

North 212 PRRS Project

What is PRRS?

PRRS (porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome) is a devastating viral disease that causes abortions, stillbirths and premature farrowings in sow herds, and is a respiratory disease and causes reduced growth in growing pigs. Some pigs can be carriers of the virus and never show any signs of the disease. PRRS is estimated to cost the US swine industry \$560 million annually.

North 212 History

Producers and local veterinarians have teamed up with the University of Minnesota to control and eliminate PRRS in Minnesota. It was initiated in Stevens County in 2004, driven by producers frustrated with the high cost of recurring outbreaks. The program is voluntary. The program has reduced the number of infected farms from 29 in 2004 to just 1 in 2011. In 2010 the project expanded to include all counties north of Hwy 212. Similar PRRS regional control and elimination projects have been initiated in other parts of Minnesota and across North America.



4-H and FFA Swine Project Members can play an important role in this project by observing biosecurity practices and:

1) Purchasing pigs from a PRRS-free source in the North 212 region. (favorite option)

Or

2) Purchasing pigs from a PRRS-free source outside of the North 212 region. (almost as good as Option #1)

Or

3) Purchasing pigs from a herd with an unknown PRRS status but test pigs before entering project area.

Or

4) Purchasing pigs from a herd with an unknown PRRS status and test after arriving at your farm.

For More Information Contact:

- County Extension Office
320-208-6575
- North 212 Project Coordinator
Dave Wright, DVM
763-242-7535
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*** Encourage your suppliers to test their herd for PRRS!**

Become a Participant in the North 212 PRRS project for FREE herd testing. For more information contact Dave Wright, 212 North Project Coordinator.

