

General instructions for all stakeholders in the Quebec swine sector

ENHANCED BIOSECURITY PROTOCOL IN ANIMAL HEALTH EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

The *Équipe québécoise de santé porcine* (EQSP) is committed to raising awareness among all stakeholders in the swine sector about the application of biosecurity measures in animal health emergency situations. The EQSP works in collaboration with government authorities to monitor and prevent reportable diseases in Quebec to avoid their spread and minimize their impact on herds. In Canada, reportable diseases are the responsibility of the Canadian Food Inspection

Agency (CFIA). The most important reportable diseases in the swine sector are:

- Foot and Mouth Disease
- Aujeszky's disease (or pseudorabies)
- Swine vesicular disease
- African swine fever
- Classical swine fever
- Vesicular stomatitis

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Agriculture et
Agroalimentaire Canada

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Canada



Enhanced biosecurity protocols are available to producers and farm employees, visitors, and service vehicles. The protocols can be viewed at eqsp.ca.

The proactive application of protocols or at the request of the EQSP is recommended on a swine production site suspected or confirmed to be infected by a reportable disease, on a site linked to the latter or located in an area at high risk of disease as determined by the EQSP or CFIA. These are in addition to the biosecurity protocols commonly used on swine production sites.

The CFIA prescribes biocontainment conditions requiring a permit for movement to a designated production site at high risk or confirmed reportable disease and for travel to production sites located in an established primary control zone (PCZ) following confirmation of a reportable disease on a swine site.

EQSP PARTNERS



BIOSECURITY ZONES OF A PRODUCTION SITE

Biosecurity protocols are intended to control distinct biosecurity zones within a swine production site to limit access and movement of staff, visitors, vehicles, and equipment.

Each producer is responsible for defining these biosecurity zones for their production site. Preparing a production site diagram makes it possible to identify key elements of the farm, traffic flow, areas that create difficulties in site management and modifications that can be made to improve biosecurity implementation. The plan for each production site must be developed by designating three biosecurity zones.

Controlled access zone (CAZ) or yard

The CAZ (yard) aims to manage the entry, movement and exit of vehicles and people on the production site. It includes all buildings that are directly used for swine production, such as barns, feed and slurry warehouses and dead animal depots. Parking for visitors and employees, the family home, structures that are not used to store production materials and equipment, such as the mechanical workshop or the shed (agricultural machinery, storage, etc.), constitute entities that are separate areas outside the CAZ (yard). The office is located inside or outside the CAZ (yard) depending on the function designated to it. It is subject to the biosecurity measures of the place where it is located.

Restricted access zone (RAZ) or barn

The RAZ (barn) is contained within the CAZ (yard) and aims to manage the risks associated with animal contact. It includes all places where there can be direct contact with and between animals. It constitutes a closed area which isolates the pigs from the external environment and possible exposure to pathogens from outside. It is usually a barn or in a fenced outdoor area used for rearing.

Controlled access point (CAP) or entrance

The CAP (entrance) visually demarcates the entry point where people, equipment or vehicles circulate and enter the CAZ (yard) or the RAZ (barn). Appropriate biosecurity measures are applied to avoid introducing pathogens and minimize the spread of disease. These measures may include posting, blocking access, cleaning and disinfecting or changing clothes.

The **CAP (entrances) to the CAZ (yard)** are usually set up from the road, the house, and the parking area.

The **CAP (entrances) of the RAZ (barn)** are usually located at the entry and exit points for people, materials, equipment, pigs, and dead animals.

