

Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry (ODAFF) Validated/Qualified (VQ) Herd Standards

1. Establishing a VQ Herd

- a. Submit a completed VQ Herd application/inventory sheet to:
**ODAFF Animal Industry Services
2800 N Lincoln Blvd
Oklahoma City, OK 73105**
- b. Herd owners shall have a minimum of 4 adult sows to be eligible for the VQ Herd program.
- c. All swine 6 months of age or older must be tested negative to official brucellosis and pseudorabies tests within 30 days prior to or following submission of the VQ Herd application/inventory sheet.
Please Note: It is recommended that the initial herd test be completed during January, April, July, or October (the normal quarterly testing schedule). If this test is completed during different months, the herd shall continue quarterly testing by the normal schedule.
- d. Each adult animal shall be permanently and individually identified by both ear notch and electronic 840 tag prior to or at the time of testing.
- e. A minimum of 90% of the swine in the herd must have been on the premises and a part of the herd for at least 90 days prior to the complete herd test or have entered directly from a VQ Herd.
- f. VQ Herds shall maintain a buffer zone between it and any non-VQ swine.
- g. Swine maintained outside the primary herd premises will not be considered part of the VQ Herd.
- h. The VQ Herd Status will be issued after the first quarterly testing following the whole herd test. VQ Herd Status shall not be issued upon completion of the initial whole herd test only.

2. Maintaining a VQ Herd

- a. All swine 6 months of age or older shall be subjected to official brucellosis and pseudorabies tests at least once each year. This must be accomplished by testing 25% of swine 6 months of age or older every quarter.
 - i. Quarterly testing months are **January, April, July, and October** of every year (for the example of January, samples shall be taken between January 1 and January 31).
 - ii. No swine shall be tested twice in one testing year to comply with the 25% requirement (**Exception:** If a VQ Herd ever consists of less than 4 test eligible swine, 1 or more animals shall be repeat tested during the same testing year with no quarterly tests skipped).
 - iii. All swine 6 months of age or older that have not been previously tested in the first 3 quarters shall be tested in the October quarterly test (even if this exceeds 25% of the herd).
- b. Exhibition animals shall be permanently and individually identified by both ear notch and electronic 840 tag prior to exhibition.
- c. Submit a completed VQ Herd renewal application/inventory sheet (supplied by ODAFF near the end of the year) prior to completion of the January quarterly test.
- d. If quarterly tests are missed, late, incomplete, inaccurate, or do not meet VQ standards, the VQ Herd status may be suspended or revoked.
 - i. History of noncompliance by the owner may result in prevention of the herd's participation in the program.

3. VQ Herd Additions

- a. Swine may be added to a VQ Herd through natural increase. These natural additions will need to be tested as a regular part of the herd once they reach 6 months of age.
- b. Swine may be added to a VQ Herd directly from another VQ Herd without isolation. These additions shall be tested during the next quarterly test regardless of age.
 - i. If there is interim contact with other swine, the additions must be isolated from the VQ Herd until the swine have been tested negative 30 to 60 days after arrival.
- c. Additions to a VQ Herd from a herd of unknown status shall be tested negative not more than 30 days prior to movement and be isolated from the VQ Herd until tested negative again 30 to 60 days after arrival.
- d. Swine returning to the VQ Herd after being exhibited or having contact with other swine shall be isolated from the VQ Herd until tested negative 30 to 60 days after returning.

Validated/Qualified Herd Application and Inventory Sheet

Owner's Name: _____ V/Q Herd Number: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Primary Phone Number: _____ Secondary Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____ Date of Inventory: _____

| Number | Tag Number and/or Ear Notch (Litter Number - Pig Number) | Birthdate (Mo/Yr) | Breed | Sex (M/F) |
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Owner Statement: "I have read, understand, and agree to comply with the rules and regulations regarding the establishment and maintenance of a validated/qualified herd enclosed with this application. I certify that the inventory information above is to the best of my knowledge true, accurate, and complete."

Owner Signature

Date