

PRODUCER ADVISORY: PED/PDCOV AND MANURE SPREADING

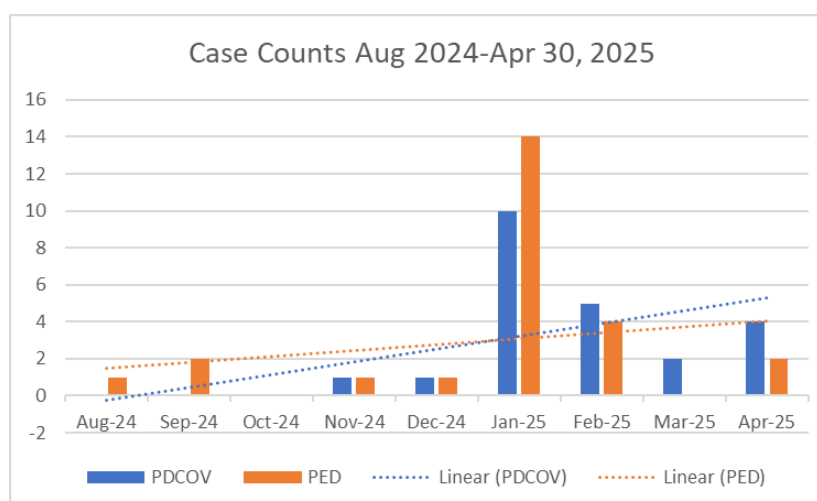
This January, Ontario saw a substantial spike in PED and PDCOV cases. Thanks to everyone's efforts, the number of new cases has dropped, and barns are being declared negative again.

As we get into planting season, be aware that PED and PDCOV can live for months or more in manure.

This means that spreading manure from previously positive sites (even if the barn and pigs are now negative) carries the potential of either re-infecting the same site or transmitting infection to sites close to spreading.

When spreading manure, you should always consider:

- **Keeping manure contained** – try to minimize manure drops into yards that can be carried on wheels and onto roads, which can contaminate equipment and vehicles for other farms
- **Maintaining distance from pig barns** – aim to create a buffer zone in fields near pig barns
- **Not sharing equipment** – where possible, limit sharing of equipment between farms/barns to reduce risk
- **Wind** – if possible, avoid spreading near pig barns when prevailing winds are strong and can pull particulates into vents/fans and other access points
- **Maintaining biosecure access to the barn** – when pumping out manure, make sure to follow biosecurity protocols for accessing the barns for any reason, including to pull plugs. **Assume all places outside the barn (including your own yard) are contaminated and don't walk it into the barn!**



PED AND PDCOV ARE HIGHLY INFECTIOUS AND OUTBREAKS COST FARMS A SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNT OF MONEY (\$200+/SOW). PREVENTION IS KEY.

Current case counts can be viewed here: <http://www.swinehealthontario.ca/Disease-Information/PED-PDCoV-Tracking-Map>. SHARC enrolled producers can also track more details on PED and PDCOV cases in SHARC www.swinehealtharc.ca, as well as receiving email notifications of disease updates. If you are not currently enrolled but would like to be, visit www.swinehealtharc.ca/enroll or contact info@swinehealthontario.ca.

AS ALWAYS, PRODUCERS AND EACH PARTNER ALONG THE SUPPLY CHAIN SHOULD MAINTAIN VIGILANT BIOSECURITY MEASURES AND EVALUATE THEIR EXPOSURE RISKS TO THE FARMS AND OFF-SITE LIVESTOCK ASSEMBLY YARDS THAT THEY VISIT.

To help further prevent the spread of disease, producers should consider the following:

- Limit access on your farm to essential visits only and when possible, limit the movement of staff between barns
- Have dedicated clothing and footwear (and equipment when possible) for staff and visitors/contractors while inside the barn
 - o Disinfect items that have to move between barns
- Shower in and out whenever possible; at a minimum, set up a Danish entry system
- Use lime on your loading docks and at driver entries (*contact your vet for more information on safe and proper use*)
- Ensure all trailers are cleaned and disinfected before arriving at the barn whenever possible and assume any truck or trailer could be positive for any of these pathogens
 - o Consider segregated equipment (trailers, power units, etc.) to go to assemblies and processors only (never to go to sow units)
- Make sure that the barn and yards allow drivers to effectively change boots/coveralls/PPEs and limit driver access to the barn itself whenever possible (chute extensions or a well planned trucker Danish entrance are a great alternatives)
- Conduct rule-out testing and consult your veterinarian when noticing any symptoms. **Report all cases to your vet as soon as possible.**
- If a barn tests positive, ensure all partners (including third party manure spreaders) are notified as soon as possible to avoid the risk of spreading disease
- Plan manure spreading activities to avoid increasing the risk to other hog barns and clean shared farm equipment
- Ensure rodents, birds and other wildlife are not able to enter barns
- If your deadstock is picked up, ensure that traffic paths from the farm and by the deadstock trailer do not cross

Symptoms of PEDv and PDCOV can include:

- Sows: Watery diarrhea, loose feces, vomiting, off feed
- Piglets: Diarrhea, dehydration, vomiting, affected pigs appear skinny, high mortality
- Weaners and Growers: Acute watery diarrhea with no blood or mucus, vomiting, off feed
- Finisher: Any level of abnormal diarrhea, that may only last a few days; no expected increase in mortality; clinical signs can be very mild in nature
- *Note: symptoms of PDCOV tend to be milder than PED and could be missed, particularly in finishers, so vigilance is key and Affected pigs shed a lot of virus for several weeks even after clinical recovery. **Disease may be mistaken for off feed due to toxins before additional clinical signs are noted.***

If you have additional questions or concerns, please reach out to info@swinehealthontario.ca. Biosecurity resources can be found here: www.swinehealthontario.ca/Biosecurity. If you need mental health support during this time, please reach out to the Farmer Wellness Initiative at 1-866-267-6255 or farmerwellnessinitiative.ca.