

Title: Assessment of Injuries in Pork Production Facilities - **NPB #14-289**

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Date Submitted: July 31, 2017

Abstract:

Working with food production animals has inherent risks, however little research has been done to characterize specific injuries in workers who care for these animals. The objectives of this project were to characterize injury burden in swine production workers from swine production company's records and to identify opportunities and limitations of currently used data collection methods. Four commercial large swine production companies were enrolled. Analysis included a summary of claims from injuries receiving only medical treatment, injuries resulting in time-loss, and report only claims for the most common injury sources. The number of medical-only claims for Company 1, 2, 3 and 4 were 441, 27, 101, and, 405 respectively. The number of time-loss claims was 146, 13, 41, and 366, respectively. Time-loss claims resulted in a total reported amount of \$10,838,998 in costs. The most common source of time-loss injury was due to animal interactions (49.1%) and the most commonly injured body part was knees (15.2%). Animal handling injury data was re-coded for three companies to characterize misclassifications. Results provide an initial assessment of the most common and costly injuries recorded at swine farms. Identification of the most costly injuries will help employers to better focus their resources when it comes to preventing these injuries.

These research results were submitted in fulfillment of checkoff-funded research projects. This report is published directly as submitted by the project's principal investigator. This report has not been peer-reviewed.

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