



## **Season 4, Episode 5: Biosecurity and Foreign Animal Disease Successes and Failures**

**Dr. Jordan Graham**, Veterinarian for Swine Vet Center, and **Dr. Dusty Oedekoven**, Chief Veterinarian for National Pork Board, discuss biosecurity and foreign animal disease successes and failures.

### **Background**

Biosecurity is a large part the swine industry and keeping animals safe from foreign animal diseases. The conversations around biosecurity and the successes and failures in the prevention and containment of Foreign Animal Diseases, specifically African Swine Fever, need to be had. These diseases have a detrimental impact on the swine industry worldwide, so important conversations pertaining to biosecurity and preparing for outbreaks is critical.

### **Biosecurity**

There are four big areas of biosecurity: people, pathogens, facilities, and bio-exclusion/biocontainment. Biosecurity is an incredibly large part of the swine industry as illness and foreign animal disease can devastate swine production. There are frustrations on mindsets of biosecurity as it seems to be the same conversations and with nothing done to make improvements. Something to consider is if staff are being set up for success and if they are given the proper equipment and training to execute biosecurity properly. Another problem is facility design and if the design is conducive to biosecurity practices. It is important to understand the difference between bioexclusion versus biocontainment. Bioexclusion is keeping pathogens from getting into the herd while biocontainment is having a pathogen in the herd and keeping it from spreading.

### **Foreign Animal Disease**

While being prepared for the outbreak of a foreign animal disease can be considered a luxury, it is still important to be prepared for the impact it may make on the industry. A foreign animal disease may not have entered the United States yet, but looking at history, diseases like West Nile have eventually infiltrated the United States. Producers do also still need to be prepared for reemergence of domestic diseases that can be found in production. It is suggested to start by preparing a plan and have a basic awareness of the disease threats. Projections show that African Swine Fever hitting the United States would cause a huge economic impact in the billions. This serious disease is evolving and has a new genotype that is causing huge outbreaks in the Eastern Hemisphere.

### **Successes and Failures related to Foreign Animal Disease**

There are many lessons to learn about African Swine Fever (ASF) with its presence Europe as it is an evolving problem with active outbreaks. Countries such as Denmark have shared their successes, failures, and challenges with containing foreign animal diseases from spreading. Biosecurity is the most important thing that can be done to protect the domestic swine herd and is needed to keep ASF from spreading in the wild boar herds and to keep people from spreading to the domestic herd. Utilizing fencing to control how people enter is one strategy to make sure they enter with clean vehicles and are not spreading diseases across countries, while also reducing wild herd infection.

**To Listen to this full podcast please visit:** <https://globalagnetwork.com/pigx/podcast/season-4-episode-5-biosecurity-and-foreign-animal-disease-overview>

