

Wean to Finish Management Workshop

February 8-9, 2007

West Central Research and Outreach Center – Morris, MN

February 15-16, 2007

Southern Research and Outreach Center – Waseca, MN

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Extension
SERVICE

www.extension.umn.edu/swine

These two-day intensive workshops are designed to address the basics of day-to-day management activities in pork production related to growing and finishing pigs. The course is appropriate for people with a limited knowledge of pork production as well as veterans wishing to review the basics and stay abreast on recent developments. Topics that will be covered in the workshop include:

Production Systems: Comparison of wean to finish and conventional nursery/grow-finish systems; advantages and disadvantages; management requirements;

Preparing the Facility to Receive Pigs: Maintain and repair equipment and facilities; clean and disinfect; pest management; space allowances; biosecurity

Nutrition: Feeding strategies; feed budgeting; feed quality; sampling and quality assurance; managing feeders and waterers; proper diet processing

Environment and Performance: Temperature; air quality; ventilation management; sanitation; manure management

Animal Health: Developing a herd health program; proper use of pharmaceuticals; control of existing herd health challenges; health monitoring; treatment options; review PQA good production practices

Classroom instruction is provided on the first day of the program, lasting from noon – 9 pm. A hands-on session, conducted at swine research facilities, is conducted the second day of the program from 8 am to noon. The hands-on session incorporates numerous activities relating to material covered in the classroom portion of the course in order to maximize student learning and understanding. Included in the hands-on portion of the course is a session on how to conduct an on-farm necropsy. In addition, class participants will be automatically certified or recertified under the Pork Quality Assurance (PQA) program by completing the course.

University of Minnesota faculty and educators and swine industry experts provide instruction for the course. Cost of the program is \$100 per person, and includes learning materials, lunches, breaks, instructor fees, and biosecurity clothing for hands-on training sessions. For more information, contact Dr. Mark Whitney, swine extension educator, at (507) 389-5541. Individuals wishing to register for the workshop should contact the Minnesota Pork Board at (507) 345-8814.