



Livestock exhibitor,

Last summer, pigs at fairs in other states spread the flu to other pigs and to people who cared for the pigs. This year, a national working group was created to identify ways to reduce the risk of flu being spread at fairs. The measures listed on the next page were suggested for exhibitors to consider. Although the measures specifically address pigs, many could be applied to other types of livestock at the fair as well. Please review the measures as you prepare for the upcoming fair season.

Thank you for continuing to make our fairs safe, fun, and educational.

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Suggested Measures for Exhibitors

Measures to consider before the fair

- Talk to your vet about biosecurity and swine health practices at home.
- Know the symptoms of flu in pigs (fever, going off feed, being less active, runny nose and cough).
- Call your vet if your pig(s) becomes sick.
- Know that taking a sick pig to the fair could make people and other animals sick.
- Ask fair organizers what you should do if your pig becomes sick at the fair.
- Do not show a pig and the herd mates it has had contact with for at least seven (7) days after returning from a fair or show to reduce the risk of spreading flu.
- Talk to your vet about whether flu vaccine is a good option for your pigs. These vaccines can sometimes decrease the chance of your pigs getting sick with flu and if your pigs do get sick they may be contagious for a shorter time. If you decide to vaccinate, it is important to work with your vet to prevent withdrawal issues.
- Know that pigs and people can be infected by sick people. People with flu-like illness should stay home and away from pigs until they are fever-free for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication.
- It is recommended that everyone 6 months of age or older be vaccinated against seasonal influenza every year. Seasonal influenza vaccine is usually distributed in late summer and early fall, and people should be vaccinated as soon as the vaccine becomes available.
- People at high risk for developing more severe complications from flu include the following: children younger than 5 years old, people 65 years of age and older, pregnant women, and people with certain long-term health conditions (like asthma, diabetes, heart disease, chronic respiratory disease, weakened immune systems, and neurological or neurodevelopmental conditions). People in these high risk groups should limit their exposure to sick pigs.

Measures to consider during the fair

- Check your pigs daily for signs of flu-like illness (fever, going off feed, being less active, runny nose and cough).
- Report any flu-like illness to the designated fair veterinarian or the appropriate fair staff so the sick pigs can be evaluated.
- Use precautions when caring for sick pigs to decrease the chance of passing flu to people and other animals.
- Practice good hygiene by:
 - Not eating or drinking in the animal areas
 - Washing your hands frequently
 - Not sleeping in the animal areas.
- If you become sick with flu-like symptoms (runny nose, fever, chills, cough, sore throat, headache, body aches), call your health care provider and public health.
 - Tell them that you have been in close contact with pigs and have been at the fair.
 - Stay home and away from pigs until you are fever-free for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications.

Measures to consider after the fair

- Isolate and observe pigs for illness after returning home and before allowing contact with other animals
 - The isolation/observation period should be no fewer than 7 days.
 - Clean and disinfect equipment, clothing, shoes, and vehicles/trailers that were at the fair.
 - Call your vet if pigs get sick.
- Call your health care provider and a public health official if you or a family member develops flu-like illness after returning home from the fair.
 - Tell your healthcare provider that you have been in close contact with pigs and were recently at the fair.
 - Sick people should stay home and away from pigs until they are fever-free for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications.