

# Swine Biosecurity Tasks Before, During and After a Show What Show Management Can Do

Jodi Sterle, Ph.D.  
Department of Animal Science  
Iowa State University

# Exhibitors

- Preparing before pigs
- New pigs
- First few weeks
- Prior to show
- At the show
- Returning home
  - With or without pigs



# Exhibitors

- Many exhibitors do not think of biosecurity
- Might not think of it broadly enough
  - Trailers, showbox, etc.
- Educational opportunity



# Prior to Show – Show Management

- Determine health “rules”
  - State laws and regulations
  - Terminal vs Non-terminal
  - Market vs Breeding
  - Premium book
  - Communicate far and wide!





# Prior to Show – Show Management

## – Other communication?

- Exhibitors
  - Local veterinarians
  - 4-H Leaders and FFA instructors
  - Breeders
- Create environment that is not punitive
    - Build trust
    - Avoid judgement

# Prior to Show – Show Management

- Develop crisis management plan
  - More than just disease outbreak
  - Involve experts prior
  - Volunteer/Superintendent training/awareness
  - Exhibitor communications
  - Media response
  - Create isolation plan



# Prior to Show

- Disinfect facilities
  - Pens
  - Gates
  - Wash rack
- Disinfect equipment
  - Sorting boards



# During the Show

- Post show veterinarian contact information
- Observe daily – walk throughs
- Create environment that is not punitive
  - Build trust for reporting
- Report
- Remove sick pigs
  - Where and how?
  - Minimize disease transmission





# During the Show

- Sick pigs (continued)
  - Do not restock pen once sick animals are removed
  - Avoid foot traffic around pen
  - Manure and equipment (broom, shovel)
  - Wash hands
  - Change and wash clothes

# If an Outbreak Occurs...

- Hopefully have established relationship with veterinarian
  - Who understands shows
- Consider risks
  - Zoonotic?
  - Transmission?
  - Terminal show?
  - Commercial swine industry implications?

# Take Home Messages

- Many exhibitors may not think of biosecurity
  - Educational opportunity
- Show management – involve veterinarian – plan in place before an outbreak
- If an outbreak occurs:
  - Don't ignore it
  - Don't overreact



# Resources

- National Pork Board
  - <https://lms.pork.org/Tools/View/show-pigs>
  - Several fact sheets for exhibitors and show management