



## **LEVIS Worldwide Swine Consultancy**

5910 South 88<sup>th</sup> Street  
Lincoln, NE 68526-9486  
United States of America

Cell: 402 607 0043  
Home: 402 261 8242  
Email: donlevis@hotmail.com

Date: December 13, 2014

After retiring from the University of Nebraska on January 31, 2010, I continued my Levis Worldwide Swine Consultancy business. Since my retirement, I have been working in China, Vietnam, The Philippines, Bulgaria and United States. An interesting consulting activity was working with the Texas Department of Criminal Justice at Huntsville, Texas. I trained prisoners and supervisors at the maximum security prison (Madisonville, TX) on how to collect and process boar semen and artificially inseminate sows. This was a very enjoyable hands-on educational activity. Last fall I spent six consecutive weeks working with a swine enterprise in California. It was an excellent six weeks of consulting activities.

On November 19, 2014 I spent my 70<sup>th</sup> birthday in three countries [(Varna, Bulgaria (morning), rapidly walking through the Vienna, Austria airport to catch the next flight, and Geneva, Switzerland (evening)]. My wife and I were on our way back to the USA from consulting with a 3,000-sow farrow-to-finish operation in Bulgaria for seven days. I will be making a follow-up visit during the summer of 2015. The owner of the swine operation has contacted the USDA office in Bulgaria and the Bulgarian Pork Producers Association about my working with more Bulgarian pork producers during my next visit. It appears they are organizing educational meetings for the Bulgarian pork industry.

I have also been busy working on projects for the National Pork Board, U.S. Pork Center of Excellence, U.S. Grains Council-Beijing, U.S. Soybean Export Council-Beijing, and Professional Animal Auditor Certification Organization. I still do a few pork producer meetings in the United States. I have been thinking about totally stopping my pork industry activities. My increasing age is making the international trips a little more difficult, especially those 15- to 16-hour non-stop flights from Chicago to China or Los Angeles to Australia. I can easily handle the 8- to 9-hour non-stop flights into Europe. During retirement, I have flown over 85,000 miles. When possible, my wife travels with me. She learned a lot during our trip to Bulgaria. We stayed in a small farming community in northeastern Bulgaria where very few people speak English. The area has a lot of poverty, people smoking, and burning of wood for warmth. A person gets a better understanding about a country when they get out into the country instead of just visiting large cities. Being an on-farm consultant takes me into the rural areas of a country and not the big cities.

Cindy and I have seven grand-children (6 boys and 1 girl; 4 of the kids live in Omaha and 3 in Lincoln). We try to attend as many of their activities as possible.