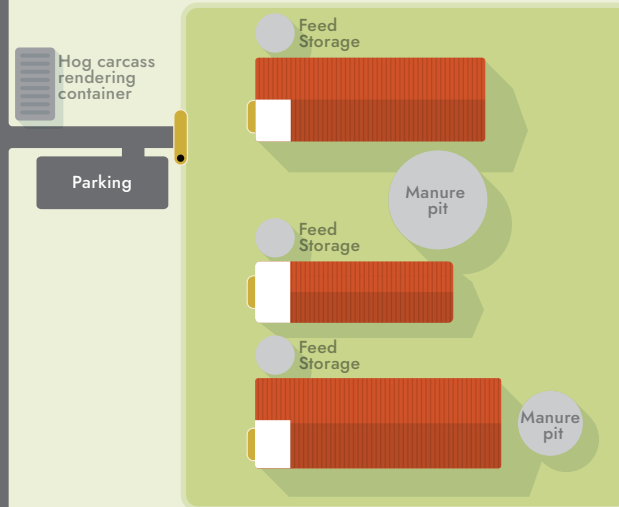
The **CAP (entrance) dedicated to people** includes a transition zone defined by two or three areas. The part accessible from the CAZ (yard) is called the exterior area. It is considered contaminated, and the part accessible from the RAZ (barn) is called the interior area and is considered clean. A third area can be included between the first two to facilitate the application of biosecurity measures. It is called the intermediate area. The PAC includes one or more physical boundaries that are preferably complete, such as a bench with a solid partition touching the floor or a wall division. Diagrams describe the elements to be included within these areas.

Legend

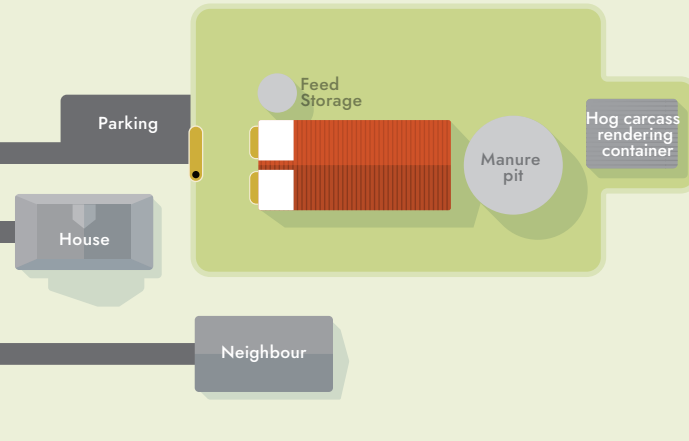
- CAZ or yard
- RAZ or barn
- Transition zone
- CAP or entrance

