

Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome (PRRS)



What it is –

- PRRS is a viral disease from the family Arteriviridae.
- The disease occurs in all age groups of swine.
- Reproductive deficiency or failure is seen in sows and gilts while infected boars will have poor semen quality.
- The respiratory syndrome is seen more often in young growing pigs but can also occur in finishing pigs and breeding stock.
- The virus is transmitted by direct contact and is found in nasal secretions, urine, semen, mammary secretions, and feces.

Spread and Control –

- The clinical disease was first described in the US in 1987 in a few states. During the 1990's PRRS spread through Europe and North America.
- There has been much research focused on the PRRS virus in the last 20 years, which has contributed to the development of strategies to prevent and control the disease in all types of swine operations.
- As with any disease, biosecurity measures are helpful to prevent introduction and spread of the disease.
- PRRS continues to be of importance to the swine industry due to its effects on herd health and subsequent economic impact.

Additional Resources:

[South Dakota Pork Producers Council](#)

[American Association of Swine Veterinarians \(AASV\)](#)

[National Pork Board](#)

[USDA AHPIS - Swine Disease](#)