

Biosecure Truck Wash Protocols for PED Control: Recommendations for Truck Wash Facilities

Key Point

Infection with Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea (PED) virus can create tremendous financial losses to a pork producer. PED virus transfers via feces and survives in manure for extended periods of time. Any object that is contaminated with pig manure can be a source of infection for pigs. Truck wash facilities are an essential part of the pork industry and plays a key role in the control of disease. All truck wash personnel should be educated about the risks PED virus is to the pork industry.

Basic Guidelines for Sanitation, Disinfection, Drying and Downtime

- Proper cleaning prior to disinfection is a critical step for preventing disease spread. The truck and trailer must be thoroughly cleaned, washed, disinfected and completely dry.

This involves 5 steps

1. Removal of all manure and bedding
 2. Soaking with soap and/or degreaser
 3. Pressure washing with hot water
 4. Disinfecting by foaming with an appropriate disinfectant
 5. Drying
- The trailer and all equipment must be free of visible manure, shavings or dirt prior to disinfection.
 - The use of wash soap or degreasers can decrease cleaning time versus just using water alone.
 - Disinfectants should be used on trucks and trailers only after they have been cleaned because manure and dirt will inactivate and reduce the effectiveness of most disinfectants.
 - Check on the disinfectant's label to ensure it mixes safely with any cleaning product or wash soap that is being used.
 - Follow label directions when using disinfectants to ensure the disinfectant is being used at the proper concentration and temperature.
 - Follow label directions for adequate contact time to ensure effectiveness.

- Using disinfectants in a manner other than what is on the label may decrease effectiveness or may be unsafe.

Drying helps inactivate pathogens that cause disease and maximizes the benefit of disinfectants.

- Heat delivered to a trailer for the appropriate temperature and time can assist in disinfection.
- If heat isn't available, fans or enough drive time to allow complete drying will help.

All manure and shavings for bedding cleaned from a trailer may contain pathogens that could cause disease.

- Dispose of these in a way that will prevent their spread to other trailers or locations.

Be aware of the source of water used for cleaning.

- Recycled wash water may still contain pathogens that could cause disease so disinfecting and adequate drying are especially important.

Pork producers will expect clean trailers are free of PED and other diseases. On the other side of this document are key elements of a biosecure cleaning process.

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Biosecure Cleaning Protocol To Prevent Transfer of PED virus:

Before Entering the Wash Bay

1. Understand the traffic flow for entry and exit of clean and dirty vehicles
2. The bay must be clean before the truck enters.
3. Scrape and sweep all manure, bedding and debris from the trailer.

In the Wash Bay

1. Clean out the truck cab.
2. Allow vehicle to thaw if necessary before washing.
3. Empty shavings bags, dirty rubber boots, used coveralls and gloves should be placed in designated locations (recycle bin, garbage or laundry).
4. Position all equipment including winter panels, brooms, shovels, sort board and paddles for washing.

Washing Process

1. Thoroughly rinse the interior cargo area free of manure and shavings (both decks even if both were not used). When using winter panels pull all panels off of the vehicle and wash both sides.
2. Apply soap according to label directions, to all interior surfaces of pig space, working from the floor up.
3. Then, apply soap to the exterior of the trailer and the truck, including the trailer boxes.
 - Do not let the detergent dry on any surface.
4. Working from the top going down, high pressure wash the exterior of the trailer and truck first, then the trailer interior, including any winter panels, ramps, gates, crowd boards, brooms, shovels and dirty and clean boxes.
5. Apply disinfectant to all exterior surfaces and then apply to interior surfaces of the cargo area including any winter panels, ramps, gates, crowd boards, brooms, shovels and dirty and clean boxes.
6. Allow the appropriate contact time per instructions on the disinfectant bottle.
7. Clean and disinfect the cab. Be sure the pedals and floor of the cab are clean.

8. Before entering the cab to move the unit, remove the rubber boots and coveralls you are wearing and place in designated location or dirty box. Don't drag anything back into the truck.
9. Clean other surfaces of the cab (steering wheel, door handles, and dashboard) using a clean cloth that is wet with disinfectant solution or disinfectant wipes.

After Washing

1. Move the washing equipment to a "CLEAN" area and dry.
2. Park trailer on slope to drain off excess standing water.
3. Use heat assisted drying when possible and/or circulating fans or adequate drive time to assist in the drying process.

Final Items

1. Apply a pyrethrin insecticide inside the cab to kill any insects if needed.
2. Disinfect the exterior of the cab.
3. Rinse the floor of the wash bay area.
4. Return the hoses to the appropriate locations.
5. Turn the fan off.
6. Change out of the uniform used for washing, and place in dirty laundry.