

SWINE HEALTH

Title: Determination of effective protocols for cleaning processing tools –
NPB #01-016

Investigator: Roberta M. Alvarez DVM

Institution: Purdue University

Date Submitted: 9/5/2001

Abstract: Use of contaminated processing tools could introduce bacteria to the pig's bloodstream during tail docking and result in joint infections. The purpose of this study was to determine effective protocols for cleaning processing tools. Tail clippers were dipped in Nolvasan® solution, dipped in tap water; or wiped with a clean cloth in between clipping the tail of individual pigs. Protocols were evaluated by counting the number of bacteria on the clippers after each procedure and comparing it to clippers that were not cleaned after tail docking. Wiping the clipper with a clean cloth after tail clipping was the most effective cleaning method.

These research results were submitted in fulfillment of checkoff-funded research projects. This report is published directly as submitted by the project's principal investigator. This report has not been peer-reviewed.

For more information contact:

National Pork Board • PO Box 9114 • Des Moines, IA 50306 USA • 800-456-7675 • Fax: 515-223-2646 • pork.org
