 | **United Producers, Inc**
- 9 | **Wooden Farms**

## Instant Pot Pork Chili and Rice

### INGREDIENTS

- 2 pounds boneless pork loin
- 2 tsp ground cumin
- 1 tbsp chili powder
- 1 tsp paprika
- 2 tsp dried basil
- 1 tsp kosher salt
- 1/2 tsp black pepper
- 1/4 cup vegetable oil divided
- 1/2 large onion diced
- 1 tbsp minced garlic
- 1 28oz can diced tomatoes
- 1/2 cup chicken or beef stock
- 1 15oz can kidney beans drained
- 1 4oz can diced chilis
- 2 tbsp cornstarch
- 2 tbsp water

### INSTRUCTIONS:

Cut the pork into chunks about 1-2 inches in size and transfer to a bowl. In a small bowl combine the cumin, chili powder, paprika, basil, salt and pepper. Toss the pork with the seasoning. Set your Instant Pot on sauté mode and add 2 tbsp of the vegetable oil. Once the oil is hot add half of the pork and sear for a couple of minutes. Transfer to another bowl and repeat with the remaining pork. Set pork aside after searing. Add the remaining oil to the pot and then add the onions stirring for 1 minute. Add the garlic and stir. Pour the full can of tomatoes into the pot along with the stock, beans and chilis. Add the pork and stir well.

Set the Instant Pot to meat setting and cook for 30 minutes at high pressure. After 30 minutes, release the steam and open the pot. Stir and test a piece of the pork, it should be tender and fall apart. If not it may need another 5 minutes. Once the pork is done combine the water and cornstarch until dissolved. Add the cornstarch mixture and using the saute setting stir for 1-2 minutes until the chili thickens. Serve over rice with fresh cilantro.

*Recipe courtesy of FOODNESSGRACIOUS*

