

Swine Health Producer Guide



Transportation Biosecurity Protocols for PEDV Control

Key Point

Infection with Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea (PED) virus can create tremendous financial losses to a pork producer. PED virus transfers via feces and survives in manure for extended periods of time. Any object that is contaminated with pig manure can be a source of infection for pigs. Live haul is an essential part of the pork industry and plays a key role in the control of disease. Live haul drivers should be educated about the risk PED virus is to the pork industry.

Ensure you are Prepared for Swine Transportation

1. The market truck should be prepared for hauling market hogs.
 - a. The cab of the truck, including floor-boards, pedals, steering wheel, gear shift handle, door handles, etc, should be cleaned and disinfected between loads.
 - b. The trailer should be
 - Washed clean and free of any visible manure or shavings,
 - Disinfected with an appropriate disinfectant, at the correct rate, for the proper contact time, and applied so that all surfaces are covered, and
 - Allowed to dry completely (Thermal assisted drying truck bakers speed this process greatly).
 - c. All equipment, including sort-boards, rattle-paddles, electric prods, etc. need to be thoroughly cleaned, disinfected, and dried.
 - d. Clean boots, coveralls, gloves, knee pads, etc. should be used for each load and stored in a designated clean area. A separate area for storage should be used for these articles after they are used and until they can be cleaned and disinfected for future use.
2. The Production Site should be ready for animal movement
 - a. All load out equipment should be clean and in good working order
 - b. The load out area and chute should be clean and ready to market pigs
 - c. Communicate where the Line of Separation is located. This marks the separation between the production facilities, its animals and its workers from trucks, trailers and people outside of the production facility.
 - **An effective Line of Separation is the back of the trailer but may be at the barn door, the chute or gate.**
 - Be sure it is clearly marked and visible to all.
 - Provide plastic disposable footwear and a place to dispose of the footwear for the driver if they must to cross the Line of Separation.
 - d. There should be enough trained farm personnel available to help load pigs from the site.
 - *The truck driver should never cross the Line of Separation to help move pigs from the barn.*
3. Communication between the livestock hauler and livestock owner or site manager should take place. Expectations for loading and unloading animals should be communicated prior to arrival.
 - a. A clear Line of Separation should be identified and communicated.
 - No human foot traffic is allowed to cross the Line of Separation from either direction.
 - If animals are being loaded for slaughter,

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farm personnel move the animals up to the Line of Separation.

- The driver handles the animals after they cross the Line of Separation.
- b. No farm equipment or transportation equipment may cross the Line of Separation to be shared for loading hogs
- c. *Specific requirements may be needed for different stages of production or health status. A more detailed protocol may be required in many operations or production systems.*
 - If biosecurity protocols for the farm are not completely clear ask the farm personnel or site manager for guidance.

Responsibilities during the Loading Process

1. Livestock haulers

- a. Must stay on the out-bound side of the Line of Separation at all times for load out.
- b. No driver equipment may cross the Line of Separation or be used in the barn.
- c. No pigs should be allowed to exit the truck during the load out process.
- d. The driver should remove all boots and clothing on the truck side of the Line of Separation.
 - All dirty boots and coveralls should be placed in a designated area, outside the cab (for example in a dirty boot box).
- e. Hand paperwork to farm load crew personnel away from the truck and barn.

2. Loading crew or farm personnel

- a. The farm load crew must observe the Line of Separation at all times.
 - If the Line of Separation is crossed, farm personnel MUST follow reentry biosecurity measures (such as shower in/out or change of clothes/boots and wash of hands) before they can resume the loading process.
 - Dirty coveralls or gloves should be placed in a container or directly into a washer.
 - Dirty boots should be placed where they can be washed and disinfected away from farm clothing. Do not place them where everyday foot traffic occurs.
 - Do not share loading equipment with livestock haulers.
- b. Do not cross foot traffic at any time with livestock haulers including after pigs are loaded.
- c. No farm equipment should be shared with the livestock haulers.
- d. Do not allow drivers to help load pigs out of the barn.
- e. Do not allow drivers to fill out paperwork in the office.

Responsibilities after the Loading Process

- 1. Farm personnel should clean and disinfect the load out area immediately after the transport vehicle has been loaded and pulled away.
- 2. Farm personnel that cross the Line of Separation to clean the chute or load out area must follow the biosecurity protocols of the site, such as shower in/out or change of clothes and boots and wash hands.

Diseases Like to Hitch a Ride, Separate Yourself From Cross Contamination

The organisms that cause disease in pigs (bacteria, viruses and parasites) can survive in different types of materials. Organic matter (shavings, manure) or water, mud or snow can carry pathogens on boots, clothing, tires, undercarriages, trailers, shovels, winter panels, sorting panels and people that can infect healthy pigs. Other activities, such as walking into a contaminated barn or packing plant can increase risk for pathogen spread because boots and trailers can become contaminated with pathogens the farms you serve are trying to keep out. Assume every site you touch is a risk. Do not be responsible for pathogen transfer.