



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
LANSING

DON KOIVISTO  
DIRECTOR

October 16, 2008

Dear Fair and Exhibition Board members:

The Michigan Department of Agriculture (MDA) confirmed PRV infection in 19 sport swine on a privately owned shooting facility in Saginaw County on May 6, 2008. An epidemiological investigation confirmed three additional locations in Cheboygan and Gladwin counties (all transitional swine herds) associated with the first PRV positive facility.

Swift action in responding to the disease outbreak, including testing swine on premises in five-mile circles around the PRV positive premises, and the establishment of the terminal-or-test requirements for fairs and exhibitions, allowed MDA to complete the work associated with this disease investigation on September 23, 2008.

The swift action taken by fair and exhibition boards to communicate the terminal-or-test requirements was appreciated by MDA and the domestic swine industry. Today we are announcing the lifting of the statewide terminal-or-test requirements for fairs and exhibitions. Producers must, however, remain vigilant and continue to use bio-security measures when raising pigs, as there is an ever-present risk of PRV from feral swine.

Once again exhibitors may enjoy the ability to participate in events without pre-entry PRV testing of swine. As long as there is no active PRV outbreak, swine will be allowed to return from exhibition to the farm or to other locations without proof of negative PRV test status.

Effective immediately, Michigan's Exhibition Requirements for Swine are amended as follows:

**SWINE**

1. Swine with clinical signs of infectious, contagious, or toxicological disease shall be removed from the fair, exhibition, exposition, or show or, by permission of the Michigan Department of Agriculture (MDA) Director, shall be isolated on the premises.
2. Swine shall be individually identified by official identification (official identification means an identification ear tag or ear tattoo or other identification approved by USDA or MDA).
3. Swine shall not enter any fair, exhibition, exposition, or show facility unless it can be demonstrated that the swine presented for exhibition or exposition meet at least **one of the following conditions:**

- a. Originate as a direct movement from a swine premises located in a pseudorabies Stage IV or higher area or region or other equivalent low prevalence area as recognized by the director, OR
  - b. Originate directly from a pseudorabies qualified-negative herd as defined in Title 9 of the Code of Federal Regulations, which proof may consist of a copy of a valid certificate issued by the department stating that the herd meets the requirements for a pseudorabies qualified-negative herd, OR
  - c. Unless the swine are piglets nursing a pseudorabies negative sow, present an official swine test report that indicates the swine have been tested for pseudorabies within 45 days before exhibition and have tested negative.
4. All swine removed from any exhibition facility shall be moved directly to a livestock auction market or slaughter facility premises for disposition in accordance with applicable laws concerning movement of swine to slaughter, unless all swine present at the fair, exhibition, exposition, or show facility at any time for any reason meet **one of the following requirements:**
- a. Originate as a direct movement from a swine premises located in a pseudorabies Stage IV or higher area or region or other equivalent low prevalence area as recognized by the director, OR
  - b. Originate directly from a pseudorabies qualified-negative herd as defined in Title 9 of the Code of Federal Regulations, which proof may consist of a copy of a valid certificate issued by the department stating that the herd meets the requirements for a pseudorabies qualified-negative herd, OR
  - c. Unless the swine are piglets nursing a pseudorabies negative sow, present an official swine test report that indicates the swine have been tested for pseudorabies within 45 days before exhibition and have tested negative.

In summary, exhibitors at state, county, and district fairs, along with other livestock exhibitions, expositions, and shows are required to comply with all statutory and regulatory provisions of the State of Michigan relating to animal health outlined in Act No. 466 of the Public Acts of 1988, as amended, and rules related to the implementation and enforcement of the act. Any swine found to be exhibited or removed from exhibition in violation of any provision of this section may be quarantined or ordered slaughtered, destroyed, or disposed of by the MDA Director without being eligible for indemnification.

For additional information please contact MDA at (517) 373-1077.

Respectfully,



Steven L. Halstead, D.V.M., M.S.  
State Veterinarian and Division Director  
Animal Industry Division

SLH:BKP/jyd