



Canadian Swine Health  
Intelligence Network

Réseau canadien de  
surveillance de la santé porcine

## CSHIN QUARTERLY PRODUCER REPORT

### REPORT Q2 APRIL-JUNE 2019

Veterinary Survey Participation: 41 veterinarians (12 Québec, 13 Ontario and 16 Western Canada). Provincial networks also contribute laboratory data.

## Senecavirus A (SVA) On-farm Case Update— Dr. Ryan Tenbergen

Dr. Ryan Tenbergen provided an update on the clinical aspects of SVA detection in two sow herds in Ontario.

- Two sow herds were confirmed positive for SVA in late July.
- There is a connection between these two sow herds with some shared trucking and feed connections.
- The initial clinical signs seen in both herds were sows off feed and piglet scours.
- Early on there were approximately 30 to 40% of piglets scouring with up to 70% mortality in affected litters. This lasted 3 weeks in duration.
- Sow mortality rose from a rate of 6 to 8% to a level of 12 to 15% for a short duration of 3 to 4 weeks. Sows that were already compromised also tended to be lost to mortality.
- There were no reports of lameness, but sows were housed in stalls.
- There were no clinical signs seen in positive nurseries.
- Personnel at the farm forwarded photos of blisters on a few sows to their veterinarian who notified the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA). Prevalence was very low with less than 10% of sows showing lesions.
- The CFIA visited both farms to conduct a disease investigation. They provided confirmation 3 days later that there was no foreign animal diseases detected, but both farms were SVA positive on PCR tests.

It is important for producers to understand that the associated clinical signs were very subtle in both of these cases and could have been easily missed or overlooked by both the barn managers and the veterinarian. This case stresses the importance of follow-ups with on-farm visits with your veterinarian and in submitting samples for diagnostic testing if scours and sudden deaths are seen on farms.

- Subsequently all nurseries and finishing barns are being tested for SVA.
- Since August, approximately 8 weeks after the suspected outbreak occurred, pigs from one herd are testing negative for SVA after 1 week of placement.
- Pigs are also being tested at the end of the nursery and at entry to finishing.
- Pigs that test negative in the nurseries sometimes test positive after 1 week placement in the finishers. Currently we are unsure why this is occurring. These pigs have shown no clinical signs of being positive for SVA.
- Dr. George Charbonneau mentioned that Swine Health Ontario's Sow Site Incidence Report for Q2 2019 makes reference to the fact that SVA is present at sow assembly sites in Ontario. Dr. Glen Duizer commented that this is also the case for the 3 large swine assembly sites in western Canada. It is important to keep biosecurity at top of mind.

## African Swine Fever (ASF) Prevention, Planning and Preparedness Update from the Canadian Pork Council (CPC) – Dr. Egan Brockhoff

Dr. Egan Brockhoff summarized a list of items that the CPC continues to focus on regarding African Swine Fever (ASF):

- CPC is working closely with CFIA on a variety of working groups. This high level of collaboration has proven to be very effective.
- CPC is represented on the CFIA led National Emergency Response Team (NERT) calls that occur weekly to receive progress updates on ASF planning and preparedness activities.
- CFIA has released the action items from the ASF planning forum that was held in April 2019. CPC is reviewing this document in its entirety and planning to provide comments back to CFIA on its content as well as any gaps identified. Many international trading partners were present at this event. The forum provided a platform for ideas to be shared regarding different approaches for ASF prevention and containment efforts.
- CPC has released many communications both in written form and through social media on several topics including; feed ingredient risks and recommended hold times, international travel and returning farm workers and preventative measures tailored to back-yard swine producers. CPC continues to draft communications on ASF prevention and preparedness items.
- CPC board members are heading to Florida in a few months to meet with experts and colleagues. It is important to continue to collaborate for communication purposes and to prevent duplication of tasks.
- (CPC) continues to stress the importance of messaging on how to keep this virus out of Canada to both CFIA and to the Canadian Border Services Agency (CBSA).

## Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea Virus (PEDV) & Porcine Deltacoronavirus (PDCoV)

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### CWSHIN (Western Provinces)

**CWSHIN reported 64 new cases of PEDV in 2019. Overall, the number of cases seems to be tapering off now.** In Manitoba swine vets, provincial government and the pork board still meet weekly to receive PED status updates and to discuss their response to this pathogen. The most recent cases were detected in a naïve sow herd that is almost completely surrounded by positive PEDV sites and in a downstream nursery. **Moving into the fall, the biggest item will be maintaining vigilance on manure spreading. Contaminated transport trucks and multi-site swine production with shared staff are still considered major risks in spreading this virus.**

### RAIZO (Quebec)

RAIZO reported a status update on their 2 positive PEDV sites previously reported. **The nursery site has regained negative status and the pigs in the finishing site are now testing negative for PEDV. Hopefully this site will regain negative status within the next few weeks.**

RAIZO provided an update on the 5 sites (2 nurseries and 3 finishers) that previously reported to be positive for PDCoV. Weekly testing has started to reveal negative test results. Hopefully these sites will regain negative status in the next

few months. **CSHIN would like to offer congratulations to Quebec on their success with control and elimination of PEDV!**

## OAHN (Ontario)

OAHN reported no new PED positive sites in Q2. There were 2 new positive sites for PDCoV during Q2 including, a farrow-wean site in April and a finishing site in June.

