



NAHMS Swine 2021 Large Enterprise Study

2021 Study Launch
August 2020

From July 2021 through January 2022, the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) National Animal Health Monitoring System (NAHMS), in collaboration with the USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), will conduct its sixth national study of U.S. large enterprise swine operations.

This study will take an in-depth look at U.S. swine operations with 1,000 or more pigs and provide new information regarding health and management practices in the U.S. swine industry. Approximately 2,700 operations will be selected from 13 of the Nation’s top swine-producing States (Figure 1.) representing about 90 percent of U.S. swine operations with 1,000 or more pigs.



Study Objectives

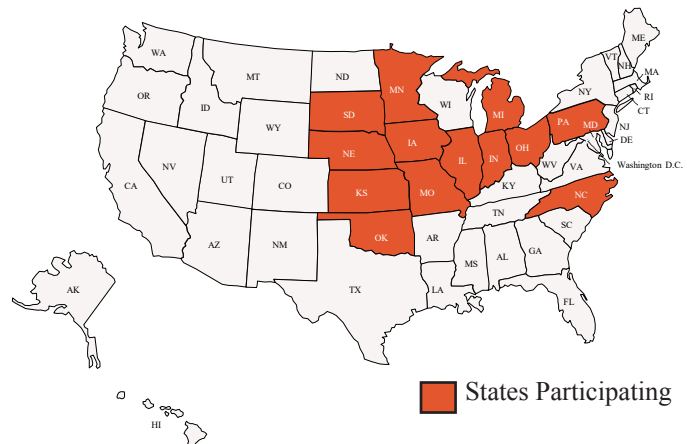
The Swine 2021 Large Enterprise study is designed to provide participants and industry stakeholders with benchmarking information on the U.S. swine industry. Information collected will contribute to critically important epidemiologic surveillance that will inform disease management and preparedness strategies to safeguard the swine industry.

Study objectives were developed based on multiple focus group discussions with industry (representatives from the National Pork Board, National Pork Producers Council, and the American Association of Swine Veterinarians) and through input from industry stakeholders via an online survey. This study will

- Describe current U.S. swine production practices related to housing, productivity, biosecurity, and morbidity and mortality prevention,
- Determine the producer-reported prevalence of select pathogens in weaned market pigs,
- Describe antimicrobial stewardship and use patterns, and
- Evaluate the presence of select economically important pathogens, and characterize isolated organisms from biological specimens.



Figure 1. States participating in the NAHMS Swine 2021 Large Enterprise Study



“NAHMS is a great tool to better understand the burden of disease in the U.S. swine herd. It also provides data for further analyses and characterization of different populations within the industry, which ultimately provides insights into disease trends. Participating will contribute to the representativeness of the study.”

Dr. Cesar Corzo, DVM, PhD, Associate Professor and Leman Chair in Swine Health & Productivity, Department of Veterinary Population Medicine, University of Minnesota



Study Activities

Participating in any NAHMS study is voluntary. If you are selected to participate in the Swine 2021 study and decide to do so, your answers will represent many other producers in your State.

Representatives from NASS will visit participating operations from July through August 2021 to complete a questionnaire. If you choose to continue in the study, USDA or State veterinary health professionals will visit you from September 2021 through January 2022 to complete a second questionnaire and discuss free biologic testing.



Benefits to Participating

The U.S. swine industry will benefit from this study by having current scientifically valid estimates available to

- Provide transparent, credible information on U.S. swine industry practices to help counter misinformation,
- Aid in understanding disease preparedness strengths and vulnerabilities,
- Assist policymakers and industry stakeholders in making informed decisions,
- Assist researchers and private enterprise to focus on vital issues related to swine health and productivity,
- Assist economic analyses of the health and productivity of the U.S. swine industry, and
- Identify educational needs related to swine health.

“NAHMS provides up-to-date, comprehensive snapshots of swine health and production practices of the U.S. swine industry. The valuable information gleaned from this study is only made possible and credible by industry-wide cooperation of pork producers and their veterinarians. I fully support this effort and strongly encourage everyone’s cooperation, if selected to participate.”

Dr. John Waddell DVM, MBA



Free Biologics Testing

For producers that fully participate in the study, free *Salmonella*, *E. coli*, *Campylobacter*, and *Enterococcus* fecal cultures and antimicrobial susceptibility testing will be offered for grower/finisher pigs. In addition, oral fluid test results regarding the prevalence Seneca Valley virus (SVV) will be offered for grower/finisher pigs. Testing for SVV provides valuable aggregate data that can be analyzed across the swine industry.



Scientific Approach

NAHMS was established to collect accurate and valuable information on animal health and management in the United States. NAHMS studies are national in scope, science based, statistically valid, collaborative, voluntary, and anonymous.



Confidentiality

Because NAHMS studies rely on voluntary participation, the privacy of every participant is protected. Only those collecting study data know the identity of respondents. No name or contact information will ever be associated with individual data, and no data will ever be reported in a way that could reveal the identity of a participant. Data are presented only in an aggregate or summary manner.



For More Information

USDA-APHIS-VS-CEAH
NRRC Building B, M.S. 2E7
2150 Centre Avenue
Fort Collins, CO 80526-8117
Phone: 970.494.7216

Email: NAHMS@usda.gov

Or visit NAHMS at: <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/nahms>

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