



SHIC/AASV Webinar: Mitigation Strategies for Mosquitos as an Emerging Threat to Swine Health

The Swine Health Information Center, in collaboration with the American Association of Swine Veterinarians, hosted a webinar on mosquitos and their impact on swine health and production August 26, 2024. [Click here](#) to watch the recorded webinar.

Because of this year's widespread unusual rainfall during spring and summer, ideal conditions exist for explosive mosquito population growth. Mosquitos can transmit many pathogens and pose a risk to swine health and production.

The webinar featured four subject matter experts sharing insights on entomology and mosquito life cycles, experience on managing mosquitos in and around swine farms, and best control practices to reduce the impact of insect bites on pork production.

Presenters offering their expertise included Dr. Dustin Swanson, USDA-ARS, Dr. Bernie Gleeson, SunPork (Australia), Dr. Natalee Judson, Pipestone, and Dr. Chris Rademacher, Iowa State University.

HPAI in Cattle

High path avian influenza continues to be detected in US dairy herds. As of September 1, 2024, the USDA has reported influenza A H5N1 in a total of 197 dairy herds across 14 states: Wyoming (1), North Carolina (1), Ohio (1), Oklahoma (2), California (3), Kansas (4), South Dakota (7), Minnesota (9), New Mexico (9), Iowa (13), Texas (24), Michigan (28), Idaho (31), and Colorado (64). The USDA has announced the first field trial of an influenza A H5N1 vaccine for dairy cattle.

In Canada, the CFIA has conducted several rounds of retail milk

CASV-ACVP AGM - October 18, 2024

The CASV-ACVP AGM is being held on-line on **Friday, October 18, 2024**, from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Eastern time. The agenda and connection details have been e-mailed to all CASV-ACVP members. The full meeting package with reports and last year's minutes will be sent to all members closer to the date.



Other than the formal business portion, we have two presentations lined up. There will be a CSHIN update and an overview of ASF preparedness activities by Animal Health Canada.

The AGM is also when the incoming Board of Directors for 2024-2025 is elected. We currently have 13 directors but can have up to 15 according to our by-laws. So, we have room for members who may be interested in becoming a director. Terms are typically for three years. You may nominate someone you feel would be a good director or volunteer yourself. Send nominations to susan.tfio@bell.net. Nominations may also be made during the AGM.

CASV-ACVP Annual Fees Increasing for 2026 Memberships

The CASV-ACVP Board reviewed budget projections out to 2029. Annual membership fees have not increased since 2017 although operating expenses have gradually increased each year. The Board approved a motion to increase annual fees to \$150 from the current \$100 beginning with the 2026 memberships (collected in 2025), and then a \$5 increase per year thereafter. The Board also approved registering CASV-ACVP for HST to allow us to offset our HST paid on expenses as an input tax credit. CASV-ACVP paid \$3,200 in HST last year which was absorbed as an operating expense.

CASV-ACVP Board Activities – Q3 2024

Some of the items on which the Board has been working during the third quarter of 2024 included:

- held the fourth webinar in our educational series in July on African swine fever in the EU;
- worked with the national commodity groups and other agricultural associations on a white paper on access to veterinary products which will be used in meetings and discussions with federal bureaucrats and elected officials;
- collaborated with the Canadian Pork Council and the CVMA regarding swine veterinary representation on the committees tasked with the 10-year review of the Pig Code to begin in 2024-2025;
- participated in CFIA and Public Health Canada updates on the preparation for and submissions to the September 26, 2024, United Nations General Assembly on AMR at which the key outcome will be a non-legally binding political declaration on antimicrobial use reduction;
- a Board representative attended the CVMA annual meeting in July and participated in the presidents' meeting;
- continued to have representation on CFIA calls updating on ASF preparedness activities; and
- continued monthly meetings with CPC staff including discussion on ensuring CASV-ACVP is notified regarding confirmed federally reportable diseases impacting swine.

sampling, all test results have been negative. In addition, CFIA has sampled raw milk deliveries at processing sites in three provinces. No virus was detected in any of the samples.

Advertising in the CASV-ACVP Newsletter

The CASV-ACVP newsletter is sent to 180 association members each week. We accept classified advertising (e.g., job postings) in the e-newsletter. For promotional and marketing type ads, we offer one banner ad each week. We will also distribute technical bulletins for veterinary pharmaceutical products and other registered health products. There are advertising packages for companies interested in combinations of classified, banner and technical bulletin advertising.

If you are interested in any advertising opportunities, please contact Susan Fitzgerald in the CASV-ACVP office at susan.tfio@bell.net, 519-787-4322

Bill C-293 An Act respecting pandemic prevention and preparedness

The stated primary objective of Bill C-293 is pandemic prevention and preparedness. However, it includes content which goes beyond being prepared for a pandemic, and promotes a negative, biased perspective towards animal husbandry. The Bill passed in the House of Commons and is now with the Senate. If passed in its current form, the CASV-ACVP Board believes the Bill has the potential to adversely affect Canadian farmers, the broader agricultural community, and consumers.

The specific section which raises concerns is: 4 (2)

(l) after consultation with the Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, the Minister of Industry and provincial governments, provide for measures to

- (i) reduce the risks posed by antimicrobial resistance,
- (ii) regulate commercial activities that can contribute to pandemic risk, including industrial animal agriculture,
- (iii) promote commercial activities that can help reduce pandemic risk, including the production of alternative proteins, and
- (iv) phase out commercial activities that disproportionately contribute to pandemic risk, including activities that involve high-risk species;

The Board is concerned by the Bill's language promoting the regulation of animal agriculture, the phase-out of perceived high-risk species (which is undefined), and the focus on animal agriculture in the context of antimicrobial resistance. The CASV-ACVP Board has sent letters to Senators who sit on the Senate Standing Committee on Agriculture and Forestry outlining our concerns.

Free On-line Tool for Scoring On-Farm Biosecurity

Biocheck.UGent is a scientific risk-based, on-line questionnaire to evaluate the quality of on-farm biosecurity. It was developed by Ghent University in Belgium and is essentially a scoring system based on questions farmers answer online. The tool will score them on an individual basis and report how the farm compares to other farms of the same species and same production method within their home country and globally.

Biocheck.UGent has been used 85,420 times to evaluate biosecurity on farms worldwide. Top use has been in the swine sector with 61,381 surveys followed by poultry with 18,487 surveys. Cattle operations completed 5,223 surveys and small ruminants 329.

Basic features are accessible for free, access to advanced features can be requested for a fee. For more details, visit their website at <https://biocheckgent.com/en>

Susan Fitzgerald on behalf of CASV-ACVP Board of Directors.

Mission: *To be a responsive, proactive voice for veterinarians involved with the swine industry in Canada.*