

Don't Feed Swill to Pigs

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WHAT IS SWILL?

Swill is any material from mammals or poultry, or any material that has come in contact with material from mammals or poultry.

Examples are food scraps from kitchens, restaurants, hotels, airports, hospitals and market stalls containing any meat except seafood.

The only mammalian or poultry material that can be fed to pigs is commercially prepared meat and bone meal.

The Northern Territory *Livestock Act* and Regulations states it is prohibited to feed swill to pigs. Under the same Act the supply of swill to pig farmers is also prohibited.

Moreover, all persons dealing with pigs must take all possible steps to prevent pigs access to swill.

Penalties of up to \$26,000 for individuals and \$130,000 for bodies corporate apply for those who contravene the Act.



WHY IS SWILL FEEDING PROHIBITED

It is prohibited because of the risk of:

- introducing exotic diseases into Australia;
- potential danger to public health;
- spreading endemic diseases.

EXOTIC DISEASES

Australia is very fortunate to be free of many animal diseases that could seriously affect its livestock industries and access to overseas markets.

Several viral diseases could be introduced in meat products from other countries. Pigs fed infected products could then spread the disease to other animals.

Diseases that are spread internationally by feeding swill include African swine fever, classical swine fever, Aujeszky's disease and foot and mouth disease. All are highly infectious.

None of these diseases occurs in Australia and it is important that they are not accidentally or illegally introduced.

Australia's safeguards against the entry of exotic animal diseases are extremely stringent. There are strict quarantine controls on the importation of pigs and pig products.

PERMITTED FEED FOR PIGS

- Commercially prepared pig feeds.
- Grains.
- Bread, fruit and vegetables that have not been in contact with swill. However, one cannot remove meat from a sandwich and then feed the rest to a pig.
- Australian milk and by-products.

For further information contact the regional office of the Department, or visit our website.

Please visit us at our website:

www.nt.gov.au/d

© Northern Territory Government
ISSN 0157-8243
Serial No. 602
Agdex No. 440/59

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