

Swine Health Producer Guide



Steps to take if foreign animal diseases (FADs)* are confirmed in the United States

Key Points

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- Foreign animal diseases (FADs) are a very serious concern, not only for the health and well-being of the animals, but also for their immediate effect on the movement and sale of pigs.
- While biosecurity should always be a high priority and producers should always report suspect FADs, it's crucial to be more vigilant if a FAD is confirmed in the United States.
- If a producer is directly contacted by their State Animal Health Officials (SAHOs) or Federal Animal Health Officials, he/she should abide by the guidance they provide. The information in this fact sheet is not intended to override specific instructions that are communicated directly to producers from these officials.

What to do if a FAD outbreak is confirmed in the United States.

1. Get information about the situation from:

- State animal health agency: websites, email, Facebook or Twitter
- USDA's website: usda.gov
- The National Pork Board's website: pork.org
- National Pork Producers Council's website: nppc.org
- American Association of Swine Veterinarians' website: aasv.org
- State Pork Producer Association
- Herd veterinarian
- Farm's owner/management staff (if applicable)
- Local farm media

2. Abide by all movement requirements and instructions put in place by state and federal animal health authorities.

3. Heighten biosecurity on your farm(s)

Early in an outbreak, animal health officials will be working to establish response zones. As this occurs, it is important for producers to work with employees and the herd veterinarian to determine how best to implement a heightened biosecurity plan. Actions that should be taken:

- Prevent entry of nonessential vehicles, equipment and personnel on to the site.
- Stop movement of non-essential vehicles, carcasses and equipment off the site.
- Use designated entry and exit points for essential personnel, vehicles and equipment.
- Clean and disinfect essential vehicles and equipment entering and leaving the site.
- Employees should wear clean clothes and footwear when coming to and from work.
- Employees should park in a designated area away from animals or areas where they are housed.
- Employees should shower (preferably onsite) before and after coming in contact with animals or areas where animals are housed.
- If there are no showers on a site, employees should shower at home before and directly after work and wash hands and arms before and after coming in contact with animals.
- A clean changing area should be provided, and all employees should dress in farm-supplied clothing, gloves and footwear before conducting work on the site.
- All farm-supplied clothing, gloves and footwear should stay on-site.
- Employees should not come in contact with other animals after leaving the farm.

4. Organize and update on-farm information and have it available for review.

Early in an outbreak animal health authorities will try to rapidly determine where the disease has spread. Producers may need to provide information to help authorities with this process and having the following ready for review will help speed up the process if contacted:

- Premises identification numbers (PINs) for all premises in the production system.
- All applicable contact information for the responsible person overseeing each premises in the production system including phone, fax and email.
- All species of animals present on the premises in the production system, including stage of production, estimated numbers and estimated weights or ages.
- Animal movement records for all animals entering or leaving the premises 30 days prior to the announcement. This information should include the origin and destination PINs, date of movements, number of head in each shipment and transportation company used for each shipment.
- Feed delivery schedules, records and contact information for companies that provided feed to the premises over the last 30 days
- Visitor log for the premises, including the date visited and contact information for each visitor over the last 30 days.
- Contact information for employees with susceptible animals.
- Contact information for the herd veterinarian and other service providers who have direct contact with animals.

- Dates of scheduled movement of swine to other facilities for other phases of production including the destination location and premises identification number(s).
- Employees available to aid animal health officials with on-farm activities related to the response.

5. Have an employee meeting with your veterinarian to review the clinical signs for FADs and increase the time spent walking pens visually inspecting pigs.

- For more information about swine FADs, go to <http://www.cfsph.iastate.edu/Species/swine.php>

6. If you suspect a FAD in your pigs, report it IMMEDIATELY to your veterinarian and state or federal animal health official.

- Call your state animal health agency or call (866) 536-7593 to reach a federal animal health official in your state.
- Stop personnel, vehicles, equipment and animals from entering or leaving the affected farm and wait for specific directions from your state animal health official.
- Develop a list of premises that may have been exposed though movement of animals, employees, vendors, service personnel, vehicles and equipment from the infected premises.

7. Do not preemptively euthanize and dispose of animals that you suspect are infected, have been exposed, or are at risk of exposure.

*Foreign animal diseases are highly contagious diseases of livestock or poultry that currently do not exist in the United States. This includes, but is not limited to: Foot and Mouth Disease, Swine Vesicular Disease, Classical Swine Fever and African Swine Fever. For more information, go to <http://www.cfsph.iastate.edu/Species/swine.php>