

WHAT IT TAKES TO BE A PIG FARMER

Pork Producers make sure that their animals receive special care and attention. They do this by participating in the Pork Quality Assurance Plus Program (PQAPlus). Watch the video and see what they do to insure a safe and high-quality food product.

What does Dr. Bill do? Put a checkmark beside each thing you observed him doing in the movie.

- A. Visit a farm to check on procedures
- B. Check emails and review lab results
- C. Check farrowing barn where babies are being born
- D. Look at records of the caretakers
- E. Meet with owner to review recommendations
- F. Drive a tractor
- G. Check the food of the animals
- H. Talk to workers about animals that are being treated
- I. Check pig habitat & environment
- J. Track medications being used
- K. Care for individual animals that need treatment

Dr. Bill talks about the PQAPlus—the Pork Quality Assurance Plus Program. In general, there are 10 good production practices for pork producers. Can you match the activities above with the practices below? Put the letter(s) of the activity above in the space below next to its corresponding good production practice. There may be more than one correct answer. Number one is already done for you!

1. Use a Herd Health Management Plan that includes regular visits by a vet, biosecurity measures, rodent/pest control and cleaning procedures. A, I
2. Make medical decisions under the direction of a veterinarian. H, B, E
3. Use antibiotics sparingly and responsibly to produce a safe, quality product. B, D, J
4. Identify and track all treated animals. H, D, K
5. Keep medication and treatment records. J, D
6. Properly store, label and keep track of all drug products. J
7. Teach caretakers to know and use proper techniques for giving medications to a food-producing animal. D, H
8. Use high-quality feed and follow feed processor procedures. G
9. Train animal caretakers and other employees in all their duties. E, H
10. Provide proper care to improve swine well-being. C, I

Here are some of the Record Keeping Logs that are available as part of the PQAPlus Program. Why do you think these records could be valuable to an animal's well-being? Fill in the answers on the chart. The first one has been done for you.

Name of Record	Why is this record important?
Daily Observation Log	Track animals over time and watch for changes; farmer can see changes in behavior or problems right away.
Individual Pig Treatment Record	Track treatment of individual animals including what medicine has been given and when it is completely out of the pig's system.
Vaccination Schedule	All team members know when vaccinations need to be given, and who has treated the animal thus ensuring that each animal gets the proper amount of medicine.
Drug Storage Inventory Record	Make sure that all medications are properly stored and none are used past their expiration date.
Feed Mixing Record	Make sure pigs get the proper amount and type of feed at each stage of growth; help the farmer keep track of the feed given to each animal.

Here is one of the records that Dr. Bill checked while he was at the farm. What does this record show?

This is an animal treatment record that shows exactly how much medicine a specific animal received

Date	Animal ID	Product name	Amount given	Route	Given by	Withdrawal time
9-17	145	Penicillin	10cc	1 M	Bill P	10 days