## Influenza A

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### OAHN (Ontario)

Influenza A has continued to be a common disease reported by vet practitioners in Ontario. OAHN reported that 66% of responding veterinarians reported an increase in influenza A cases in Q2 over Q1. The SPC charts supported this trend and a signal was generated. The most common subtypes of influenza A reported in Ontario during this quarter were H1N1 and H1N2, however there were still cases of H3N2 reported.

### CWSHIN (Western Provinces)

This quarter was the first time that CWSHIN ran their new disease mapping system to assist with data analysis. The SPC charts from the clinical impression surveys reported below average reports of respiratory diseases and influenza A. In contrast, analysis of the lab data indicated a slight increase in respiratory disease specifically in influenza A. Both Saskatchewan and Alberta reported that some herds had challenges with Influenza A. British Columbia and Manitoba reported respiratory diseases and Influenza A to be stable during Q2.

Dr. Susan Detmer reported that pandemic Influenza was isolated from pigs into May 2019. Overall, the western provinces saw almost exclusively cases of pandemic Influenza November to April similar to the human strains circulating. Other viruses were still being detected in June and July but mainly alpha H1N2 subtypes were found. **Finding more than 1 subtype of influenza was common last year in the western provinces. Pandemic H1N1 (human origin) influenza burnt through swine farms and opened up the door to infection with other subtypes of influenza that were present on these farms. Veterinarians should expect pre-existing influenza subtypes to resurface on farms in the fall.**

## *Clostridium Septicum*

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### CWSHIN (Western Provinces)

Dr. Jette Christensen reported that during Q2 there were 1 case of *Clostridium Septicum* in BC and 1 case in Alberta. Pictures were taken of the clinical lesions and indicated significant redness and swelling around the head and neck of affected pigs. These clinical lesions could appear similar to those seen with ASF. In this case diagnostic testing ruled out ASF and other foreign animal diseases. Dr. Egan Brockhoff commented that he usually sees 3-6 cases of this pathogen per year in swine. In many cases, affected pigs are housed on straw bedding and frequency increases during rainy times of year e.g. in the spring and fall. Scratches on pigs break down the skin barrier leaving pigs susceptible to infection. The first 2-3 days after infection you will usually see sudden deaths increase and after this, pigs begin to show clinical lesions over the shoulders, neck, head and on the belly. Some pigs die after showing clinical signs and others demonstrate extreme tissue sloughing. Affected herds are usually responsive to high doses of penicillin. Use of cattle vaccines can be helpful in known problem farms.

## OAHN (Ontario)

OAHN reported 2 cases of this pathogen in Q2. One of these herds is raised on straw bedding.

## *Streptococcus equi zooepidemicus*

### CWSHIN (Western Provinces)

At CSHIN's Q1 call, Dr. Brad Lage reported a major outbreak of *Strep equi zooepidemicus* in a few sow herds causing sudden deaths, abortions and conception failure in gilts and sows. To date 4 sow barns have been affected and interestingly 3/4 were raised without antibiotics (RWA) herds. Clinical signs have been seen in gilts and sows **not** in pigs from affected sows. Efforts are underway to gain control through autogenous vaccination. This pathogen has also shown up at slaughter in cull sows. Dr. Glen Duizer reported that one provincial packing plant in Manitoba has seen an increase in sows "dead on arrival" at the end of July. Testing attributes these deaths to *Strep equi zooepidemicus*. One processing plant in the U.S.A. flagged an increase in sow deaths also attributed to this pathogen. To add to this, an assembly yard has had shipments with an increase in pigs "dead on arrival". Trace backs in western Canada are underway with the attempt to determine where this pathogen may have originated from.

*This information is a professional communication for swine producers. The information was obtained from a survey of the clinical impressions of participating practising veterinarians with input from other swine health professionals. This information is not validated and may not reflect the entire clinical situation. Your judgment is required in the interpretation and use of it. It is the intent of CSHIN to improve the health of the national swine herd. CSHIN is funded jointly by the Canadian Association of Swine Veterinarians (CASV) and Canadian Pork Council (CPC).*

# MEET YOUR CSHIN Q2 NETWORK TEAM

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