

# QUICK TIPS



zoetis

## **Part Two: Biosecurity Gaps Can Increase Risk for PEDv**

*Veterinarians encourage pork producers to take action before winter*

An outbreak of porcine epidemic diarrhea virus (PEDv) generally indicates a breakdown in a farm's biosecurity program. Biosecurity is complex, and every plan is different. To protect the health of your farm, be sure to [update and review your biosecurity programs on a regular basis](#). It's also critical for producers to take the time to provide a comprehensive overview to all those involved with the execution of a farm's biosecurity plan to help eliminate any chance for error.

"You may have the greatest employees with the best intentions on your farm, but if they aren't educated on the biosecurity program, that's when you'll run into problems," said Rick Swalla, DVM, senior veterinarian, Pork Technical Services, Zoetis. "Help everyone understand the biosecurity program and the ramifications of not following through with the program you have in place, especially new employees who may have never experienced an outbreak situation."

Assessing biosecurity programs can be an overwhelming task for producers. While each farm presents its own unique set of challenges, it's important to follow some basic guidelines.

"I encourage producers to work with their veterinarian in not only designing biosecurity programs to minimize their risk of PEDv but also auditing the program," said Matt Ackerman, DVM, Swine Veterinary Services.

To help evaluate your biosecurity, also consider [downloading](#) a copy of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) biosecurity herd/premises management plan. This document was developed by the USDA in collaboration with the American Association of Swine Veterinarians (AASV), the National Pork Board, National Pork Producers Council and other federal government agencies

to help assess biosecurity protocols, including livestock transportation and visitors entering or exiting the farm.

“People shouldn’t be thinking they have immunity if they’ve already had a PEDv outbreak,” Dr. Ackerman said. “From experience, we know that the disease can return and can even hit harder the second time. We all need to spend time and money on biosecurity to continue to help keep the virus out or get it contained quickly.”

Going through an assessment program also helps producers identify all potential causes of PEDv.

The AASV Production Animal Disease Risk Assessment Program (PADRAP), which is owned by the AASV and managed by Iowa State University, has been used to help identify vulnerabilities ahead of fall and winter when PEDv outbreaks are more frequent. The value of the assessment is helping producers and veterinarians think about where gaps in biosecurity are and understand how often risky events are happening. For instance, a farm and employees may have been doing something the same way for 20 years and never thought about it as a potential risk.

Producers who already have experienced a PEDv outbreak should not let their guards down. PEDv has been much quieter this year, so it’s easy to get complacent and overlook disease risks. But producers only need to look at the losses in 2013 and 2014 as a reminder of how lethal the disease can be.

For more information on how to stay prepared for PEDv this winter, contact your local Zoetis representative, visit [zoetispork.com](http://zoetispork.com) or [subscribe](#) to Pork Perspectives from Zoetis.

***Next up:*** *Helping prevent PEDv doesn’t have to be complicated, but it does need to be comprehensive. Part Three of the series will discuss why building immunity is a critical part of a comprehensive PEDv action plan.*

## About Zoetis

Zoetis (zō-EH-tis) is the leading animal health company, dedicated to supporting its customers and their businesses. Building on more than 60 years of experience in animal health, Zoetis discovers, develops, manufactures and markets veterinary vaccines and medicines, complemented by diagnostic products and genetic tests and supported by a range of services. In 2014, the company generated annual revenue of \$4.8 billion. With approximately 10,000 employees worldwide at the beginning of 2015, Zoetis serves veterinarians, livestock producers and people who raise and care for farm and companion animals with sales of its products in 120 countries. For more information, visit [www.zoetisUS.com](http://www.zoetisUS.com).

# # #

### For more information, contact:

Uzma Bawany

Zoetis

973-822-7049

[uzma.bawany@zoetis.com](mailto:uzma.bawany@zoetis.com)

Betsy Rado

Bader Rutter

219-765-7249

[brado@bader-rutter.com](mailto:brado@bader-rutter.com)

All trademarks are the property of Zoetis Inc., its affiliates and/or its licensors. ©2015 Zoetis Inc. All rights reserved.  
PED-00030

Zoetis Inc. • 100 Campus Drive • Florham Park, NJ • 07932  
888-ZOETIS1 • [zoetisUS.com](http://zoetisUS.com) • [Unsubscribe from media list](#)