

2019 Exhibition Swine Quarantine Order FAQs

Q: *Which exhibitions does this apply to?*

A: These requirements apply to ALL swine exhibitions in Pennsylvania, including jackpot shows

Q: Do ALL swine have to have a CVI issued within 30 days before the show?

A: Yes

Q: *Can a show have the accredited veterinarian who is inspecting the swine before unloading place the ID in the pigs and write the CVI at the show?*

A: No

Q: *Who is responsible for checking to make sure that the CVI and ID requirements are met?*

A: Fair/show organizers should ensure that these requirements are met.

Q: *What happens if the accredited veterinarian inspecting the swine before unloading sees sick pigs on a trailer?*

A: If the accredited veterinarian has any concern that the cause of illness could be a reportable disease, then he or she should contact PDA at 717-772-2852 to discuss the case. If the illness appears to be from a contagious disease (i.e. not a physical injury or heat stroke), the trailer and all the animals that arrived in it should be sent home immediately and PDA should be notified.

Q: *What kind of tags are approved for breeding swine?*

A: Whether they come from out of state or within PA, all breeding swine must be identified with a USDA-issued metal ear tag with a US shield or an ISO-compliant 15-digit ear tag starting with "840".

Q: *If a fair orders market swine tags and the tags they received are USDA issued with the US shield BUT not metal, are the tags acceptable or do the market swine need to be retagged?*

A: All pigs coming from out of state must have, at minimum, either a:

- i. USDA-issued metal ear tag with a US shield
- ii. ISO-compliant 15-digit ear tag starting with "840"

PA Origin pigs must have at least one of the following:

- i. USDA-issued metal ear tag with a US shield
- ii. ISO-compliant 15-digit ear tag starting with "840"
- iii. Plastic show-issued stamped ear tag (Pennsylvania origin market hogs only)

PDA does accept the use of plastic show-issued stamped ear tags for PA origin market hogs so the tags used by the fair asking this question ARE acceptable so long as the swine are PA origin.

Q: *Where can an exhibitor get tags for their pigs?*

A: The exhibitor's veterinarian may apply an official, 8 or 9 digit USDA issued metal ear tag with a US shield (a.k.a "Brite tags"). If swine are not already tagged when the veterinarian comes to write the CVI, they can apply the tag at that time. Producers can also purchase official tags through a tag distributor such as Allflex, Destron, EZID, Shearwell, Temple, or Y-Text. For a complete list of official tags available for purchase with photos, go to https://www.aphis.usda.gov/traceability/downloads/ADT_device_ain.pdf. Producers must have a premises ID number to buy tags through a distributor. Please contact PDA at 717-772-2852 if you do not have a premises ID.

Q: *Is it a requirement or recommendation that pigs be inspected by a veterinarian prior to off-load at exhibition? Does the veterinarian have to be a state veterinarian?*

A: It is a requirement that pigs be inspected by an accredited veterinarian prior to offload at exhibition. The veterinarian does NOT have to be a state veterinarian—they just have to be accredited. An accredited veterinarian is a private practitioner who has been approved by the USDA and the state in which they work to perform certain regulatory work such as issuing health certificates. Exhibition sponsors should work with a local accredited veterinarian to inspect pigs prior to offload at exhibition. Developing a relationship with a local veterinarian is important for safeguarding animal health at the exhibition.

Q: *If market pigs arrive at an exhibition and do not make weight cutoffs can they go home?*

A: PDA recognizes that not all fairs are equipped to send to immediate slaughter pigs that do not make weight. PDA also recognizes that the biggest risk for bringing disease back to a farm is commingling (having pigs from different farms mixing together).

For exhibitions that do not have the means to immediately send under and overweight pigs to Slaughter, PDA recommends the following:

After the veterinarian has visually inspected the pigs, the trailer should off-load directly into the weigh area. Only the owner should enter the trailer for off-load purposes. Pigs should be off-loaded in the order of the most desirable to least desirable for show purposes with the intent of only off-loading the pigs most likely to be able to stay for the fair.

PDA recognizes that an individual might bring up to four pigs but only one makes weight. As long as the first three were not commingled with other pigs they may be immediately reloaded and sent home.

Otherwise, strictly no market hogs are permitted to return home. Ideally, all market hogs arriving at fair should go directly to slaughter regardless of whether or not they make weight.

Q: *If swine are weighed on scales that are near the swine pens, does that count as commingling?*

A: If the fair can ensure that there is enough distance between the scale and the swine pens to prevent contact with saliva, respiratory secretions, urine and feces, then weighing swine is not considered commingling.

