

Voluntary Regional PRRS Elimination Project N212 Gains Momentum



The voluntary regional PRRS elimination project, which originated in Stevens County in 2004, now includes all of Minnesota north of Hwy 212 as well as all of Renville County. The goals of the project are five-fold: 1) To identify all the swine herds in the area, 2) To invite producers to sign a participation agreement, which allows their PRRS status to be shared with other producers, 3) To determine the PRRS status of each herd, 4) To encourage elimination if the herd is positive, and 5) To encourage improved biosecurity if the herd is negative. The ultimate goal is to eventually eliminate PRRS from the region.

The progress report as of February 20, 2012 is encouraging:

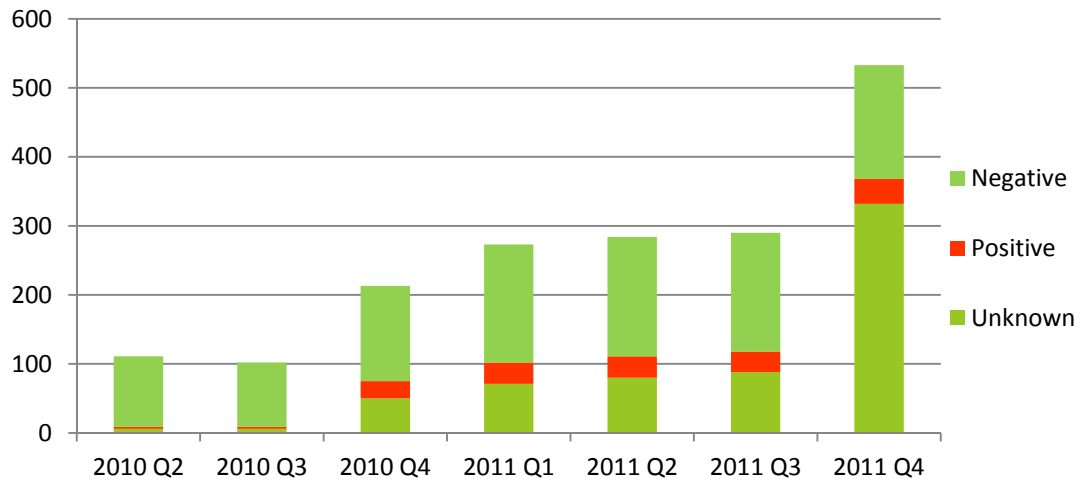
- 868 sites have been identified.
- 323 sites have signed participation agreements.
- 54 sites are positive for PRRS.
- 260 sites are negative.
- 554 sites have an unknown PRRS status.

The University of Minnesota Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory now has the capability to test oral fluids for both PRRS antibodies (with an ELISA test) and for PRRS virus (with a PCR test). This allows producers and veterinarians to monitor disease status on a site by collecting oral fluids from strategically-placed cotton ropes.

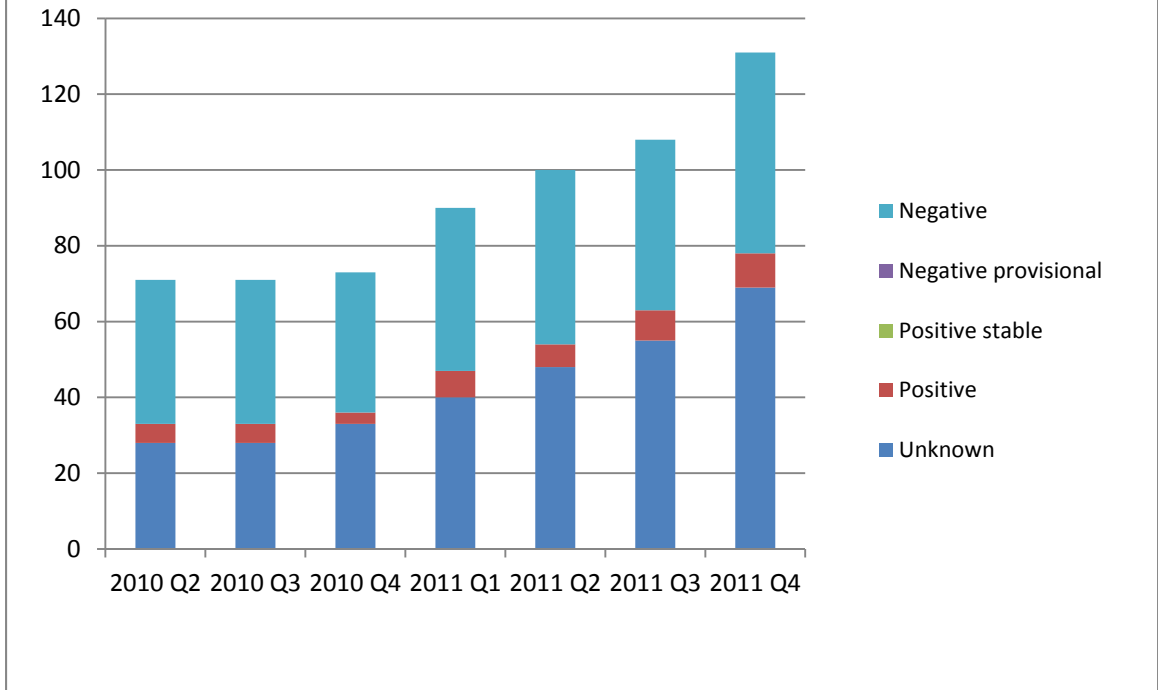
For more information about rope testing or the voluntary regional PRRS elimination project, producers can contact their veterinarian, the PRRS web site at www.prrs.org, or Dave Wright, the project coordinator at 763-242-7535 or wright2us@aol.com.

Optional Graphic Supplements:

N212MN status of sites with growing pigs



N212 MN sow herd status



Minnesota N212 2-20-12