Examples of biosecurity zones on a swine production site

SITE WITH ONE CAZ AND MULTIPLE RAZ

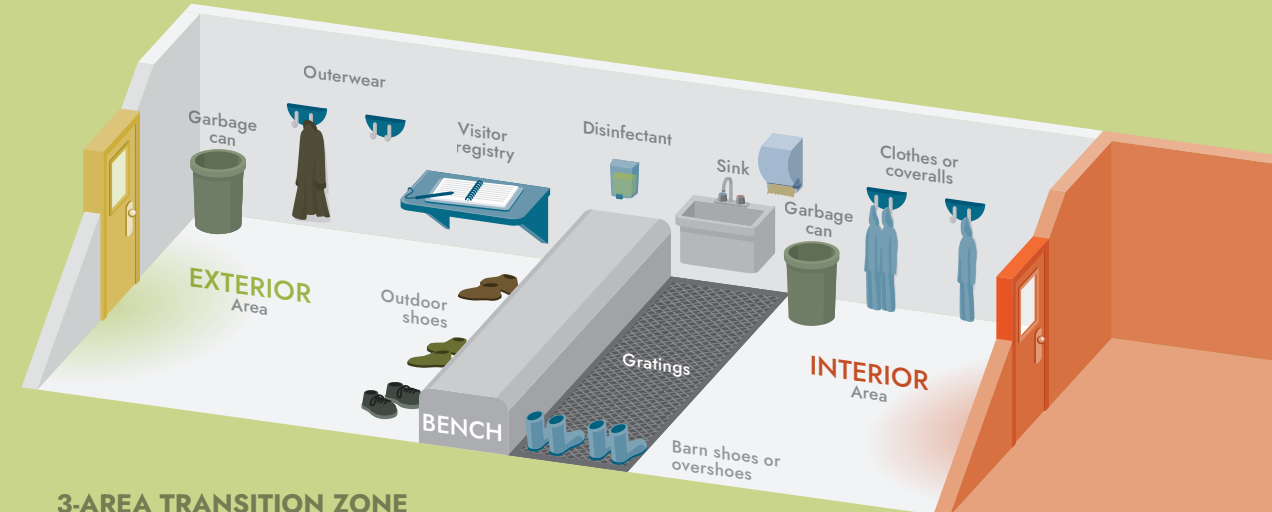


SITE WITH ONE CAZ AND ONE RAZ

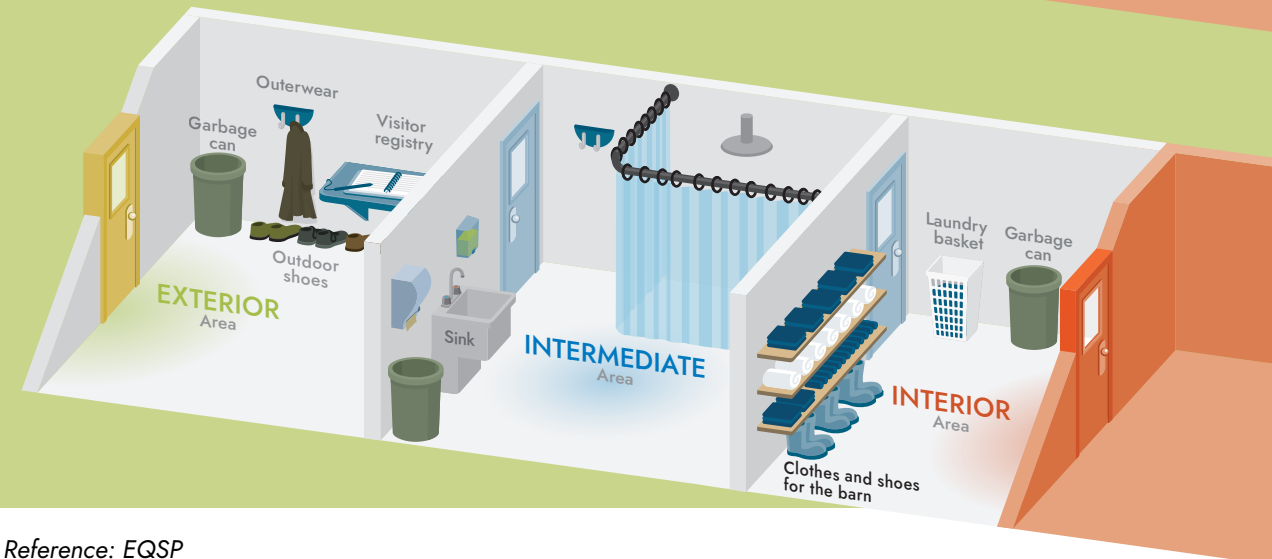


Diagrams of transition zones with 2 or 3 areas included in a CAP (entrance) dedicated to people

2-AREA TRANSITION ZONE



3-AREA TRANSITION ZONE



THE STEPS TO CONTROL A REPORTABLE DISEASE

Step 1.

Declaration of a CFIA reportable animal disease at a production site:

- The producer or his employee must immediately contact a **veterinary practitioner** or the **CFIA** in the event of a sudden increase in the number of dead or sick animals or an unexplained decrease in feed or water consumption or animal production;
- The producer or veterinary practitioner must immediately notify the **CFIA** when a reportable disease is suspected and should also request the collaboration of their provincial marketing board through the **EQSP**;
- The veterinary practitioner or laboratory is required to report any reportable disease to the **CFIA** and the **ministère de l'Agriculture, des Pêcheries et de l'Alimentation du Québec** at **1-844-ANIMAUX (264-6289)**.

Step 2.

The EQSP implements or requests the implementation of the steps of its intervention plan:

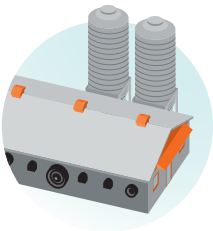
- The **establishment** of a **preliminary risk zone** (PRZ) with a minimum radius of 3 km around the suspect site;
- The **recommendation** of the application of enhanced biosecurity **protocols** in health emergencies;
- Withdrawal of the PRZ as soon as the **ACIA designates** a PCZ or upon obtaining a negative result for the suspected disease;
- Sharing with the CFIA information and the geographical location of swine production sites located in a PCZ.

