

**NPPC Guaranteed 35% Of Checkoff Receipts****National Pork Board Holds First Meeting**

DES MOINES, Iowa — The National Pork Board, the 15-member board that has the responsibility for collecting the new pork producers national legislative checkoff and determining where and how the funds will be spent, held its first official meeting Nov. 3 and 4 in Des Moines.

The board elected Virgil Rosendale, an Augusta, Ill., pork producer, to serve as its chairman. Rosendale operates a medium-size farrow-to-finish and seedstock operation. He has been actively involved in local, state and national levels of the pork producers association. He is a former president of the National Pork Producers Council and a former chairman of the board of the National Live Stock and Meat Board.

Hilman Schroeder of Sauk City, Wisc. was selected by the board as its vice chairman. He operates a medium-size seedstock operation. He is widely known for his unique understanding of genetics within the seedstock segment of the industry.

The board made a number of key decisions at its first session.

• It agreed to enter into a one-year contract with the National Pork Producers Council (NPPC) to handle the collection and refund aspects of the new checkoff that went into effect Nov. 1. The board, during the contract period, will

evaluate costs and determine future direction.

• Producers have indicated they want to see administration costs and staff kept to a minimum. Heeding that, the board will employ a two-person staff. Mike Simpson was employed as full-time executive director. He had served previously as director of strategic planning for the NPPC. The board will contract through NPPC the services of an administrative secretary, and space in the existing NPPC office in suburban Des Moines.

• NPPC, under the law that established the national legislative checkoff, is guaranteed 35 percent of total checkoff funding until a referendum is held in late 1988 or early 1989. The National Pork Board approved the NPPC budget covering that guarantee for 1987. The National Live Stock and Meat Board will receive 20 percent of the net amount of the NPPC budget figure under an existing arrangement between the two organizations under which the Meat Board handles research and educational projects for the pork industry.

• The Pork Board recognized 45 state organizations that currently qualify for state funding under the new checkoff. Using an established formula, all states that meet the criteria contained in the law will receive at least 16½ percent of the funds collected in their state.

Twenty-six of the 45 qualified states have already submitted formal budgets for 1987. The Board set a deadline of January 1, 1987 for the remaining states to submit their budgets for approval. Once state organizations have met all the lawful criteria, including submission of a formal budget, they will be funded on a 60-day retroactive basis.

• The board committed \$4.5 million in discretionary funds to the National Pork Producers Council for development of a new national advertising campaign scheduled to begin early in 1987. In addition, the board strongly encouraged all state producer organizations to commit additional funds to the national advertising program. The board agreed to match additional state contributions on a dollar-for-dollar basis up to an additional \$1 million. If that commitment is fully met by the states, it will mean a total of \$6.5 million would be available for the new national campaign for the pork industry in 1987.

Rosendale, at a news conference following the initial Pork Board meeting, said that the board will exercise the greatest possible restraints concerning administrative costs, not only where the board itself is concerned, but on all present and future contractors of services. "We will attempt to utilize the facilities and staff of existing industry

organizations as long as it is cost effective and in accordance with the Pork Act, the law under which the National Pork Board operates," Rosendale said.

The National Pork Board chairman suggested that any organization or individual who had business with the Board should contact the executive director,

Mike Simpson, at the National Pork Board, P.O. Box 9114, Des Moines, IA 50306.

The board expects to hold its next meeting in St. Louis sometime in December. That meeting is expected to deal primarily with structuring the new board, including the assignment of standing committees.

**Penn State Offers Farrowing Course**

UNIVERSITY PARK — A "Hands-On" Farrowing Short Course will be offered January 8 to 9, at Penn State University. The course is geared toward producers, extension agents, and vo-ag teachers and other ag professionals with limited experience in farrowing management.

Participants will have the opportunity to practice baby pig and sow processing techniques. Classroom instruction will also be a major part of the course, covering disease control for the sow and litter, feeding programs,

genetic selection, culling practices, and basic sow and litter management.

Cost of the course is \$30 per adult, \$15 per additional family member and \$15 per student. Programs and registration forms can be obtained from: Farrowing Short Course, 306 Ag Administration Building, University Park, PA, 16802. For additional information on course content, contact Kenneth Kephart at (814)-863-3671. Class size is limited, therefore early registration is encouraged.

**Swine Dysentery Report Available**

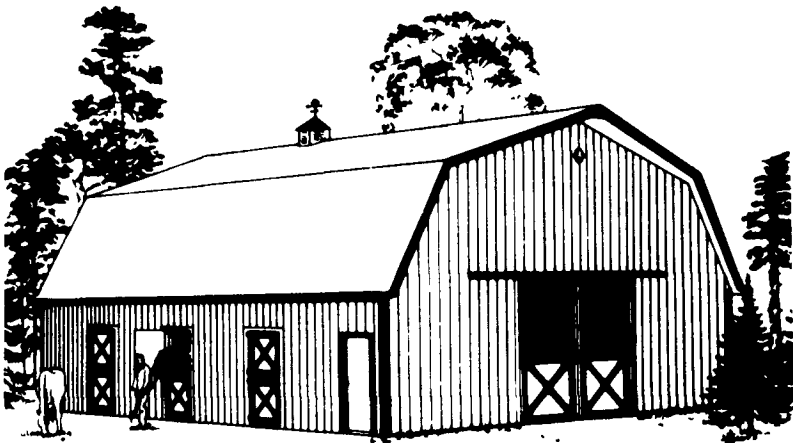
KALAMAZOO, Mich. — "Nearly 40 percent of United States swine herds are affected with swine dysentery," estimates a technical services veterinarian featured in a swine management report recently published by The Upjohn

Company.

For a copy of this report on the treatment and control of swine dysentery, write: Swine Dysentery Report 2, The Upjohn Company, P.O. Box 5087, Kalamazoo, MI 49001-5087.

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