

Section 9.1

Preparation for Transport

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PREPARATION FOR TRANSPORT

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. **Fasting Period**
 - a. It is recommended that a fasting period for pigs be implemented prior to slaughter.
 - i. The optimal fasting period is 15 to 20 hours prior to slaughter.
2. **Transport Trailers**
 - a. The transport trailer should be used to move pigs only and should be cleaned prior to use.
 - b. It is recommended that you avoid using the same transport trailer to move pigs and other commodities.
 - c. A written assurance should be provided by transporters who use wood-based bedding during transportation of pigs certifying that their bedding is free of pentachlorophenols (PCPs), chromated copper arsenate and other wood-preserving agents.

RATIONALE

- a. Fasting prior to slaughter reduces the risk of carcasses being contaminated with intestinal contents during processing. If the fasting period is too long (over 24 hours) there is a higher risk of *Salmonella* contamination.
- b. Contaminated transport vehicles represent a source of pathogens for both the pigs' shipping site and receiving site.
- c. Using the same transport trailer for pigs and other materials (such as fertilizers, pesticides, medicated feeds or other chemicals) can increase the risk of the pigs' carcasses being condemned due to unacceptable residue.
- d. Every time animals are moved to a site, there is a risk of introducing and spreading pathogens from contaminated vehicles.
- e. Wood-based bedding containing PCPs, chromated copper arsenate or other wood-preserving agents can result in residue in the meat, making it unsafe for human consumption.
- f. If wood shavings are contaminated with PCP, chromated copper arsenate and other wood preservatives and consumed by pigs, it can accumulate in tissue and be passed along to people.
- g. Urine and feces from pigs treated with antibiotics may contain antibiotic residue which, if ingested by untreated pigs, can be sufficient to cause violative levels of residues in those pigs.
- h. The handling, mixing and transporting of pigs causes stress that may cause the animals to shed bacteria, including *Salmonella*. Non-contaminated animals may become contaminated through exposure to other animals and their feces, or by coming into contact with contaminated vehicles.

GUIDANCE

- a. Put specific sanitation protocols in place for incoming and outgoing vehicles.
- b. Dedicate trucks and plan the traffic flow within and between farms and production system, units and zones (controlled access and restricted access) to minimize the introduction of pathogens.
- c. Apply an appropriate downtime for all vehicles.
- d. Implement a sanitation wash/disinfect/dry program for all vehicles.

? **AUDIT QUESTIONS**

Q#	Importance	Question	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
Q9.1.1		Has a fasting period been implemented?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Q9.1.2	Highly recommended	a. Are the transport trailers used only to transport livestock and cleaned prior to transportation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		b. Are different transport trailers used to transport pigs and other commodities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		c. Is the transporter providing a written assurance or certifying that the wood-based bedding being used when transporting pigs is free of PCPs, chromated copper arsenate and other wood-preserving agents?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

N/A = not applicable; PCP = pentachlorophenol