# Implementing internal and external biosecurity practices to reduce outbreaks and work toward elimination of virus from breeding herds

October 20-22, 2023 Science-driven solutions®



# Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome (PRRS)

#### • PRRSv

- Isolated in early 1990s
  - European (PRRSv-1) and North American (PRRSv-2)
  - Enveloped, single-stranded positive sense RNA virus<sup>1, 2</sup>
  - Cost of PRRSv
  - \$664 million annual cost to U.S. pork producers<sup>3</sup>
    - Reproductive and respiratory disease
- Significant Knowledge Gaps Remain
  - Modes of Transmission
  - Risk factors

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1. Adams MJ, Lefkowitz EJ, King AMQ, Harrach B, Harrison RL, Knowles NJ, et al. Ratification vote on taxonomic proposals to the international committee on taxonomy of viruses. Arch Virol. (2016) 161:2921–49. doi: 10.1007/s00705-016-2977-6

2.. Sanjuán R, Domingo-Calap P. Mechanisms of viral mutation. Cell Mol Life Sci. 2016 Dec;73(23):4433-4448. doi: 10.1007/s00018-016-2299-6. Epub 2016 Jul 8. PMID: 27392606; PMCID: PMC5075021.

3. Holtkamp, et al. Assessment of the economic impact of porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome virus on U.S. pork producers March 2013 Journal of Swine Health and Production 21(2):72-84





United States pig production-2017 U.S. Department of Agriculture, Census of Agriculture



# Protecting pig sites from PRRSV infection in regions with high pig density

Tobler's First Law of Geography

Everything is related to everything else. But near things are more related than distant things. –Waldo Tobler





## **Multi-Site Production Model**



#### Features:

- 1. Weekly transport from breed-to-wean farm to nursery/wean-finish barns
- 2. Transport from nursery/wean-finish to finish
- 3. System-dependent nursery/wean-finish site capacity (2,400-8,000)
- 4. 12 to 20 nursery/wean-finish/finish sites for each breed-to-wean farm



Multi-site production: weaned pigs transported to wean-finish 5-30 km





Multi-site production: weaned pigs transported 250 km







Site 2: 13 sites <= 5 km (3.1 m) radius Ave. distance from Site 2: 2.80 km (1.74 m) nce-driven solutions ®

31 additional sites >= 5 km and <= 10 km

PRRSV surveillance results:

March 22, 2023: PCR NEGATIVE, 38 days in nursery phase



# Pig Density Per Square Mile, Selected Midwest U.S. Counties





# Breeding herd Neighboring pig sites <= 10 km</p>

#### 55 pig sites <= 10 km from the breeding herd









Supplies and equipment enter the farm through the ultraviolet light chamber





# **Transport vehicle sanitation**





# High temperature (71°C) drying

# Disinfect

Wash







# Prevention



Shower inshower out strictly enforced

Limit visitors to essential visitors only

Strict quarantine of all bulk supplies



#### Internal biosecurity: cleaning between farrowing groups











# Air filtration of breeding herds





# Specific management strategies to minimize PRRSV outbreaks in pig populations

- Locate pig production sites in low pig-dense areas
- Semen and replacement gilts confirmed PRRSV PCR negative before use or entry
- Dedicated inter-farm transport vehicles
- Washing, disinfection and controlled heating of all pig transport vehicles in contact with swine collection points, slaughter plants or other pig farms
- Minimal movement of people among farms, and only after down-time from any PRRSV site
- Equipment and supplies quarantined under controlled temperature (32°C) for 10 days before entry into a farm



# When a sow farm has a PRRSV outbreak

- The goal is to return the breeding herd to PRRSV-negative status
- Expose all sows and gilts to the virus
- Stop gilt entry
- 300-360 days closure
  - Sometimes longer





## **Determination of PRRS Status of Pig Flows**

- Sow farm surveillance
  - Processing Fluids
  - Serum
- Nursery, wean-finish surveillance
  - Oral Fluids

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• Serum



# Determination of PRRSv Negative Status of the Breeding Herd

- Whole-herd virus exposure
- Processing fluid surveillance
  - One sample per room
  - One complete turn of negative PCR required before serum collection
- Semi- weekly serum and processing fluid surveillance
  - 60 sera sample negative-nursing piglets, pools of 5
  - 6- semi-weekly negative PCR required
- Upon any positive PF or serum at any point
  - The clock starts over



# PRRS Closure/Elimination Timeline: Farm A





# Farm A PRRSV closure: initiation





Farm A PRRSV elimination surveillance





Farm A PRRSV elimination surveillance





## PRRS Closure/Elimination Timeline: Farm B









## PRRS Closure/Elimination Timeline: Farm C









### PRRS Closure/Elimination Timeline: Farm D







![](_page_31_Picture_1.jpeg)

Farm A	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
<b>Processing Fluids</b>						32.7			27.3							35.3				
Serum																				
Oral Fluids																				
Other																				
r	<u> </u>			<u> </u>			<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>					<u> </u>						
Farm A (cont.)	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
Processing Fluids											35.6	34.3								
Serum																				
Oral Fluids									36.1											
Other (sow tissue)														33.0						
		_				_	-							_						
Farm A (cont.)	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
<b>Processing Fluids</b>										34.8										
Serum													7			A				
Oral Fluids										H		4	1-2	, <sup>1</sup> ,		PA	$\mathcal{A}$			
Other												X								
		_	_			_	-	-				J	X		F	J-1	11			
Farm A (cont.)	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80
<b>Processing Fluids</b>																				
Serum										S	ripr	CP-	driv	en i		tion	R			
Oral Fluids																				
Other																				
Farm A (cont.)	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
<b>Processing Fluids</b>																				
Serum																				
Oral Fluids																				
Other																				

#### Herd Closure Surveillance Timeline: Farm A

![](_page_32_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_32_Picture_3.jpeg)

Farm A (cont.)	101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119	120
<b>Processing Fluids</b>																				
Serum																				
Oral Fluids																				
Other																				
Farm A (cont.)	121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130	131	132	133	134	135	136	137	138	139	140
<b>Processing Fluids</b>																				
Serum																				
Oral Fluids														)						
Other												ZZ								
										$\langle \cdot \rangle$		1 Car	1	•						
Farm A (cont.)	141	142	143	144	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160
<b>Processing Fluids</b>												X								
Serum										$\langle / \rangle$	77			$\left( \right)$	1 7]					
Oral Fluids										/				1						
Other									S	cien	ce-a	lrive	n so	luti	ons	R)				

=NEG =POS

Herd Closure Surveillance Timeline, Farm A

Processing Fluids: 160 rooms, 48 litters per room, 14 pigs per litter PF from ~ 107,000 pigs

Serum: ~ 600 sera samples, weaning age pigs

Oral Fluids: 10 oral fluids sampling events, nursing and post-weaning pigs

~320 days closure, LVI to gilt entry

![](_page_33_Picture_7.jpeg)

# **Opening the breeding herd to gilt entry**

- Declaring the herd PRRSV-negative
- Resumption of gilt entry
  - PRRSV-naïve
- Continue monthly PRRSV surveillance with processing fluids

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![](_page_34_Picture_6.jpeg)

# Thank you

My gratitude to: University of Minnesota Swine Group

University of Minnesota Swine Disease Eradication Center

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