

Animal Health

Canada is free from serious livestock diseases including foot-and-mouth disease, rinderpest, swine brucellosis, hog cholera, vesicular exanthema, African swine fever, swine vesicular disease and pseudo-rabies. The Animal Disease and Protection Act makes provision for controls to ensure that such livestock diseases will never become established in the country. If they should appear, the Act provides for their eradication through quarantine and slaughter. There are quarantine stations for imported swine at Lévis, Québec and Edmonton, Alberta and a maximum security quarantine station on Grosse Isle in the St. Lawrence River near Québec City.

The incidence of PSS (Porcine Stress Syndrome) is less than 1.7 per cent in the Canadian swine herd. Agriculture Canada requires that all

boars that pass through the federal government test stations undergo a Halothane test. Any animals that react positively are slaughtered. The breeder is advised of the problem so the parentage can be identified and steps taken to eliminate occurrence in future generations.

Canada's national veterinary service consists of about 3,800 veterinarians who attend to the needs of all swine farms. Agriculture Canada's Food Production and Inspection Branch employs 560 veterinarians full time. The remainder are in private practice and ensure the Canadian farming community of up-to-date services and advice to monitor the day-to-day health of animals.

All herds registered in the National Record of Performance (ROP) program must be enrolled in