Q: *Some shows, especially early in the season, don't have a terminal class and exhibitors usually take their pigs home, then to a market show later in the summer where they are sent to slaughter. Is this allowed under the new Quarantine Order?*

A: An exhibition may host a breeding show or a feeder (feeders must be under 220 lbs) pig show but these animals must be removed from the exhibition premises prior to the arrival of any market swine. In the Quarantine Order, a market swine is defined as "A barrow or gilt swine that weighs between 220 and 280 pounds, is approximately 6 months old, and was raised for slaughter". Market swine must go directly to slaughter following the exhibition. Non-terminal pig shows should always be separate from and occur prior to any market swine exhibition.

Q: *Is it correct that a USDA licensed auction that sends swine directly to slaughter would be acceptable as a buy back slaughter market, but buy back to a farm would not?*

A: That is correct. The new Quarantine Order states: "All market swine exhibited shall move direct to slaughter following the exhibition and may not be diverted to premises other than a recognized slaughter establishment or a slaughter market."

Definitions:

Recognized slaughter establishment. A slaughter establishment operated under the Federal Meat Inspection Act (21 U.S.C.A. §§ 601—623, 641—645, 661, 671—680 and 691) or a State inspected slaughter establishment. ****This definition DOES include custom exempt slaughter operations but NOT unlicensed "backyard" slaughter****

Slaughter market. An animal market approved by the Department for the sale of slaughter animals in accordance with Chapter 5 (relating to animal markets) and the act of June 22, 1931 (P. L. 650, No. 225) (3 P. S. §§ 431—439), known as the Farm Animal Dealer or Broker License Law.

Q: *What should fair organizers do if they are having difficulty figuring out how to get market swine moved directly to a recognized slaughter establishment or slaughter market?*

A: If fairs are having difficulty with the logistics of coordinating movement of market swine to slaughter, fair management should contact the PDA Bureau of Animal Health at 717-772-2852 for more information.

Q: *Can a show/fair have pigs in a licensed petting zoo area? What about racing pigs?*

A: Pigs in petting zoo exhibits or racing pig displays must have a CVI within 30 days. These pigs must have official ID (PDA will allow alternate forms of permanent ID for the potbellies such as a microchip or tattoo that is recorded on the CVI). These pigs must be examined by an accredited veterinarian prior to unloading. The fair is responsible for ensuring that these pigs remain separate from other exhibition swine. These animals must have no contact with saliva, manure or urine from market swine. Petting zoos and racing pig displays are not required to be terminal events.

Q: *Who is responsible for making sure that all market swine go directly to slaughter after the show?*

A: Fairs are responsible for recording the name and contact information of the person to whom the swine are released. In turn, the hauler and purchaser are responsible for ensuring direct shipment to slaughter/slaughter market. Although direct movement of market swine to slaughter is preferred, when market swine go through a USDA market, the market is responsible for announcing that the lot is “slaughter only” and the purchaser is responsible for taking the animals directly to slaughter.

Q: *How will buyers at the exhibition know that market swine must go directly to slaughter?*

A: Exhibition organizers should ensure that buyers are aware of the requirement. At a minimum, the exhibition should post notices alerting buyers that market swine must go directly to slaughter.

Q: *How should the scale be disinfected?*

A: All organic material (manure, straw, dust, etc.) should be removed by washing with water and a detergent and allowed to dry completely. Then an approved disinfectant should be applied according to label instructions. A complete list of approved disinfectants can be found at https://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/emergency_management/downloads/asf-virus-disinfectants.pdf or by performing a web search for “ASF virus disinfectants”.

Q: *How should the swine pens/housing be cleaned and disinfected?*

A: All bedding and manure should be removed and the pens should be washed with water and a detergent and allowed to dry completely. Then an approved disinfectant should be applied according to label instructions (see above for how to find the approved disinfectant list).

Q: *If a pig becomes sick at the exhibition, what should the fair/show do?*

A: Exhibition management should contact an accredited veterinarian to examine the animal. If the accredited veterinarian has any concern that the cause of illness could be a reportable disease, then or she should contact PDA at 717-772-2852 to discuss the case.

Q: *If a market pig needs to be removed from the exhibition for health or humane reasons, but can't go to slaughter, what should the exhibition do?*

A: The exhibition should contact PDA at 717-772-2852 to discuss the case and, when appropriate, will be allowed to move the animal to an approved location with an official permit.