



## Fact Sheet: Protect Your Pigs from Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea Virus (PEDv)

Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea (PED) has been confirmed in Maryland, and swine producers across the state should take proper precautions to protect their herds. PED only infects pigs, poses no known public health threat and is not a food safety concern. Mortality rate, however, can be as high as 100 percent in suckling and early weaned pigs.

### Primary signs of the disease are:

- Acute and severe outbreak of diarrhea and vomiting;
- Significant mortality (50 - 60%) in piglets 7 days of age and younger;
- Similar to and often mistaken for Transmissible Gastroenteritis (TGE) but it is unrelated.
- Older animals experience a setback in growth rate of about 3-7 days and generally recover with supportive therapy (clean, dry comfortable, draft free environment, low stress levels, access to plenty of clean fresh water and electrolyte therapy).
- How is PED Spread? The virus is generally spread among pigs and by infected feces transported into pig areas by trucks, boots, clothing, and the like. It survives in manure for extended periods. Once infected, the incubation period is very short (12-24 hours) and the virus is shed up to 3 to 4 weeks. Laboratory testing is the only way to conclusively diagnose PEDv.

### Take Precautions!

Producers who raise swine should follow strict biosecurity methods and disinfection procedures, including the following:

- Limit people and equipment coming onto the farm;
- Thoroughly clean and disinfect anything coming onto the farm;
- Enforce downtime requirements and maintain a log of visitors;
- Take care when disposing of dead stock particularly if using a communal disposal method;
- Isolate newly arriving animals from the rest of the herd or when returning from exhibitions for at least two weeks, preferably 30 days;
- If possible, shower before going into the facility and change into clean boots and coveralls.

- Wash trucks and trailers between loads
- Other animals, such as dogs and cats, can transfer pathogens and should be kept away from pigs and related facilities.

**Disinfectants:** Use 1-Stroke Environ, Virkon ST, Nolvasan, Tek-Trol or other veterinarian approved disinfectants. Mix disinfectants according to label directions. You can also mix bleach and water (1/2 cup to one gallon of water). Diluted disinfectants should be changed each day or mixed just before using. Clean boots beforehand, removing all organic material, apply disinfectant and let dry for at least 5 minutes of contact time. Disinfectants are most effective after drying. Important: Handle bleach with care & all disinfectants are more effective when all organic material is removed prior to disinfecting.

**Producers who suspect their pigs are sick should contact their veterinarian immediately.**

For more information, contact the Maryland Department of Agriculture Animal Health Section, 410-841-5810

### Other References:

**National Pork Board Statement on Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea Virus (PEDV)** — <https://www.pork.org/national-pork-board-statement-porcine-epidemic-diarrhea-virus-pedv/>

**Biosecurity Fundamentals for Extension Personnel, VME-0005-01**, Gary L. Bowman, D.V.M. Extension Veterinarian, Swine; William P. Shulaw, D.V.M. Extension Veterinarian, Cattle and Sheep; The Ohio State University, <http://ohioline.osu.edu/vme-fact/0005.html>

**Swine Show PEDv Resources**, National Pork Board: <http://www.pork.org/pork-checkoff-research/pedv/>

**Maryland Department of Agriculture Animal Health Section** website, <http://www.mda.maryland.gov>