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EXP: 01/2023

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE  
VETERINARY SERVICES  
NATIONAL ANIMAL HEALTH MONITORING SYSTEM  
2150 CENTRE AVE, BLDG B  
FORT COLLINS, CO 80526**

## **2021 NAHMS Swine Large Enterprise - Informed Consent**

### **Instructions:**

Review this page with the producer, answering any questions. Make sure the producer understands that participation is voluntary. After signatures, give the original to the producer, send one copy to your NAHMS Coordinator, and retain the final copy until instructed.

### **Background**

USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is collecting information on swine health and stewardship through the National Animal Monitoring System (NAHMS). This information will be used to describe current swine health and stewardship practices, help policymakers and industry make informed decisions, assist researchers and private enterprise in identifying and focusing on vital issues related to swine management, and facilitate education of future producers and veterinarians. Participation is voluntary and you may decline to participate. Your participation is vital and will help APHIS develop swine health and management national estimates. We ask that you provide accurate information regarding your facility's swine health and management; however, you retain the right to refuse to answer any or all questions.

### **Confidentiality**

APHIS pledges to keep the information you provide as part of this study confidential and will only use it for statistical purpose. According to the Confidential Information Protection provisions of Title V, Subtitle A, Public Law 107-347 (CIPSEA) and other applicable Federal laws, your responses will be kept confidential and will not be disclosed in identifiable form. For more information on how we protect your information please visit: [https://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal\\_health/nahms/general/downloads/NAHMS\\_CIPSEA.pdf](https://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/nahms/general/downloads/NAHMS_CIPSEA.pdf).

Your information's security is vitally important to APHIS. Only authorized APHIS employees or those acting on APHIS's behalf (NAHMS agents) will have access to your individual record data. By law to be an authorized APHIS employee or NAHMS agent, individuals must complete confidentiality training and a confidentiality form which stipulates the requirements for keeping data confidential and the penalties individuals are subject to if identifiable information is released. These , and that the individual is subject to a jail term of up to 5 years, a fine of up to \$250,000, or both if he or she discloses ANY identifiable information about you or your establishment.

Every person working for or in cooperation with APHIS on this study has signed. Further, data are protected from cybersecurity threats. Under the Cybersecurity Enhancement Act of 2015, your data will be protected by US Department of Homeland Security (DHS) cybersecurity monitoring. In the event of a cybersecurity incident, and pursuant to any required legal processes, information from these sources may be used to help identify and mitigate the incident.

APHIS may publish, or authorize others to publish, the aggregate (summary) findings acquired from NAHMS for the benefit of the swine industry, allied private industries, and other interested groups, but will ensure that the identity of the producer is withheld. APHIS may not publish, or authorize others to publish, individual responses.

The NAHMS Agent will review this informed consent with you prior to asking for any information in this phase of the study. You are not required to participate in the study. APHIS will use the information you provide for statistical purposes only.

Please note that information on a producer's animals revealed from sources unrelated to this study, such as testing and inspection for movement or sale of animals or tracebacks on testing done at slaughter, may cause unrelated regulatory action. Additionally, if a NAHMS Agent conducting this interview on the Producer's premises observes an animal with signs suspicious of a dangerous, infectious, or exotic disease foreign to the United States (e.g., foot-and-mouth disease), he or she is required to report this disease to State authorities, in which case further investigation and possible action may occur which would potentially result in making your participation in a NAHMS study no longer protected. In the unlikely event of this occurrence, APHIS will continue to protect any of the information provided as part of this study. Again information collected by APHIS for a NAHMS study may only be used for statistical purposes.

You can obtain these reports and further information from this study by accessing the NAHMS Web site at:  
<https://www.aphis.usda.gov/nahms>

### **Study Biologics – APHIS will safeguard as Confidential Business Information**

APHIS is providing fecal pathogen and oral fluids biologic testing to producers who complete the phase II questionnaire. This biologics portion of the study is **not covered by CIPSEA and the confidentiality pledge does not apply**. Even though the confidentiality pledge does not apply to the biologics portion of the study, APHIS recognizes that the materials you provide and the information generated from these are not regularly provide or shared with others and are considered by you to be private, confidential business information APHIS will not disclose this information except when required by law. APHIS will not have any Personally Identifiable Information on any biologic forms or sample materials so samples cannot be traced to you or your operation. Individual testing result reports will only have your operations study ID and APHIS staff will mail these results directly to you. Finally, APHIS will not publish your operational level study biologics data, and only publish or authorize others to publish aggregated data from the biologics portion of this study.

By signing this, the NAHMS Agent is pledging APHIS to protect the confidentiality of the participants information

/date

NAHMS Agent

Below, enter the consenting participant's name, address, telephone number and email address.

Consenting participant's contact information

By initialing below, the consenting participant is communicating his or her decision to participate or not with biologics testing in this study.

		<b>I AGREE to participate</b>	<b>I DO NOT Agree to participate</b>
	<b>Biologic Sampling – Fecal Pathogens</b>		
1.	Producer consents and authorizes the NAHMS Agent or a mutually agreed upon designate to collect 30 fecal samples from up to 10 pens containing 20 weeks and older Finisher pigs. All samples will be tested for <i>Salmonella</i> . A subset of these samples will be tested for <i>Campylobacter</i> , generic <i>E coli</i> and <i>Enterococcus</i> . The Producer will receive results as a positive/negative and serotype or speciation and an antimicrobial sensitivity profile, usually within 4 months of collection. These isolates obtained after testing will be stored for future academic research into areas of concern to the swine industry (e.g., genotypic markers of antimicrobial resistance).	_____	_____
	<b>Biologic Sampling – Oral Fluids</b>		
2.	Producer consents and authorizes the Data Collector or a mutually agreed upon designate to collect 8 oral fluids collections from up to 8 pens containing 20 weeks and older Finisher pigs. Samples will be tested for Senecavirus A (Seneca Valley Virus). Results will be provided to NAHMS and the Producer within 4 months of collection via logging in with the correct information at the testing lab website (to be provided at a later date). The remaining oral fluids left over after testing (if any) will be stored in an oral fluids bank for future academic research into diseases of concern to the swine industry (e.g., coronavirus presence).	_____	_____