



## Electronic Newsletter

Volume 1 Issue 4

Recently good news in the pork industry has been difficult to come by. The challenges remain, however it has been invigorating to attend both the Red Deer Swine Technology Conference and the Saskatchewan Pork Industry Symposium lately and meet with pork producers who continue to put their best foot forward each day. We are humbled by your stamina and enthusiasm, and hope that in some small way the work at Prairie Swine is easing your burden.

Three thoughts to share with you this week:

- 1) The self-reported health study was conducted in Ontario and is a direct rebuttal of at least one previous study I am aware of in North Carolina that insinuated that intensive hog barns were responsible for the poor local economic conditions as well as every ailment of anyone living within 5 miles of a barn. This recent study shows no link between human health and living near a hog barn. Although the result is not surprising to pork producers it is important validation for the industry. This Canadian study did however leave room for speculation that people can become worried about the barn and its impact on people and environment, in this way some people may perceive an impact on health. Thus the constant need to regularly communicate with local residents about the operational practices and regulations that intensive livestock operations work with every day. Enjoy the read even if you only get as far as the abstract it is worth a quick review.
- 2) Keep looking for the opportunities to control costs. We produced this Survival Strategies Checklist some time ago but we regularly find during barn tours that changes don't always stick and old habits and practices sneak back into the barn. Use this checklist to review practices every 3 months.
- 3) This time of year as we winterize the heating/ventilation system is a good time to look for opportunities to reduce energy costs.

To view the topics for this weeks newsletter click on the links below or visit [www.prairieswine.ca](http://www.prairieswine.ca)

To the pork producers of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta - Thank you for your continued support of Prairie Swine Centre research and technology transfer programs.

1. [Intensive hog farming operations and self-reported health among nearby rural residents in Ottawa, Canada](#)
2. [Survival Strategies Checklist](#)
3. [Energy Efficiency in Barns Part 1](#)
4. [Energy Efficiency in Barns Part 2](#)

### ***Research Profits Everyone***

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