



U of MN Swine Extension Update



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1. Food Safety Confidence Will Improve with Mandatory National Animal Identification System

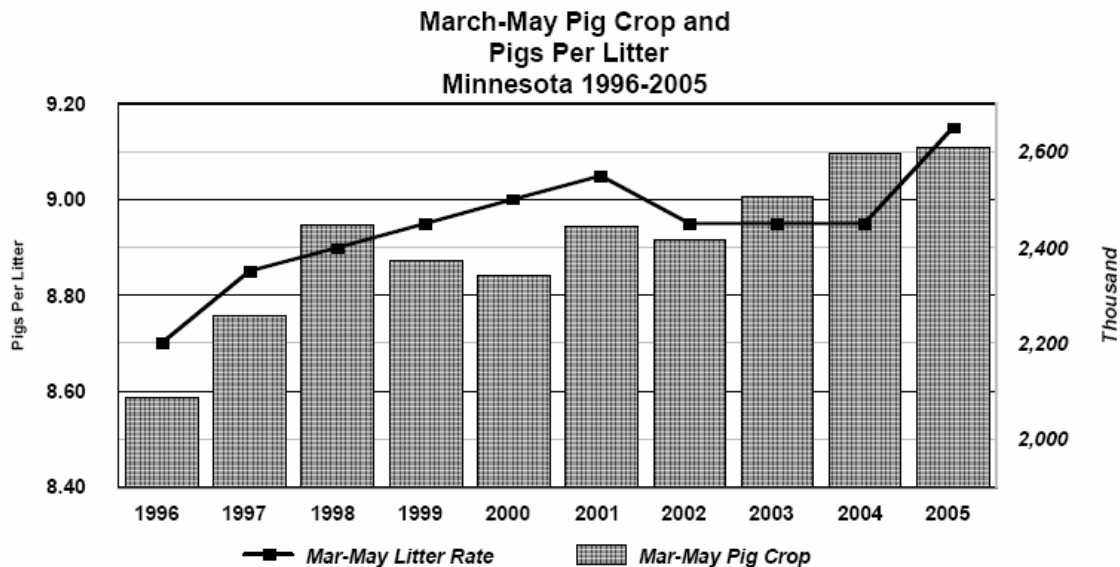
A recent poll in the USA shows that consumers will become more confident in the safety and security of the meat and poultry if a mandatory National Animal Identification System (NAIS) is implemented. Under the NAIS, authorities would be able to locate specific animals to prevent the spread of livestock diseases, such as BSE. The consumer survey was sponsored by Global Animal Management Inc. (GAM), a provider of animal and premises identification systems. The GAM-sponsored poll of 1,000 US consumers, conducted in mid-May, shows that consumers already have considerable confidence in the nation's meat and poultry supply, but their confidence levels could jump even higher once NAIS is in place.

The NAIS proposal, recently put forward by the US Department of Agriculture, calls for mandatory reporting of the movements of cattle, pigs, poultry and other meat-producing livestock by January 2009. More than 37 per cent of respondents to the poll said their current meat safety confidence is high, while only 10 percent of respondents rated their confidence as low. According to the survey, if NAIS is implemented, average consumer confidence in meat safety and security would increase. Nearly 55 per cent of those polled said their confidence would then be high, and those who said their confidence will remain low fell to less than four per cent. (Source: *MeatNews.com*)

2. MN Hog Numbers Steady over Past Year, up 5% from March

Minnesota hog producers had an inventory of 6,600,000 hogs and pigs on June 1, 2005, unchanged from the year earlier but up 5 percent from the March 1, 2005 figure, according to the Minnesota Agricultural Statistics Service. Breeding hogs totaled 600,000, unchanged from a year earlier and market hogs and pigs at 6,000,000, were also unchanged from a year ago. Market hogs in the under 60 pound weight group were unchanged from last year. The 60-119 pound weight group were up 1 percent. Hog numbers in the 120-179 pound group were down 1 percent from last year, while the 180+ pound group was down 1 percent from a year ago.

Minnesota's March-May 2005 pig crop totaled 2,608,000 head, up slightly from a year earlier but up 4 percent from the December 2004-February 2005 pig crop. The 285,000 sows that farrowed averaged 9.15 pigs per litter, up from 8.95 a year ago. This is a new record litter rate and pig crop for any quarter.



Hog producers in Minnesota intend to farrow 285,000 sows during the June-August 2005 quarter. If realized this would be unchanged from the same period in 2004. Producers intend to farrow 285,000 sows during the September-November 2005 quarter. If realized, this would also be unchanged from the same period in 2004 .

For more information, access the entire article at:
<http://www.nass.usda.gov/mn/hog0605.pdf>

3. EPA Extends Air Emissions Consent Agreement Sign-Up Period

EPA is extending the deadline for the sign-up period for the Animal Feeding Operation Air Compliance Agreement to July 29, 2005, in order to provide more time for operators of animal feeding facilities to make informed decisions about participation. The Agreement addresses emissions from certain animal feeding operations, also known as AFOs. The EPA has not changed the Agreement since it was published in the Federal Register Jan. 31, 2005. The primary goals of the Air Quality Compliance Agreement are:

- Reduce air pollution
- Ensure compliance with applicable Clean Air Act, Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) and Environmental Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) provisions
- Monitor and evaluate AFO emissions
- Promote a national consensus on methodologies for estimating emissions from AFOs.

The deadline for AFO operators to sign the Agreement was originally extended until July 1 and will now close on July 29. More information on the Agreement and how to sign up is available on the UMN Swine Extension website at:

www.extension.umn.edu/swine.

