



## Season 4, Episode 6: PRRS Management Program

Dr. Daniel Linhares, Associate Professor and the Director of Graduate Education for the Iowa State University's College of Veterinary Medicine, and Dr. Chris Rademacher, a Swine Extension Veterinarian and the Associate Director for the Iowa Pork Industry Center, discussing past outbreak management programs for the PRRS virus.

### ***PRRS association to the seasons***

As we enter into the colder season and the temperatures start diminishing, we start to see more clinical cases of PRRS. The fall is when farmers are harvesting and we see the majority of our manure pumping which creates a potential biosecurity hazard and potential vector for pathogens. Dr. Linhares stated in October they noticed the activity of grow-finish sites spiking in positivity in terms of PCR. He states that the swine industry is doing a good job raising awareness of the importance of biocontainment in grow-finish sites. People in the industry are becoming more aware that grow finish sites are a source of amplifying virus, leading to increased submission of samples from those sites for testing and monitoring for PRRS activity.

### ***PRRS Outbreaks***

There are reasons to observe for PRRS throughout the year no matter the status of your herd. Even if your herd is negative, you still want to make sure you detect early so you have an early intervention so that you can prevent the cascade of affecting other sites. If you are in the phase of an outbreak, you want to make sure you understand how widespread it is and what type of PRRS strain you're dealing with and the other coinfections you are dealing with.

### ***PRRS Outbreak Management Program***

Dr. Daniel Linhares started "POMP" (PRRS Outbreak Management Program) in 2019. This program is an epidemiological data base to evaluate the different practices during PRRS outbreaks. This program tracks the productivity and PCR results overtime and try to put everything together by understand the best practices for PRRS management based on their characteristics and response plan. They are looking for people to be a part of this program so if anyone wants to get involved send an email, call, or visit their website <https://fieldepi.org/pomp/>. The benefits of being part of the program are having the diagnostics covered, having results interpreted, the benchmarking, and in long term you are helping the understanding of the PRRS virus.

### ***Key Components from POMP***

There are some factors that are consistent from year to year and from data set to data set. The key benefits in terms of recovery from the outbreak include herd closure, the herds that implement interrupting gilt introduction until you have diagnostic evidence that the virus is not present anymore. Herd immunity is another one, a naïve herd takes longer to recover and has a much more production impact than a herd that broke with some immunity from the previous break or from vaccinations. The other consistent thing is bio management, anything you can do to make it harder for the virus to jump from one crate to the next or one room to the next. Creating all in all out in the farrowing house has been associated with a quicker recovery by cutting the bio transmission in the farrowing room.

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