

**Swine Health
Committee Report**

2006 Mid-Year Report

August 24, 2006



Chair: Dr. David Nolan
Vice Chair: Dr. Harry Snelson

At present the swine industry is facing at least three major issues.

The issues of interest and worthy of report are Swine Industry participation in the NAIS and the two diseases; PRRS and PCVAD

The Swine Industry ID Implementation Task Force has completed a very detailed plan based on the foundation of Premises ID and has moved into the education mode even though several minor details are yet to be determined. The swine industry supports mandatory Premises ID. The swine industry also supports State Animal Tracking Databases that add no cost to the producer. The State Animal Tracking Databases must be built to USDA standards to allow for seamless tracking across states should the USDA get involved due to a trace moving across state lines or involve a federally regulated disease.

PRRS continues to be the most significant disease challenge facing the industry. This challenge is highlighted as new evidence implicates this virus as a cause of greatly increased morbidity and mortality when it is coupled with PCVAD.

PCVAD is an emerging disease in the US as demonstrated by diagnostic lab reports and producer reports of significantly increased mortality and morbidity often in the double digits with extreme cases above 30% death loss. Much is unknown on the etiological agent, the triggering mechanism, and the epidemiological movement of the disease.

Last week a group of, researchers, government personnel, producers, vaccine manufacturers, and private practitioners met at the George Young conference in Nebraska to outline research needs. The outcome was development of research strategies to reduce the economic effect of PCVAD.

Research Topics are divided into the following major areas:

- Immunology
- Epidemiology
- Pathogenesis
- Diagnostics
- Vaccinology / Interventions / Treatments

This year the National Pork Board is sponsoring a special session at the AI Leman conference to present research results from trials that were conducted with Check Off dollars. Pork Board continues to focus money on PRRS research and is increasing funding focused on PCVAD. There is the need for other sources to follow suit.