



ONTARIO PORK

Ontario Pork Research Priorities

Establishing Ontario Pork Research Priorities

This following list identifies research needs for the swine sector. (not listed in priority order)

The industry is currently in a rapid restructuring mode. In this regard, the continuation of a strong swine and pork research program in Ontario is vital if our industry is to maintain a competitive position.

Top Research Priorities Identified

1. Environment

- Evaluation of scientific merit of current and/or proposed environmental acts and regulations
- Modifications to hog facility design to improve manure management & gas emissions.
- Improve building design and management to reduce manure odour, including best management practices and guidelines.

2. Food Safety

- Detect and monitor potential microbiological contaminants.
- Determine prevalence and origin of pathogens along the whole product chain.
- Determine potential of antimicrobial resistance.
- Evaluation scientific merit of current and/or proposed acts and regulations

3. Animal Welfare

- Defining and understanding better transportation and handling practices for pigs.
- Evaluation of housing systems on animal welfare and behaviour.
- Impact of new and emerging trends

4. Herd Health

- Development of management and evaluation systems to prevent transmission of disease
- Surveillance for detection of new and emerging health concerns
- Detection, control and eradication of diseases. Of high priority: PRRS, PCVAD, Strep. Suis, Swine Dysentery, Enzootic and other pneumonias, Enteritis, Actinobacillus. pleuropneumonia.

5. Nutrition

- Alternative Feeds – Reduction of feed costs
- Utilization of Feeds.
- Nutrient efficiency

6. Reproduction

- Examination of reproductive improvements performance of pigs, herd health, welfare and nutrition

7. New Products & Technology

- Cost effective and production focus

8. Pork Product Quality

- Identify & monitor consumer preferences as it relates to production.
- Carcass quality, composition & evaluation to increase returns to producers.