Step 3.

The CFIA implements or requests the implementation of the steps of its response plan:

- **Carrying out a survey** at the production site involving a questionnaire to be completed on the situation assessment, taking samples and tracing movements;
- **Restriction of travel** to places and epidemiologically linked sites following high-risk designation or confirmation of a reportable disease;
- **Depopulation, disposal of dead animal** validation of cleaning and disinfection and compensation for the infected site;
- The **establishment** of a **PCZ** around the site confirmed to be infected with a reportable disease;
- **Monitoring of reportable disease** in animals from pig production sites located in the PCZ or with an epidemiological link to the infected site;
- **Issuance of general or specific permits** that describe biosecurity requirements for the movement within a PCZ of animals susceptible to disease, their products, and related objects.

CLIENTS



PRODUCERS AND FARM EMPLOYEES

For personnel and vehicles from the production site who always have access to the yard (CAZ) and the barn (RAZ). This includes producers and production site employees.



VISITORS

For the visitor and his vehicle who access the yard (CAZ) and the visitor who enters the barn (RAZ) during production. This includes veterinarians, technical advisors, auditors, exterminators, maintenance staff and personnel transferring, vaccinating, inseminating, loading pigs, etc.



SERVICE VEHICLES

For the driver and his vehicle who access the yard (CAZ) and who do not enter the barn (RAZ) during production. This includes feed, hog, slurry, bedding, propane, grain, etc. transporters.

CFIA – Quebec animal health offices

During service hours (8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.), contact the district office closest to the production site. Outside of service hours, call the **emergency line 1-866-806-4115** and leave a message with the answering machine.

Chicoutimi	Quebec
418-698-5506	418-648-7373
Saint-Hyacinthe	Lacolle
450-768-1500	450-246-4125
Rimouski	Sherbrooke
418-722-3032	819-564-5509
Mirabel	Rouyn-Noranda
450-420-3774	819-762-5211
Victoriaville	Montreal
819-752-5354	514-283-8888, ext. 4367

DEFINITIONS OF PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT, VISITS AND PRODUCTION SITES

Personal protective equipment

These are coveralls, boot covers, gloves, caps, masks, protective glasses as well as clothing and shoes dedicated to the barn (RAZ) or the yard (CAZ).

Visit

Action of going to a production site to carry out an exchange, delivery, collection, service, examination, consultation, inspection, repair, etc.

Essential visit

Visit where actions or service rendered allow the maintenance of pig production (veterinarian, technical advisor, auditor, exterminator, maintenance staff, vaccination and insemination staff, transporters of feed, pigs, carcasses of animals, slurry, gas, grains, etc.).

Non-essential visit

Visit whose actions do not contribute to maintaining pig production (friend, guest, sales advisor, etc.).

Urgent visit

Visit which aims to manage an animal welfare or staff health and safety issue (veterinarian, electrician, plumber, firefighter, ambulance and paramedical staff, etc.).

Production site

Parcel of land forming part of the land where pigs are raised, kept, grouped, or slaughtered; the location is defined by land titles or, in the absence of these, by georeferenced coordinates.

Linked production site

Production site that has, in common or shares on a regular basis, animals, their products and by-products, people, vehicles, equipment or materials with a suspect production site.

Suspicious production site

Swine production site declared suspect of a reportable disease to the authorities responsible for their management by the producer, his employee, or a veterinarian.

ACRONYMS

CAP	controlled access point
CAZ	controlled access zone
CFIA	Canadian Food Inspection Agency
CWDD	cleaning, washing, disinfecting, and drying
EQSP	Équipe québécoise de santé porcine
MAPAQ	ministère de l'Agriculture, des Pêcheries et de l'Alimentation du Québec
PCZ	primary control zone
PPE	personal protective equipment
PRZ	preliminary risk zone
RAZ	restricted access zone