

Swine Health Surveillance

1st Quarter 2024

Producer Report

This report is intended for swine producers in the western Canadian provinces.

CWSHIN serves western swine producers, swine herd practitioners and governments to improve swine health, production, and the economic prosperity of the sector.

Our surveillance objectives are to:

- Detect new emerging swine health issues,
- Detect unusual clinical presentation of known diseases,
- Provide information about endemic diseases, and
- For diseases absent in western Canada (such as Foot and Mouth Disease and African swine fever) the objective is to help provide evidence of absence of disease to support trade.

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By: Jette Christensen, CWSHIN Manager



Messages:

- Swine Delta Coronavirus has been confirmed in a Manitoba herd.
- Avian Influenza's (H5N1) jump to livestock is a concern for the health of animals and for how the virus may change and adapt to mammals (including humans).

Food for Thought - Skin Lesions

Detection of Seneca Valley Virus (SVV) has caused problems for the cull sow flow to the USA during the summer in both 2022 and 2023. Therefore, it is prudent to be extra vigilant when shipping cull sows:

- Call your herd veterinarian to get a diagnosis on skin lesions

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H5N1 in Dairy in the USA

Since 25 March, there have been 9 states where H5N1 has been detected in dairy. At first there were no restrictions by USDA. Now (25 April) 17 states have barred interstate import from affected farms. From 24 April USDA has requested pre-movement test for interstate movement of dairy.

The current belief is

- One jump from wild birds to dairy that has spread with animal movement (based on sequencing)
- H5N1 is present in wild birds in all flyways

In Canada

- Most western provinces have set up a strategy with CFIA
- Report suspicion of H5N1 to provincial CVO / CFIA
- No indication that CFIA will set up restrictions such as quarantines etc. (25 April)

It is important to monitor the virus to be prepared if it should change and adapt so it will cause serious disease in livestock or humans.

The Swine Health Information Centre and the American Association of Swine Veterinarians hosted a webinar entitled, "HPAI in Livestock and Risk to Swine" The webinar is an hour and 45 minutes. There are four presentations. The first two focus on the virology and transmission routes, the third presentation is specifically on HPAI in dairy cattle, and the fourth discusses the significance to swine operations (<https://iastate.app.box.com/s/o6dhclv5irvspcbj5q8p21ujr4a9ei29>).

H5N1 avian influenza

Avian Influenza's (H5N1) jump to livestock is a concern for the health of animals and for how the virus may change and adapt to mammals (including humans).

In recent years Avian Influenza has jumped to several mammal species and this winter a jump to dairy in the USA was seen.

It is important in all livestock species including pigs to practice good biosecurity.

Practical tip

- Strict biosecurity – no contact with wildlife (boots, clothing, open doors/ windows etc.)
- Take great care if you must bring in animals from the USA (testing, isolation etc.)

Digestive syndrome

Following the quarterly call MB Pork has sent out a **Producer Alert: Swine Delta Coronavirus has been confirmed in a Manitoba herd**

“Swine Delta Coronavirus (SDCV) has been confirmed in a Manitoba herd. SDCV belongs to the same viral family as porcine epidemic diarrhea (PED) and transmissible gastroenteritis (TGE). The symptoms of SDCV are indistinguishable from those of PED or TGE, although tend to be less severe than PED. SDCV damages the lining of the gut in swine, causing diarrhea, vomiting, and dehydration. It can cause piglet mortality in severe cases, but not to the same extent as that of PED. Given that the Manitoba sector is currently on high alert for PED, producers should take every precaution as outlined in the PED Elimination Plan if any of these symptoms are seen on-farm and contact their herd veterinarian immediately.

SDCV is not a provincially reportable disease in Manitoba. While the disease is less of a risk to the sector, Manitoba Pork and the Chief Veterinarian’s Office will continue to provide coordination and support to assist with controlling and preventing the disease. For more information, contact Manitoba Pork at 204-237-7447 or info@manitobapork.com. For more information on Manitoba’s PED Elimination Plan, visit manitobapork.com/ped.”

Digestive syndrome

Porcine Delta Corona virus detected in a finisher in Manitoba.

Practical tip

Biosecurity remains our best defense against pathogens such as PED and SDCV.

Manitoba Pork encourages all producers to review their biosecurity protocols and the PED Elimination Plan with their staff and herd veterinarian.

Skin Syndrome



Photo: Dr
Nikkel

Swine pox in MB (and AB) inspired a discussion. The differentials for swine pox are diverse for example: greasy pig, bite marks on udders, Seneca Valley virus (SVV) and other skin (vesicular) diseases.

Food for Thought

SVV has caused problems for the cull sow flow to the USA over the summer in both 2022 and 2023. Blisters were detected at the border or on arrival in the USA starting in June both years. Therefore, it has been suggested that there may be a seasonality to SVV, but we cannot know for certain based on (only) two years. Disruption to the cull sow flow to slaughter in the USA affected sow herds across western Canada for weeks in 2023 due to SVV. Therefore, it would be prudent to be extra vigilant when shipping cull sows over the next few months.

Skin lesions

Practical tip:

Prudent to be extra vigilant when shipping cull sows over the next few months:

- Call your herd veterinarian to get a diagnosis on skin lesions
- It is always recommended to avoid shipping cull sows with skin lesions that could look like healed blisters, pustules (or vesicles)
- Blisters must be reported to CFIA

CanSpotASF

The ASF surveillance in Canada combines:

1. ASF suspicion is reportable to CFIA.
2. Rule-out testing in herds where cases may be selected for ASF testing by:
 - a. A pathologist at laboratories,
 - b. The herd veterinarian.
3. Rule-out testing at abattoirs where condemned carcasses may be selected for ASF testing at:
 - a. Federally inspected abattoirs (data not shown),
 - b. Provincially inspected abattoirs.

CanSpotASF results for the four western provinces

Quarter	Rule out testing at laboratories				Abattoir selection	
	Pathology cases	Cases tested for ASF	Suspicious or positive	Tested in % of pathology	Cases tested	Suspicious or positive
Jan-23	130	40	0	31%	35	0
Apr-23	92	7	0	8%	49	0
Jul-23	108	25	0	23%	11	0
Oct-23	102	11	0	11%	13	0
Jan-24	115	41	0	36%	14	0

Acknowledge

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