Biosecure Manure Pumping Protocols for PED Control: Recommendations for Commercial Manure Haulers

Key Points

The recent introduction of the Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea Virus (PED) into the United States presents a new challenge for manure pumping. Infection with PED can create tremendous financial losses to the producer. PED virus transfers via feces and survives in manure for extended periods of time. Any object that becomes contaminated with pig manure can be a source of infection for pigs.

Prior to the time of going to a site to pump COMMUNICATE with the producer:

- Contact the producer to discuss the upcoming pumping season and the biosecurity plan.
- Communicate on when you will be going to the farm.
- Share the contact information between the manure pumping crew and farm personnel.
- Be prepared to share the history of sites where the pumping crew has been.
- Plan entrance and exit to the site with minimal cross-over with other farm traffic or areas used by farm personnel. Ask the routes that will be used to transport manure to fields.
- Ask where the “Line of Separation” is between the set-up, hauling equipment and farm site. This defines the area that is to be used by the manure haulers and the area to be used by daily farm traffic and personnel. Don’t cross over the line.
- Discuss how any manure spills will be handled.
- Inform all your employees of the biosecurity requirements discussed with the producer.

At the time of pumping COMMUNICATE with the producer:

- Manure haulers are not to enter the barns, office areas or walk over areas used by farm personnel and should never come in direct contact with the pigs.
- Avoid any direct contact with farm personnel and do not allow pumping equipment access by farm personnel.
- Use always clean coveralls, boots and gloves at each site.
- IF personnel must CROSS-OVER the line of separation they must do the following:
  - Cover-up with protective gear (boots, coveralls, gloves).
  - Dispose of or properly contain any contaminated clothing in plastic bags / totes.
  - Clean and disinfect any re-usable gear for the next site.

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After pumping COMMUNICATE with the producer:

- Inform farm contact person when pumping is done.
- Identify and discuss with producer if there were any problems, biosecurity breaches or manure spills.
- If possible clean, disinfect and dry equipment on site away from traffic before traveling to the next farm site.
- Avoid bringing disease with you by changing outer clothing and boots between farms.
- Clean the cab of trucks, tractors and contaminated equipment before going to next site.

PED virus infection at the sow farm can create near 100% mortality of piglets. Cleaning, disinfecting and drying all equipment is mandatory if moving to a sow site.

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Leave the risks behind! Protect yourself and assume responsibility for the biosecurity of your manure hauling equipment and hauling crew.