Quality Assurance Programs for Pork Production

Pork Quality Assurance Plus®, Transport Quality Assurance® & Common Swine Industry Audit

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Comprehensive Assurance in Pork

On the Farm

Transporting Animals

3rd Party Verification
History of Pork Quality Assurance

- **1959** The first HACCP system developed
- **1989** The PQA® program is launched
- **2001** Transport Quality Assurance (TQA) launched
- **2003** SWAP program introduced
- **2005** The Take Care program released
- **2007** The PQA Plus® program launched
- **2008** The industry launches We Care responsible pork initiative
- **2008** Packers show commitment to PQA Plus
- **2016** Version 3.0 released at World Pork Expo
PQA Plus Program Goal

Program Goal: Continuous Improvement

Step 1: Individual training of Good Production Practices (GPPs)

Certification

Implement GPPs

Site Status

Step 2: Arrange on-farm site assessment of animal care practices

Improvements from assessment explained and implemented
PQA Plus Program Structure

- Trainers: 61
- Advisors: 1,447
- Producer Certification: 71,523
- Site Status: 18,886
Training Delivery

12,540

1,844
We Care Principles

• Food Safety
  – Herd Health Plan
  – Store & administer animal health products
  – Ensure safe, wholesome pork products
  – Proper feed processing & feed biosecurity
We Care Principles

• Animal Welfare
  – Proper care
  – Proper when handling & transporting
We Care Principles

• Public Health
• Workplace Safety
• Environment
• Community
PQA Plus Materials

• Pork Quality Assurance Plus® Handbook
• Pork Quality Assurance Plus® Site Assessment Guide
• Instructor-Led Training
• Online learning modules
• Site Assessment Resources
PQA Plus Site Assessment

- 18,886 sites
- ~84% of U.S. Pig Population
- Continuous improvement
PQA Plus Site Assessment

- Any type of production
- Birth to transport from farm
- 27 key aspects of swine care and pre-harvest pork safety
- 4 key areas
PQA Plus Site Assessment

- Acceptable or Development Action Plan
- Corrective Action Plan
- Review assessments over time
PQA Plus Feedback
Transport Quality Assurance
Transport Quality Assurance

- Why?
- TQA Task Force
- V6 Launched Mar 2017
TQA Program Structure

- Trainers: 2
- Advisors: 666
- Handler Certification: 35,461
Training Delivery

7,305

832
Key Learning Objectives

• Introduction
• Pig Behavior
• Handling
More Key Learning Objectives

- Facilities and Equipment
- Loading, Unloading, & Transportation
- Fitness of the Pig
Last few Key Learning Objectives

- Biosecurity
- Emergency Response Plan
- Laws, Regulations, & Audits
TQA Materials

• Transport Quality Assurance® Handbook
• Instructor-Led Training
• Online training modules
• Exam
Online Learning Modules

- Important decisions regarding loading and unloading conditions
  - Overcrowding
  - Unbalanced loads
  - Hot conditions
  - Cold conditions
Online Learning Modules

- Practice choosing appropriate group sizes & potential consequences of too many pigs.
Online Learning Modules

• Realistic scenario regarding truck setup for loading and transporting pigs
TQA V6 Feedback

“This is a great interaction”

“This is a great tool and very well done”

“This did a great job explaining the program & expectations transporters are held to

“Thanks for creating versatile tools for re-training”

“This is the best TQA ever!”
Common Swine Industry Audit
3rd Party Auditing

Widespread, recognized, valued practice in food production

Bring transparency, credibility, and assurance or process compliance to production units.

Provide useful feedback for continuous improvement
Common Swine Industry Audit

- 2013 – Pork Industry Forum Resolution
- 2014 – Audit Certified by PAACO & Published
- 2015 – Use of CSIA Audit tool
- 2016 – 3 Major accomplishments
CSIA by the numbers

~40 certified swine auditors

All packers accepting or using CSIA

?? Audits per year
Who wrote the audit?

- Industry Audit Task Force
- Purpose
- Objectives
- Considered & balanced
  - Scientific evidence
  - Ethics
  - Economics
What is in the CSIA?

- www.pork.org/commonaudit
- Audit materials
- Resources
- FAQs
- Branding
What does the Audit Cover?

- Any type of production
- Birth to transport from farm
- 27 key aspects of swine care and pre-harvest pork safety
- 4 key areas
How is the audit scored?

- 5 Critical criteria = pass/fail
- Regular Question Scores
- Animal Benchmarking questions
- Total and Section scores
- Defining a passing score
3rd Party Auditing

One component of a comprehensive commitment to building & maintaining the trust of customers & consumers
Questions on Implementation

- What happens if my farm fails an audit?
- What happens if I refuse to be audited?
- Do all farms have to be audited?
- How frequently will farms need to be audited?
- Who is paying for the audit to be completed?
Assessments vs Audits

- Educational
- Provides benchmarking for producer
- Designed to have feedback and dialogue with advisor to promote improvement
- Conducted by PQA advisor, endorsed field staff or endorsed producer
- All completed assessments achieve Site Status
- Free, voluntary program

- Objective snapshot for that moment in time
- No educational component
- No dialogue with auditors
- Conducted by third-party certified auditor
- Is pass/fail and results of audit interpreted and determined by packer paying for the audit
- Cost incurred by Packer or Producer
Assessments vs Audits cont.

- Valid for three years
- Site Status required by all major U.S. packers
- If a producer has a CSIA conducted on the site, will that take the place of the Site Assessment?
  - No

- Valid for time determined by packer
- All major packers using or accepting CSIA
- If a producer has a valid Site Assessment on the site, will that take the place of the CSIA?
  - No

Alignment does not equal replacement. Both programs are designed with the same purpose: drive continuous improvement; but operate with different program structures and objectives.
Comprehensive Assurance in Pork

PQA PLUS®
Our Responsibility. Our Promise.

Transport Quality Assurance®

COMMON SWINE INDUSTRY AUDIT

People. Pigs. Planet.
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