NGFA donates \$60,000 for PEDv research

National Grain and Feed Foundation contributes to National Pork Board

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The <u>National Grain and Feed Foundation (NGFF)</u> has contributed \$60,000 to the National Pork Board (NPB) to be used to pursue research on the <u>porcine epidemic diarrhea (PED) virus</u> that has infected swine herds in the United States.

The virus has infected and killed millions of young pigs on farms of all sizes in 29 states since May 2013, as well as in four Canadian provinces since January 2014. Importantly, the virus does not affect humans or the safety of consumable pork products.

"The grain and feed industry is committed to supporting research being undertaken through the NPB that will help find ways to combat the establishment and spread of PEDv in the United States," said David Fairfield, vice president of feed services at the National Grain and Feed Association (NGFA). The NGFF, founded in 1965, is the NGFA's research and education arm.

"In particular, NGFA and its foundation are pleased to support the NPB's research on several feed-related issues that may be associated with PEDv -- results of which we believe will further enhance the industry's knowledge in finding ways to control and eventually eradicate and prevent this disease and the economic damage it is causing to the pork and related industries," said Fairfield.

Paul Sundberg, NPB's vice president of science and technology, said NGFF's donation is a welcome addition to funding coming from industry groups outside of the Pork Checkoff, and will help expand research into the costly disease.

"Given questions about PEDv and feed-related issues, our goal is to find answers as quickly and efficiently as possible," Sundberg said. "We appreciate NGFF's investment, and will continue to collaborate closely with the NGFA and other industry stakeholders on research to find practical and effective ways for farmers to save their pigs."

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