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Economics of health management: Evaluating the costs of disease

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Newsham Hybrids (USA), Inc.

Effective health management for pork producers requires a fundamental understanding of the “actual” costs of disease. Specific methods of disease prevention and intervention can be made more effective with an understanding of the relative importance of diseases present in a population.

This presentation will review cost estimates of specific diseases and methods for determining the economic impact of disease, with the goals of:

- understanding the relative importance of disease as opposed to other opportunities in a client’s herd;
- benchmarking areas for improvement in disease control;
- appreciating the costs of intervention for potential disease outbreaks;
- understanding the cost and value of disease prevention; and,
- assisting clients in quantitatively identifying the cost of diseases present in their herds.

It is recognized that pork producers, their lenders, and other business partners may require a format for evaluating the costs of disease. This presentation will focus on methods (and examples) to determine the costs of diseases outbreaks.

