TECH TALK

Don’t let Flies Breach your Biosecurity

Article Provided By:

CENTRAL Life Sciences®

African swine fever (ASF) currently poses the biggest threat to pork production around the world. It has emerged in new continents and has rapidly spread throughout China and several other Asian countries. With no effective vaccines or treatment methods, the spread of ASF results in severe disease in swine, high mortality rates, and preventive culling to halt virus spread. Educating oneself on ASF and the risks it presents is pivotal for swine operations throughout the United States, as every mill operation in the country uses some form of foreign imported ingredients.

ASF is transmissible through animal consumption of contaminated feed. A study conducted by Scott Dee, of Pipeline Veterinary Services in Minnesota, and Megan Niederwerder[1], with Kansas State University’s College of Veterinary Medicine, discovered a variety of extreme risks and unsanitary conditions that feed is exposed to during the preparation and transportation process. This has led to the adoption of stricter biosecurity measures to help mitigate virus introductions. Some of these measures include lines of separation in order to designate contaminated and clean areas for feed and equipment staging and storage. This has also led to establishing additional Quality Assurance measures that provide resources for swine transporters, producers and handlers to better understand best practices[2]. However, even these tightened feed biosecurity measures fail to answer one of the most important questions when it comes to protecting your pigs from disease.

What Happens Once the Feed Gets into Your Barn?

“When it comes to biosecurity, flies don’t read your manuals,” said Gene Spellman, regional sales manager, Central Life Sciences.

While a greater emphasis on feed biosecurity has proven to be successful, it doesn’t take into account the flies that are already on your operation, along with the additional flies that may be attracted to the feed truck’s cool conditions.

When flies land, they begin exploring for food. Once they find that meal ticket, they will regurgitate saliva onto the surface. Flies don’t have teeth, so they discharge saliva to liquefy their food which can then be consumed. In addition to regurgitation, flies may defecate as they explore your feed. What a fly transfers onto your feed is dependent on where it's been, and the chances are high that it has paid some visits to unsanitary locations.

These facts alone make it easy to understand how flies can transmit disease. They can even keep a disease alive after you’ve taken the corrective steps to clear it, while spreading it to other facilities within your operation. So while you may be following your biosecurity protocols closely, it pays to know that fly infestations can possibly cause a disease to spread or re-break. With so many biosecurity measures already in place to protect your pigs against diseases like this, it can be frustrating to continue problem solving on your operation. That’s where ClariFly® Larvicide comes in.

Building a Stronger Intra-Barn Feed Mitigation Plan with ClariFly® Larvicide

Research shows that protection against flies is now more important than ever. ClariFly® Larvicide is a feed-through fly control solution that works to reduce your risk of flies. By stopping flies in the larval stage, ClariFly® Larvicide is proven to prevent the development of house flies in treated manure by up to 96.7%.

ClariFly® Larvicide works as a feed-through, passing through swine and into their manure, so it requires no extra work from your employees and can significantly reduce the need for unpleasant sprays or fogs. ClariFly® Larvicide also features a target-specific mode of action that will have no impact on swine or human employees. By helping clear the air of flies, the use of ClariFly® Larvicide can even lead to happier employees, potentially lowering turnover rates.

In addition to protecting against house flies, stable flies, and dark-eyed fruit flies, ClariFly® Larvicide can also help with non-biting gnats, and Indian meal moths.

Visit CentralFlyControl.com or call 1.800.347.8272 to learn more about how ClariFly® Larvicide can improve your feed biosecurity today.

References

1. https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0194509
2. https://www.pork.org/food-safety/biosecurity-management-best-practices/

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