

January 27, 2020

Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea (PED)

Alberta Environmental Surveillance Program – weak PED positive result

On January 22, 2020, the laboratory at Alberta Agriculture and Forestry in Edmonton detected a weak PED positive in a sample taken through the Alberta environmental surveillance program.

The Office of the Chief Provincial Veterinarian (OCPV) began working with Alberta Pork and the sampling site and promptly implemented the Alberta response plan to investigate potential sources of this weak positive result. At this time, the investigation is continuing and actions have been taken at the sampling site to mitigate any further risks of potential exposure.

This finding demonstrates the value of the surveillance program in providing early detections of the virus and reinforcing the risk that remains out there. We have been able to enact a quick response to this finding, including lessons learned during response to cases in early 2019.

Finally, it also serves as a reminder that at any time, a site that receives pigs faces continuing threat to be contaminated and test positive, which reinforces the importance of biosecurity at the farm level being maintained as the last line of defense for your herds.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the OCPV at 780-427-3448.