



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Prepare for the Worst: Participate in Certified Swine Sample Collector Training July 7th

LANCASTER, WI – Wisconsin Pork Association and UW-Madison Extension, in collaboration with National Pork Board, will be hosting a one-day, in-person Certified Swine Sample Collector (CSSC) Training on Tuesday, July 7th, 2026, at UW-Platteville Pioneer Farm located at 29200 College Farm Rd. Platteville, WI 53818. This event is for swine producers and industry professionals who would like to receive training to become a certified swine sample collector.

Dr. Brent Pepin, Director of Swine Health for the National Pork Board, will lead the training. The CSSC program was developed as a collaborative effort between the swine industry, state and federal government officials, and university swine leaders to improve general preparedness in response to the growing threats of Foreign Animal Diseases (FADs), particularly African Swine Fever (ASF), Classical Swine Fever (CSF), and Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD).

Should the United States experience an incursion of any FAD impacting swine, the swine industry will require more people trained to collect samples than the number currently available. The CSSC program was created to train non-veterinarians involved with the swine industry to collect samples when the State Animal Health Officials determine their assistance is needed, particularly in the face of an FAD incursion. Through the CSSC program, non-veterinarians will be trained to gather samples by certified licensed and category II accredited veterinarians who are knowledgeable regarding sampling procedures.

Agenda:

- 8:00 a.m. Registration
- 8:30 a.m. – Noon Classroom Lecture
- Noon – 1:00 p.m. Lunch (Courtesy of Wisconsin Pork Association)
- 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. Hands-on Swine Handling and Sample Collection Techniques

UW-Madison Extension and the Wisconsin Pork Association are committed to developing pork producers' knowledge and providing resources and education to enhance preparedness and response in the event of a foreign animal disease. Collaborating on events such as this is a great opportunity to enhance our mission of promoting and protecting the state's pork industry to ensure its success now and in the future.

For questions or to register for this event, please contact Jeff Morris via email at jeff.morris@wisc.edu, call/ text 608-346-9561, or visit www.wppa.org/certified-swine-sample-collector-cssc-training/.

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The mission of the Wisconsin Pork Association is to promote and protect the state's pork industry in order to ensure its success now and in the future.