# UCONN EXTENSION

BE SAFE: BIOSECURITY EDUCATION TO SAFEGUARD ANIMALS AT FAIRS AND EVENTS

# ANIMAL HEALTH CHECKS: SWINE



Quality health checks are the first line of defense for protecting humans and animals from contagious diseases at fairs and other animal events. Use this checklist to confirm that animals participating in an agricultural fair or event are visibly healthy. Health checks should be completed inside the trailer or right outside; do not permit the animal to walk through the fairgrounds, barns or event before confirming its health status. Use gloves and other personal protective equipment (PPE) as appropriate. Disinfect footwear between assessments on animals not housed together. Change your clothes after completing the animal assessments. Wipe down any equipment like flashlights or radios between herds. Certain conditions and observations noted within this checklist may not pose a significant public or animal health risk. In such cases, decisions regarding an animal's eligibility for exhibition should be made in consultation with event leadership and/or the on-call veterinarian. Follow any additional policies provided by event leadership and your state's Department of Agriculture.

#### Identification

- Swine must have a valid CVI within 30 days of first show, signed by an accredited veterinarian.
   A copy of the CVI must be presented to the exhibition superintendent.
- All swine must have an approved USDA identification (ear tag/tattoo/ear notch)
- Swine must be from a Brucellosis- and
   Pseudorabies-negative herd or have current negative test results.

## **General Body**

- □ Alert and responsive
- Normal gait
- □ No arching or hunching of posture
- No distension of abdomen
- No lumps or evidence of hernias
- Adequate body condition

# Nose, Eyes, and Mouth

- □ Clear eyes with no discharge
- Clean nose with no purulent discharge
- No abnormalities in respiration (including coughing, sneezing, or wheezing)
- No indication of sores or ulcers in mouth
- □ No vomiting

#### Skin and Hair

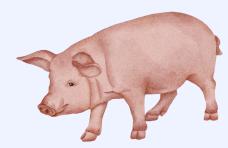
- □ No rashes, sores, or discoloration
- □ No crusting or cracks in skin
- □ No open or weeping wounds
- □ No lice observed

#### **Rear End**

- □ No signs of diarrhea
- □ No rectal or vaginal prolapses
- □ No discharge from vulva
- No fetal membranes
- Flexible tail without signs of injury or infection

#### **Feet**

- No lameness
- No hoof cracks, odor, swelling, discharge
- No joint enlargement



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#### **Identification:**

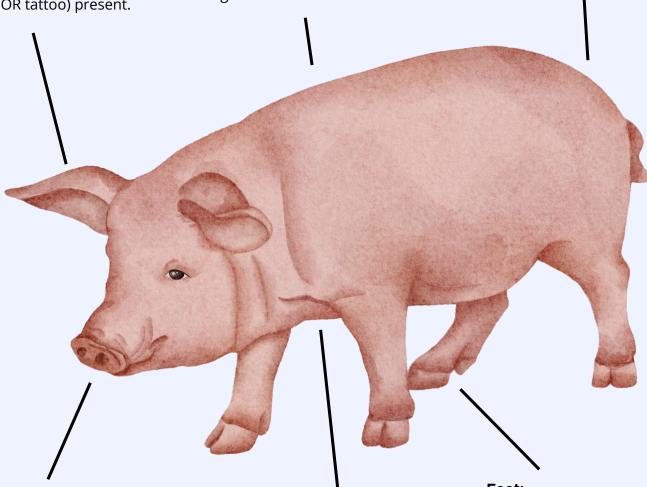
Valid, veterinarian-signed CVI presented; negative Brucellosis and Psuedorabies evidence (negative test or negative herd) present; USDA identificaiton (ear tag OR ear notch OR tattoo) present.

#### **General Body:**

Alert, responsive; normal gait (no hunching, arching); free of lumps, hernias, and abdomen distension; adequate body condition for age and sex.

#### Rear End:

Absence of rectal/vaginal prolapse, discharge from vulva, and fetal membranes; no signs of diarrhea; flexible tail without signs of injury or infection.



### Eyes, Nose, and Mouth:

Clear eyes and nose, free of discharge; mouth absent of sores, ulcers, or vomiting; no respiration abnormalities (coughing, sneezing, or wheezing).

#### Skin:

Clean; free from rashes, sores, discoloration, crusting, cracks, open wounds, and lice.

#### Feet:

Free of hoof cracks, odor, swelling, and discharge; no joint enlargement or lameness.

The BE SAFE Project and this fact sheet are supported by Farm Credit Northeast AgEnhancement. Farm Credit Northeast AgEnhancement supports programs, projects and events that are intended to strengthen Northeast agriculture, commercial fishing and forest products. This program is a combined effort of Farm Credit East and CoBank.

