

Senecavirus A/Seneca Valley Virus fact sheet

Background

Senecavirus A, also known as the Seneca Valley Virus, is a single-stranded non-enveloped RNA virus belonging to the *Picornaviridae* family. This infection causes vesicles (blisters) to form on the snout and coronary band of pigs and can also cause blisters on teats of recently farrowed sows. Often the first clinical sign observed is lameness.

Clinical signs

Neonatal Pigs:

- Increase mortality in litters less than 7 days of age
- Become infected shortly after birth
- Diarrhea may or may not be associated with it
- Morbidity and mortality can range from 30% to 70% for short periods of time

Breeders, Growers and Finishers:

- Loss of appetite
- Fever
- Lethargy
- Intact or ruptured vesicles (blisters) on snout, mouth, feet or teats
- Lesions on feet surrounding the coronary bands
 - Ulceration of hoof wall
 - Deep nail bed hemorrhages
- Lameness ranging from slight discomfort to movement refusal
- Loose foot pads which may lead to loss of hooves

Transmission

It is still unclear how the disease is transmitted. However, it is important to strengthen biosecurity measures and maintain best management practices to prevent possible transmission of this disease. It is important for producers to be vigilant and regularly monitor their animals in order to quickly report any suspicions.

What to do if suspected

While SVV is not a reportable disease, the clinical signs of SVV are indistinguishable from Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD), which is federally reportable. Cases presenting similar to FMD are treated as such until other vesicular diseases like SVV can be ruled out, which could have wide-reaching impacts to cross-border livestock movements.

If you notice any blisters or lesions in your herd, immediately report the finding to your veterinarian.