



# COMMUNIQUÉ

## CANADIAN PORK COUNCIL RELEASES RESULTS OF HOG ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVE

*May 30, 2000, Ottawa* **SS** “It is with great satisfaction that we are able today to publicize the results which have been obtained from some 20 research and technology transfer projects that the Canadian Pork Council (CPC) and its provincial member organizations together with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, have financed under the Hog Environmental Management Strategy initiative”, said Edouard Asnong, President of the Pork Council.

In April, 1998, Honourable Lyle Vanclief, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, announced at a Hog Environmental Management Strategy (HEMS) workshop in Toronto that the federal government was committing up to \$1 million in funds, matching industry investments on a 50:50 basis, for projects that support the Canadian hog industry’s ongoing commitment to environmentally sustainable hog production.

In the space of just over a year, the CPC and its eight member provincial organizations developed a research and technology transfer strategy and established an administrative structure that generated almost 50 peer-reviewed proposals out of which 20 separate projects were approved.

“We are pleased to release summary versions of each of these successful projects”, said Mr. Asnong. “In addition to being available on request from the national office of the Canadian Pork Council, they are posted on the CPC’s web site.”

The HEMS projects (*please go to [http://www.canpork.ca/1999\\_HEMS\\_SYPOSIUM.htm](http://www.canpork.ca/1999_HEMS_SYPOSIUM.htm)*) cover such diverse areas as odour containment and gas reduction technologies, manure treatment methods, and soil and water quality maintenance systems, as well as the assembly of information on public health implications of hog production as well as examples of guidelines and strategies that can be utilized by hog producer organizations and municipal authorities in future planning and public communications efforts.

Mr. Asnong added: “We congratulate Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada on this initiative to collaborate with industry associations in identifying research and technology transfer priorities and targeting funds to where they will achieve positive results. We look forward to continuing cooperation with the federal government in these areas.”

He also recognized the major contributions of industry, government and university personnel who participated in the CPC’s Multistakeholder Committee (*membership listed at the end of this communiqué*) and whose interest and expertise were crucial to the credibility and success of the HEMS projects.

The CPC also acknowledges the important work performed within Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada under the HEMS initiative, including the April, 1998 workshop. In addition, the Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration (PFRA) developed a system for rating soils and landscapes into seven Soil Management Groups (SMGs) based on three resource factors: groundwater, surface water and nitrogen.

The hog industry in Canada generates some \$3 billion in farm cash receipts, and when the value-added activity of processing and distribution is added, the contribution to the Canadian economy is close to \$10 billion. Pork is Canada's most important processed agri-food product in terms of value of exports, exceeding \$1½ billion last year.

The Canadian Pork Council is the national federation of provincial pork producer organizations, representing the interests of hog farmers nationally and internationally.

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CPC Multistakeholder Committee:

Hog Industry -- Jurgen Preugschas (Chair), Edouard Asnong (CPC President)  
CPC HEMS Directors -- Fred Olthuis and Dennis Zekveld  
AAFC, Research -- Drs. David Bailey, Jacques Surprenant  
AAFC, Environment -- Alexandre Lefebvre  
AAFC, CARC -- Ralph Christian, Linda Poste-Flynn  
Universities -- Dr. Ron Ball (Universities of Guelph and Alberta)  
Technology and applications sector -- Dr. John Patience (Prairie Swine Centre) and  
Pierre Falardeau (Centre de développement de porcs du Québec)  
Meat Processing Industry -- Carla Abbatemarco (Canadian Meat Council)  
Feed Industry -- Dr. Essi Evans (Shur-Gain)  
Veterinary -- Drs. Camille Moore, Dan Hurnik  
Provincial Governments -- Dr. Sylvio Tessier (Manitoba)