

Local Producers Cautioned in Wake Of Chester County Cholera Outbreak

Some 120 hogs of a Chester County farm died this week of hog cholera and another 1,228 were destroyed by the state to help make sure the disease doesn't spread.

As the state enveloped the area south of Kennett Square this week with a quarantine to make sure no hogs are transported in the area or that no one moves on and off the contaminated without proper sanitary precautions, the question arises.

How can the individual swine producer make sure his hogs aren't infected?

We asked Dr. Homer S. Forney, Harrisburg, chief of the miscellaneous diseases division of the Bureau of Animal Industry, this week and his advice is:

First, do not purchase any

interstate swine without having the proper interstate papers.

Swine coming into the state must have hog cholera serum within five days of the date of arrival in the state, preferably less than five days. Hogs which do not have the serum will not have the proper papers.

Second, keep these new hogs in isolation for at least 30 days.

Third, as soon as any swine sickness of any kind occurs, contact a veterinarian or regulatory person. Early detection is important.

In addition, Dr. Forney advises farmers to use strict and proper sanitation procedures at all times. Particular concern should be taken with sanitizing visitors, he said.

Dr. Forney warns that in some areas outside Pennsylvania where the cholera has been prevalent, some hogs have become carriers of the disease. This means that while the animals themselves won't die or appear to have cholera, they will infect other hogs with which they come into contact.

He also noted that hog cholera does not appear to be as lethal as it was 20 years ago and it's now possible that a hog will carry the disease for as much as 45 days before it breaks out or becomes evident.

Dr. Forney said this may have been what happened in the Chester County situation. The farmer may have bought what appeared to be healthy hogs, but they carried the disease, which either broke out after a period of time or infected other healthy animals.

If any hog buyer has any question about infected states, information on where the problems occur can be obtained by calling Dr. Forney at Harrisburg 787-5333.

Asked if the Chester County outbreak can be contained, Dr. Forney said spread of the disease is as "nearly nil as can be."

Besides slaughter and burial of the exposed hogs and the farm and area quarantine, Dr. Forney said it is fortunate that no other swine are grown in the immediate area.

There would be a much greater

chance of spread of the disease if an outbreak occurred in the midst of a heavy swine producing area, he indicated.

Max Smith, Lancaster County agricultural agent, who has periodically warned local farmers to be alert for hog cholera and to be particularly careful when buying out-of-state pigs, said this week:

"We have 90,000 hogs in Lancaster County and I'm afraid people are a little careless."

He warned that once an outbreak occurs, the cholera can be easily spread. The disease could be carried from one farm to the next by persons, stray dogs, wheels of vehicles, clothing, even birds, he said.

The outbreak in Chester County occurred on the Whetstone Farm of Alexander Jasienski.

Jasienski indicated the disease probably started with 400 head of 75-pound feeder pigs he obtained from North Carolina about two months ago.

Farmers Reminded to Apply For Wool Incentive Payment

Farmers selling wool are reminded to file application for wool incentive payment at the County ASCS Office.

Original sales slips must be submitted, showing date of sale, number of pounds sold and amount received. The sales slip must be signed by the buyer.

Applications should also be filed for unshorn lambs sold. These sales slips must also contain complete sales information, including a certification signed by the buyer that the lambs were unshorn at time of sale.

Wool incentive payments will be made in April, 1971, based on the difference between the national average price of wool in 1970 and the incentive rate of 72 cents per pound.

Payments for 1969 were made at 65.1 per cent of net sales proceeds for wool and \$1.09 per hundred pound liveweight of unshorn lambs, reports Miss Dorothy Neel, ASCS County executive director.

Keep Clothes Neat

Penn State extension service says:

A crowded clothes bar in a man's closet wrinkles suits and coats more than the hardest wear.

Coat buttons should be anchored both to the lining and facing inside. If any of your buttons come loose and are sewn only to the outside fabric, have them resealed at once to avoid stretching or tearing the cloth.

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(Continued from Page 2)

Prime and 65 percent Choice This compares with 17 percent Prime and 69 percent Choice last week, and 23 percent Prime and 65 percent Choice last year. Average cost and weight of slaughter steers Estimated at 30.50 and 1200 lbs compared with 30.52 and 1185 lbs last week, and 34.44 and 1184 lbs last year. Heifer supply mainly High Good to Low Prime weighing 850-1075 lbs.

SLAUGHTER STEERS — Through the week Prime 1175-1375 lbs Yield Grade 3 and 4 31.00-31.50, near two dozen loads at latter price. Load Prime 1400 lbs Yield Grade 4 and 5 30.25 on Monday. High Choice and Prime 1125-1375 lbs 30.50-31.25, load Mixed Choice and Prime 1565 lbs Monday 29.00, Choice 950-1350 lbs Yield Grade 2 to 4 30.00-31.00. Choice 1300-1450 lbs Yield Grade 3 and 4 29.50-30.00. Mixed Good and Choice 950-1200 lbs 29.25-30.00, Good 27.50-29.25, Standard and Low Good 27.00-27.50.

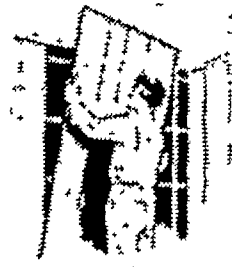
SLAUGHTER HEIFERS — High Choice and Prime 900-1075 lbs Yield Grade 3 and 4 30.25-30.50, seven loads at latter price. Choice 850-1050 lbs 29.50-30.25, mostly 29.50-30.00 at midweek. Mixed Good and Choice 28.75-29.50, Good 27.00-28.75.



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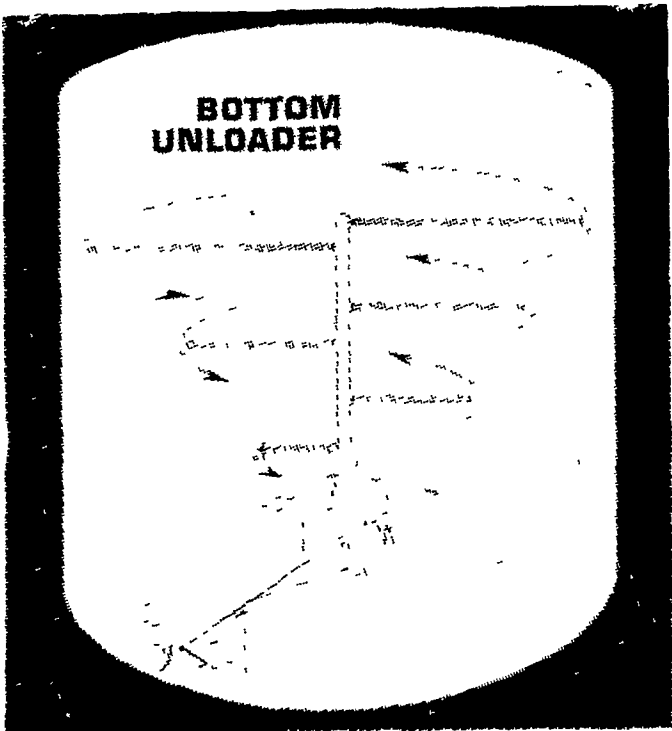
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