4. University of Missouri Offers Semen Collection/Processing Workshop

Small scale farms interested in expanding their knowledge and expertise in collecting and processing semen, especially those working with rare breeds where genetic diversity is limited, can attend this workshop in Columbia, MO on August 8-9.

Objectives of the workshop include:

- Learn how to use artificial insemination (AI) to benefit breeds and breeders
- Provide hands on training for boar semen collection, evaluation, processing and storage and transportation using practical and lower cost technologies
- Discuss how owners of the rare breeds or others can cooperate with the National USDA National Animal Germplasm Program by contributing semen to the repository.

Individuals interested in the program can access the program website at:

<http://www.asrc.agri.missouri.edu/swineextension/BoarSemenCollectionWorkshop.htm>.

5. Upper Midwest Manure Handling Expo August 11 in Waseca

The 2005 Upper Midwest Manure Handling Expo will be held August 11th at the Southern Research and Outreach Center in Waseca, MN. "Manure Application for the 21st Century" is the theme of this year's program. Held bi-annually, the expo will include field demonstrations of manure handling equipment, a trade show with over 50 vendors, and various educational breakout sessions. Further information and details are available at <http://www.manure.umn.edu/fieldday05>. If you are a producer that hauls manure, or a commercial manure applicator, you won't want to miss this opportunity to learn more on new technologies, methods, and equipment.

6. 2005 Lemn Swine Conference to be held Sept 17-20 in St. Paul

The annual Lemn Swine Conference is scheduled for September 17-20 and will be held at the St. Paul RiverCenter. This conference is considered one of the premier educational experiences focused on the health and production of swine. There will be over 90 speakers from around the world, each an authority in their respective fields of study. As well, we expect over 700 registrants, providing plenty of opportunity to share experiences and meet new people.

The preconference workshops begin on Saturday and include opportunities to improve your diagnostics skills, study ventilation, analysis of production and financial data, design and conduct of field trials and disease eradication. As well, the Kansas State nutrition group will present their latest information on feeding, and Dr. George Foxcroft, U of Alberta Swine Research Technology Center, will present information on how to developing gilts, breeding them and retaining them in the herd.

Four keynote speakers make up the main program. Dr. Roger Campbell, AusGene International, will present research he has conducted encompassing both the fundamental and the practical aspects of growth and development in pigs and poultry. Mr Don Butler, Murphy-Brown, LLC, will speak on the importance of third party verification in maintaining credible environmental, animal welfare and other management systems. Dr. Joe Connor, Carthage Veterinary Service, will provide information on biosecurity and boar studs. Dr. Marguerite Pappaioanou, U of MN School of Public Health, will speak on "Historical, new and reemerging links between human and animal health."

Veterinarians, swine industry personnel, animal scientists, academia, and producers alike will find the program valuable to their operations and interests. For more information on the Lemn Swine Conference and/or how to register, visit the conference website at <http://www.cvm.umn.edu/outreach/events/adl/home.html>.

7. 66th Annual MN Nutrition Conference to be held Sept 20-21 in St. Paul

The 66th annual Minnesota Nutrition Conference is scheduled Sept. 20-21, 2005 at the Holiday Inn St. Paul/East. The conference is recognized as an important forum for the animal nutrition industry. Local, national, and international animal nutritionists will gather to learn about the current, innovative research at universities, in industry, and at government centers. This year's conference features dairy, beef, swine and poultry nutrition. Conference highlights will include:

- Renewable fuels and feed ingredients--the connection
- Corn genetics and animal nutrition
- Utilization of corn co-products
- Diet formulation for the future
- Net energy system for pigs
- Utilization of peptides for non-ruminants
- Effective fiber in dairy diets

A preconference symposium on the "Future of corn in animal feeds," is scheduled Sept. 20, from 8:30 a.m.-noon. It's sponsored by the Minnesota Corn Growers Association. For registration information, see <http://www.cce.umn.edu/conferences/mnnutrition>.

8. Interested in Swine Training Program Workshops or Specialized Training Courses?

Dates and locations for upcoming Swine Training Program workshops have been set for the upcoming year. The program, sponsored by the MN Pork Board and U of MN Extension Service, involves 2-day intensive training workshops on various phases and aspects of modern pork production. Educators from the U of MN, along with experts from the swine industry, provide program content and delivery, allowing for both classroom and hands-on learning experiences, while encouraging extensive discussion of timely subjects or issues. More detailed information on individual courses are available at www.mnpork.org and www.extension.umn.edu/swine.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Workshop</u>	<u>Location</u>
July 14-15, 2005	Breeding & Gestation Mgmt	Waseca
Sept 8-9, 2005	Nursery Management	Morris
Dec 1-2, 2005	Artificial Insemination	Waseca
Feb 9-10, 2006	Wean to Finish Management	Morris
Feb 16-17, 2006	Wean to Finish Management	Waseca
April 13-14, 2006	Farrowing Management	Waseca

The U of MN Swine Team is also available to provide assistance or instruction for your next training session. Whether you desire certification in National Pork Board programs such as Swine Welfare Assurance Program (SWAP), Trucker Quality Assurance (TQA), Pork Quality Assurance (PQA), or would like instruction in a specialized phase of production, timely topic, or information on new technology and research results, the Swine Team may be able to help. It is our goal to bring University research to the

Minnesota Pork Industry, ensuring the continued sustainability and competitiveness of producers and allied industry. Periodically check our events calendar on the U of MN Swine Extension website (www.extension.umn.edu) for upcoming workshops and seminars, or contact Dr. Mark Whitney, Swine Extension Specialist, to arrange for a specific or specialized program at (507) 389-5541.

For more information:

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