
RESOLUTION NUMBER: 20 APPROVED

SOURCE: COMMITTEE ON SWINE

**SUBJECT MATTER: NATIONAL ANIMAL HEALTH MONITORING SYSTEM
SWINE 2020**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The National Animal Health Monitoring System (NAHMS) is a program through which national studies are conducted through collaboration of multiple government agencies, producers and other industry representatives, academic institutions, and public and animal health professionals. These efforts are organized by a multidisciplinary group within the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's Center for Epidemiology and Animal Health. This unit is composed of veterinary epidemiologists, livestock commodity specialists, statisticians, and technical support staff.

There have been five previous national swine studies (1990, 1995, 2000, 2006, and 2012) and each has provided estimates of critical industry benchmarks through a series of reports generated by surveys and biologic sample collections. All respondent identification is strictly confidential. The use of National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) list frames has allowed survey estimates generated by these studies to be extrapolated to over 90 percent of swine operations with more than 100 pigs. These estimates have documented management system progress in disease management and other factors related to swine health over the years. These studies have thus served to support export markets and have given researchers baseline estimates, biologic samples, and hypotheses to develop industry supported studies.

NAHMS data on antimicrobial use has provided baseline population estimates that can be used to compare use before and after recent Food and Drug Administration guideline implementation. Use estimates and bacterial isolate susceptibility test findings have been used at Congressional hearings on antimicrobial resistance. These national swine studies are unique in the world and provide an opportunity for a high level of cooperation between federal and industry sectors. Plans for the current study include collections of feces for traditional fecal pathogen isolation and sensitivity testing, and oral fluids collections. The latter can provide an incentive for participation and also affords opportunities for research such as validation of existing or new oral fluids tests.

Benefits that can be derived from past and future NAHMS surveys include: sound statistical representation of the industry; modeling of surveys to meet industry priorities;

clear communication of industry trends; resources for further research; estimates upon emerging pathogens and biological samples to be banked for future study.

RESOLUTION:

The United States Animal Health Association urges the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS), National Animal Health Monitoring System to coordinate planning, key objective development, timely reporting, and outreach activities for the 2020 National Swine Survey with industry organizations, producers, National Agricultural Statistics Service, and State Animal Health Officials.

INTERIM RESPONSE:

USDA, APHIS, VS appreciates interest regarding the development of NAHMS Swine 2020 study. NAHMS conducted a needs assessment and several focus group sessions with representatives of the swine industry, universities, and federal partners to identify target populations, timelines, key study objectives, and biologic testing priorities. Pending approval, NAHMS will initiate the official process to gain the Office of Management and Budget's approval for the study.