

Season 3, Episode 6: Biocontainment in Grow Finish Hogs

Dr. Paul Yeske, Swine Vet Center, and Dr. Giovanni Trevisan, Iowa State University, discuss the importance of biosecurity and biocontainment in grow-finish operations.



Biosecurity & biocontainment

Biosecurity is implemented to prevent introduction of a new disease within an operation. However, when biosecurity is breached biocontainment becomes the next important piece of the puzzle. Biocontainment is the often-forgotten portion of biosecurity. Keeping a disease on an operation once contamination has occurred is vital to eliminating the spread.

Seasonality

The time of year seems to impact the presence and incidence of certain diseases. Cooler temperatures lend themselves to the flare up and spread of diseases such as PRRSV and Swine Influenza. Along with cooler temperatures, activities occurring during this time of the year include pit pumping, manure spreading and hectic harvest schedules. Keep in mind, outbreaks in grow-finish operations can lead to positivity spikes down the line within sow operations. It is important to stay vigilant with biosecurity protocols year-round, but especially during these seasonal windows.

Monitoring

An ongoing project within the Field Epidemiology team at Iowa State University Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory aims to report and describe infectious agent detection over time. The [Swine Disease Reporting System \(SDRS\)](#) shows trends in disease detection and can be accessed online. Continuously monitor your herd for clinical signs of disease. For example, decreased water consumption can be one of the first indications of an animal becoming ill. Other indicators include reduction in animal activity and increased daily mortality. If disease is suspected, oral fluid samples can be sent to the diagnostic lab for evaluation. Post mortem exam or necropsy can also be used to identify a potential disease. Diagnostics can help determine what disease challenge you are facing as well as the best direction for treatment and containment.

The basics

Remember the basics, such as keeping clean and dirty lines of separation. Change into new clothes and boots prior to entering the barn. Wash your hands, vehicles and equipment when going between multiple sites. Be very vigilant when handling daily mortalities, so you are not tracking disease back into your barns. When starting new pigs give them the best start possible, by washing barns and water lines thoroughly. Also, make sure environmental temperatures are adequate. Ensure open communication with vaccination crews, so they are aware of the health status of your operation. It is also important to be a good neighbor and communicate any change in the health of your animals to other producers in your area. Additionally, communication among your internal team is critical. Make sure all caretakers are properly trained, aware and equipped to follow all biosecurity and biocontainment protocols.

To Listen to this full podcast please visit: <https://globalagnetwork.com/pigx/podcast/season-3-episode-6-biocontainment-in-grow-finish-hogs-with-dr-paul-yeske-and-giovani-trevisan>

