**Health Program**

**When Purchasing Show Pigs**

I. Buy healthy looking pigs.

II. Isolate any newly purchased show pigs in a separate facility for 30-60 days after arrival to prevent disease exposure to or from other pigs already purchased.

A. Newly purchased pigs should be separated by at least one empty pen on either side (at least 50 feet) to prevent contact with other pigs.

B. Provide a clean sanitary pen.

III. On arrival, treat for shipment stress with causes dehydration, hunger and fatigue. Diseases that show pigs carry can become active following stress and cause disease in other pigs. The following practices should be used to treat and prevent disease of newly arrived show pigs:

* + 1. Provide sanitary warm, dry and draft-free pens.
		2. Provide at least 10 sq. ft/pig for pigs up to 100 pounds & 15 sq. ft/pig over 100 pounds.
		3. Do not group over 10-15 pigs per pen.
		4. Sort pigs to size to minimize fighting and reduce resorting.
		5. Provide fresh clean water and at least one water source per 10-15 pigs. It is very important that pigs quickly find water and drink to correct dehydration. Depending on the amount of stress the show pigs received, you may want to consult your veterinarian about prescribing electrolytes and/or antibiotics.
		6. Provide at least one feeder space per two pigs.
		7. Feed medication may be recommended for prevention and/or control of respiratory disease, swine dysentery or other intestinal diseases. Consult your veterinarian and your feed dealer on what types and amounts needed.
		8. Deworm show pigs two weeks after arrival. Always pick a dewormer that is highly effective against whipworms such as Atgard or Safeguard (no withdrawal). Ivomec should be used for the control of lice or mange (18 day withdrawal) and a second injection 14 days after the first injection may be required if signs of lice were present on first injection.
		9. One month after arrival, vaccinate show pigs with Erysipelas/APP combination bacteria.
		10. Also vaccinate for the prevention of Swine Flu and TGE.

IV. CASTRATION

Castration should occur approximately one week after arrival on any boar pigs (male pigs)

* 1. Provide a clean sanitary pen on trailer.
	2. Wash the pigs with soap.
	3. A surgical knife should be used to make the incision. Make sure to use a new blade each time castration is performed.
	4. The incisions should be made between the back legs and below the scrotum sack. It is ideal to use an emasculator. Use nolvasan disinfectant (2 oz. per gallon) to keep clean and to clean incision area.
	5. After both testicles have been removed, spray each incision thoroughly with a 290 iodine.
	6. Vaccinate the show pig with an antibiotic such as penicillin to prevent infection (5 cc per 100 lbs). Repeat on the third day. Also give a tetanus shot.
	7. Castration can be performed by your Ag. Teacher or County Agent; however, if your County Agent or Ag. Teacher is not real experienced in this procedure, an experienced veterinarian in this area should be used.
	8. V. HERNIAS
	9. A. Testicle sack rupture (male pigs)
	10. B. Naval or belly rupture (female with male pigs)
	11. VI. URINE OR PEE POCKET

Hernias and urine pock surgeries should always be performed by an experienced veterinarian in that area.

VII. LAMENESS, RESPIRATORY & DIARRHEAL DISEASE

Lameness – Slow to get up, lamming, swelling in joints.

Respiratory – Rapid breathing, coughing and nasal discharge.

VIII. LAMENESS/ARTHRITIS TREATMENT

* 1. Antibiotics
	2. Anti-inflammatory drugs

Use only swine labeled products; however, there must be a veterinarian client-patient relationship (VCPR). It is illegal for a producer to use a “drug” off label without a VCPR.

IX. DIARRHEAL DISEASE

Loose watery feces. The causes are:

* 1. Too much feed protein/fat
	2. Whipworms
	3. Infectious
	4. X. VACCINATION PROCEDURES
	5. A. Store all vaccines and medication in a correct storage area and read the label.
	6. B. Buy correct equipment: Syringe (20 cc), needles (16 gauge ¾” to 1”).
	7. C. Always use sterile clean needles.
	8. D. Never reuse a used needle to draw vaccines.
	9. E. Administer vaccines correctly:
		1. Intramuscularly (IM) into the muscle.
		2. Subcutaneous (SQ) under the skin.
		3. F. Always read the label for withdrawal times since they are subject to change.
		4. G. Always consult your veterinarian before administering any drugs to insure proper treatment and correct medication.
		5. H. Types of injectable drugs for swine bacterial disease treatment are as follows:

Drug Indications Withdrawal

LA 200 (1cc/20 lbs IM) Respiratory, lameness 28 days

Tylan 200 (1cc/50 lbs IM) Respiratory, lameness, intestinal 14 days

and general bacterial diseases

Procaine Respiratory, lameness and 7 days

Penicillin (1cc/100 lbs IM) general bacterial diseases

Lincomix 100 (1cc/20 lbs IM) Lameness and general bacterial diseases 2 days

Naxcel\*\* (1cc/25 lbs IM) Respiratory, intestinal and general bacterial 0 days

Diseases

\*\*Veterinarian Prescription Drug