

PRODUCER DISEASE ALERT: PED AND PDCOV CASES IN ONTARIO INCREASING

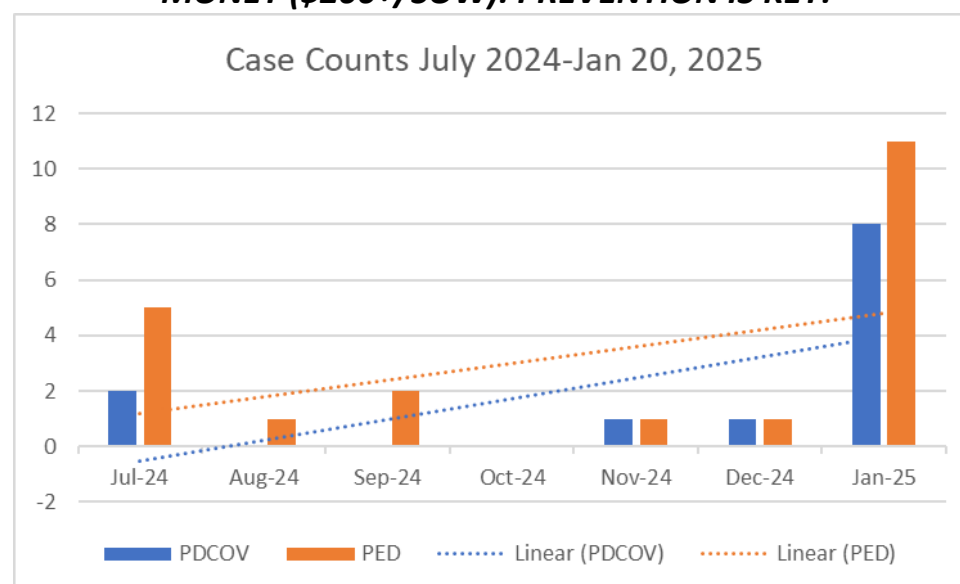
This January, Ontario has already seen nearly double the number of positive tests for Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea Virus (PEDv) and Porcine Deltacoronavirus (PDCOV) at farms than we saw in all of January 2024. Traceback and elimination plans for these cases are underway. Current case counts can be viewed 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.

The majority of cases are being attributed at this time to transport events, particularly contact with known positive assembly sites or plants.

If we don't act now, cases will continue to rise and the risk to all producers and the industry will increase significantly.

Report all potential cases to your veterinarian as soon as possible.

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



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
- 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.***

SHO, OPIC, Ontario Pork and the veterinary clinics will be working one on one with producers, transporters, feed mills, assemblies, processors and others to assess risks and assist with improving procedures to mitigate those risks. If you would like help evaluating your processes, please contact SHO (info@swinehealthontario.ca, 226-240-4370) or your veterinarian.

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.