

Pork Prose

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5.25 square feet. Keep in mind that these estimates are for large trucks. For pickup trucks and small livestock trailers, the space will have to be increased somewhat. Always use partitions in the truck to keep hogs from piling up.

Feeding. Hogs with full stomachs are more likely to die during transport. If hogs are to be slaughtered the same day as shipment, withhold feed for 12 hours before loading. This helps reduce death losses and will also reduce the incidence of PSE (pale, soft and exudative) pork. If hogs are to be slaughtered the next day, feed only lightly prior to trucking.

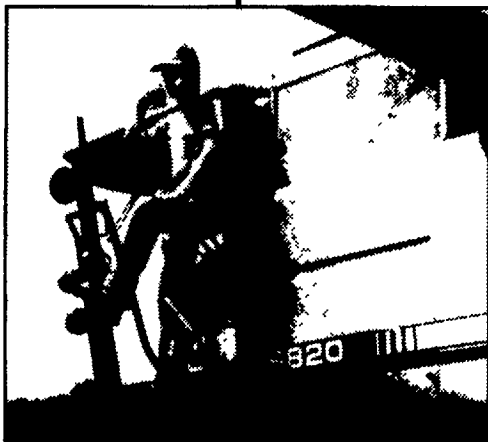
Stress
 Porcine Stress Syndrome (PSS) is the leading cause of deaths during transport. Hogs suffering from PSS will show labored breathing, may have tremors, and often have red or purple blotches on the skin. Body temperature during stress increases more than normal which leads to heart failure on hot days. Lying down is a clear sign that the hog is in trouble. Get the hog away from the loading area, and leave it alone or wet the ground around him.

Summary
 Death losses during transport

are too high — amounting to more than \$8 million per year. But it doesn't take a lot of imagination to figure out why we load as many hogs on a truck as we do. It's cheaper.

Even with a zero death rate that might be associated with providing more space on the truck, the hogs that we save would not be enough to pay for the increased transportation costs of hauling fewer hogs on a load. So it becomes a moral issue. Is it right to overload trucks and save \$.25 per head in the process, while the overcrowding contributes to the deaths of 80,000 hogs each year?

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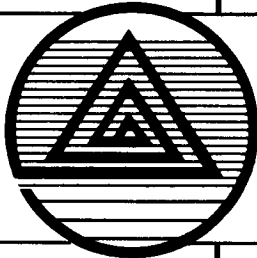


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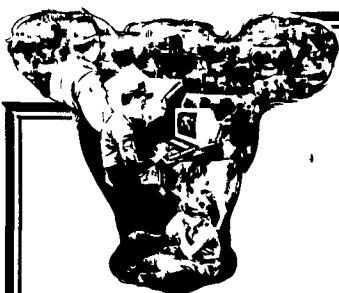
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Farm Century Nominations Needed

LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.) — Lancaster County Extension Director Jay Irwin has announced that applications for Lancaster County Century Farm nominations are being accepted by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture.

"To qualify as a Century Farm, the farm must have been owned by the same family for 100 consecutive years," said Irwin. "A family member must currently live on the farm, and the farm must consist of at least 10 acres of the original holding or gross over \$1,000

annually from the sale of farm products."

Lancaster County currently has 109 registered Century Farms.

Century Farm information and applications may be obtained from the Lancaster County Cooperative Extension, 1383 Arcadia Road, Room 1 Lancaster, PA 17601.

Irwin said that Century Farm nominees whose applications are processed prior to November 5 will be honored at the Lancaster County Farm-City Ag-Chamber Banquet on November 20.



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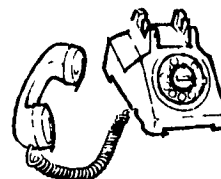
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