



Operational Guidance on Livestock Mandatory Reporting of Immunological Castrated Swine

Issue: Reporting of Immunological Castrated Swine in Wholesale Pork.

Livestock, Poultry, and Grain Market News (LPGMN) Position: Under the U.S. Department of Agriculture's current Livestock Mandatory Reporting regulations (7CFR, Part 59), swine are reported in one of three classes: (1) Barrow/Gilt; (2) Sows; and (3) Boars/Stags. The term "barrow" (7 CFR, Part 59) is defined as a neutered male swine, with the neutering performed before the swine reaches sexual maturity.

New technologies and procedures allow for neutering to be completed by administering a prescription pharmaceutical product to suppress testicular function and reduce boar taint for temporary immunological castration. This procedure, which is far less invasive than standard surgical castration, has been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for veterinary use on male pigs intended for slaughter.

LPGMN Guidance: All male swine administered with a veterinary prescribed pharmaceutical product for immunological castration prior to reaching sexual maturity shall be considered barrows at the time of slaughter, and should be reported as "barrows" to AMS under Livestock Mandatory Reporting. Further, wholesale pork product from these swine would also be considered product from barrows, and should be reported as such under Livestock Mandatory Reporting.

Date Issued 11/12

Approved by _____
Date Revised 12/16/16
