

NPPC Works

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variety of basic information on FMD and the outbreak in Europe.

Producer Caution Critical

According to USDA, FMD is not considered a human health risk but humans can carry the virus on their clothing, shoes, body (particularly the throat and nasal passages), and personal items. The disease is extremely contagious and spreads easily among cloven-hoofed animals such as cattle, sheep, pigs, goats, and deer.

Lautner urges producers to help prevent the spread of FMD. "Observe the biosecurity measures recommended by USDA, which are posted on the NPPC Website, if traveling to countries with FMD or hosting visitors from FMD-infected areas," she said. "Contact with U.S. livestock or wildlife should be strictly avoided for five days after visiting areas with FMD. Traveling clothes should be cleaned properly. Wear other clothing for contact with livestock."

During this outbreak, the NPPC Swine Health Committee and pork producer representatives are in regular contact with APHIS regarding protective measures in place to protect U.S. herds and information needed by producers.

Producers are urged to continue to report any unusual or suspicious signs of disease to their veterinarian or state or federal animal health official.

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