

## Advisory for pig farmers during lockdown period due to COVID-19

The following measures may be adopted by the pig farmers during the period of lockdown due to Covid-19

- Do not allow the pigs to scavenge around the villages. Let the pigs be in pig-sty
- All pig farmers are advised to follow the safety measures and social distancing while performing all routine farm operations.
- The personal protection equipments wherever available like face mask, hand gloves, apron, gumboots *etc.* should be used during handling of animals.
- Regular washing of hands with soap/ sanitization with 70% alcohol should be practiced before and after handling the animals and also follow the practice at frequent intervals.
- Clothes must be washed after attending farm activities so that fresh set is available for next day's use.
- Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth without washing hands to avoid contamination.
- Stop artificial insemination during the lockdown period.
- Do not bring boars from other farm for mating. Only Natural Service is advised during the lock down period. Boar from own farm or from only nearby farmers can be allowed. Never bring the boar from distant places for mating. If at all boar is brought from neighbours house, the entry should be with proper disinfection with bleaching powder. The handler must take care of standard biosecurity measures.
- Regularly clean the farm premises.
- Health care of sick animals should be done in consultation with local Veterinarian. First, try to inform the Veterinarian over phone. Follow the instruction as advised by the Veterinarian. In case you are unable to reach Veterinary Services, try to use Indigenous traditional knowledge for management of ailments. If specialized advice is needed, scientists from ICAR-NRC on Pig, Guwahati can be contacted through phone/whatsapp etc.
- Farmers are advised to follow strict biosecurity measures in the farm premises and regular use of disinfectants like potash, Lysol or phenyl *etc.* in the sheds. Apply lime powder, bleaching powder or sodium hypochlorite solution in and around the farm premises to maintain a disease free zone in the farm.
- As purchasing of pig feed may be a problem during the lockdown period farmers are advised to use locally available feed ingredients (based on availability in the area) such as as Steamed Flaked Rice Byproducts, Colocasia stem & leaves, brewer's rice by-products, Bakery Waste, Water Hyacinth, Sugar beet, Azola, Tapioca meal, Moringa leaves, different vegetable products such as Cabbage, Radish, Turnip, Sugar beet, Potato, Sweet potato, banana flowers, banana stems, Tapioca roots, paddy crush, broken rice, limestone powder, hatchery products, dry fish, rice polish, rice bran, wheat bran, etc.
- Provide *ad-libitum* water to the animals.
- In unavoidable cases for own consumption, the slaughter of the pig can be permitted with proper disinfection of the premises and strict adherence of social distancing. Don't go for selling the pork in the market.
- Selling and purchasing of pig in the market should be stopped till lockdown period is over.

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