

## **Panel Discussion: Initial Information on the Impact of Subtherapeutic Antibiotic Ban in Denmark on the Danish Pork Industry**



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This panel will discuss the initial findings of the research proposal outlined below:

**Objectives of Research Proposal:** The purpose of this research is to evaluate the impact of possible changes in restrictions on the use of antimicrobial growth promotants (AGPs) on pork production and the U.S. pork industry based on information from the experience in Denmark. Impacts will be evaluated in terms of economics, animal health, and potential market effects.

**Description of Research Project:** This project is designed to obtain current and detailed information on the practices and implementation of a restricted antimicrobial access policy. On-site visits in Denmark will provide evidence on the implementation of proposed changes to production and act as a case study of the impacts of these regulations on pork production economics and management, animal health, and marketing opportunities. Review and compilation of existing literature and data, case study analysis, and economic evaluation of potential market effects will be used in the evaluation. The project researchers will consult with National Pork Board staff in developing measures of the effects of restricted AGP used that are of the most relevance to the NPB. Of particular interest is the ability of the Danish pork industry to capitalize on any marketing advantages associated with the move away from antibiotics use. The results and analysis will be described in a final project report.

**Benefit of Research to Industry:** Changes in the use of antimicrobials are under review by the U.S. pork industry to improve the quality perceptions among U.S. consumers, eliminate non-tariff barriers to trade, and consider implications of any new federal regulations designed to avoid transfer of drug resistance to humans. Research conducted under this project can provide better information based on the experience in other countries, and help to anticipate the likely effects on U.S. pork producers, the industry, and consumers.

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