

*Ohio*

2026

**PORK CONGRESS**

**EXPERIENCE**

**MOMENTUM**



February 3-4, 2026

[www.ohioporkcongress.org](http://www.ohioporkcongress.org)

# Welcome Message

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

### Welcome to the 2026 Ohio Pork Congress!

Congratulations for making the smart decision to invest in yourself, your organization, and our industry as a whole by attending the 2026 Ohio Pork Congress. We know that your time is valuable and that's why we've made this year's event bigger, better, and more relatable and useful than ever. With over 60 tradeshow vendors, 23 presentations in English and seven in Spanish, there's truly something for everyone.

### Swine Health Symposium for the Win!

It's a long-held tradition to bring the best in state, regional, and national swine health experts together for Day One of the Ohio Pork Congress and this year's lineup doesn't disappoint. You'll walk away with an update on the new National Swine Health Strategy, get fresh updates on PRRS, flu, sow care, piglet care and more — giving you the insights you need to make better swine health and production decisions in 2026.

### Updates to Make You a Better Leader

Wednesday of Ohio Pork Congress is known for three great things — celebrating well-deserving people in our industry, giving you high-level information, and challenging us all to take our industry to the next level.

### A Major League Morning & Keynote to Remember:

Be sure to have your coffee ready to go as we start the day hearing from both state and national pork organizations on the latest efforts to improve our industry. Followed by an unmatched packer, restaurant, and food service panel, and an Ohio-centered NPPC leadership update session, you'll definitely walk away with smart observations and insightful perspectives. Finally, after we congratulate our newest OPC Award winners during the luncheon, get ready to hear from Leo Feler, chief economist with Numerator. He'll bring unique and valuable insights into how today's consumers are forever changing the pork marketplace.

### Thanks to You & Our Sponsors

As a multi-generational farmer, I understand the importance of your time away from your farm or business, so thanks for being here and supporting our industry. On behalf of the OPC Board, special thanks goes to all of our sponsors who invest in making this event better each year!



**Nathan Schroeder**  
*Ohio Pork Council President*



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Topigs Norsvin  
PROGRESS IN PIGS

FARMER BOY

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# DAY 1 AGENDA

## Tuesday February 3, 2026

**7:00AM**

Registration Opens (Trade show opens 7:30 w/ refreshments)

### MAIN STAGE

**8:00AM - 9:00AM**

Animal Health Policy Update

*Anna Forseth, DVM, NPPC*

**9:00AM - 10:00AM**

Top Health Threats on Farm

*Bethany Heitkamp, DVM, Cooper Farms; Anna Forseth, DVM, NPPC; Andrèia Arruda, DVM, OSU*

**10:00AM - 10:30AM** BREAK

**10:30AM - 11:00AM**

ODA Update

*Dennis Summers, DVM, State Veterinarian*

**11:00AM - 12:00PM**

Piglet Weaning & Care Essentials

*Mark Knauer, Ph.D., Assoc. Professor & Extension Swine Specialist at NCSU*

**11:30AM - 1:00PM**

Lunch Served - In trade show area

**1:00PM - 2:00PM**

Whiteboard Breakdown

*Iain Harris, Fine Swine*

**2:00PM - 3:00PM**

Lameness & Locomotor Dysfunction in Swine

*Jeremy Pittman, DVM, Smithfield*

**3:00PM - 4:00PM**

The PRRSv Resistant Pig: What's Next

*Lindsay Case, Ph.D., PIC*

**4:00PM - 5:00PM** Reception

**5:00PM - 7:00PM** PAC Auction

**7:00PM - 9:00PM** Producer Appreciation Dinner

DAY 1  
AGENDA

**Tuesday February 3, 2026**

**BREAKOUT ROOM A**

**9:00AM - 10:00AM ENGLISH SESSION**

Ventilation & Pit Maintenance

*Glen Arnold, OSU*

**10:30AM - 11:30AM ENGLISH SESSION**

Sustainability Tools & How to Use on Farm

*Sara Crawford, Ph.D., Eocene Environmental Group*

**1:00PM - 2:00PM ENGLISH SESSION**

Manure Management & Handling 101

*Glen Arnold, OSU*

**BREAKOUT ROOM B**

**9:00AM - 10:00AM SPANISH SESSION**

Farm Manager Leadership Training

*Melanie Langley, Fine Swine*

**10:30AM - 11:30AM SPANISH SESSION**

Safe Animal Handling & Biosecurity

*Jorge Cajamarca, DVM, PIC*

**1:00PM - 2:00PM SPANISH SESSION**

Sow Reproductive Health

*Hoguer Albarado Sanchez, Fine Swine*

**BREAKOUT ROOM C**

**9:00AM - 10:00AM ENGLISH SESSION**

Advanced Sow Reproductive Health

*Amanda Minton, AcuFast*

**10:30AM - 11:30AM ENGLISH SESSION**

Farm Manager Leadership Training

*Melanie Langley, Fine Swine*

**1:00PM - 2:00PM ENGLISH SESSION**

How to Incorporate AI on Farm

*Matthew Rooda, SwineTech*

**Wednesday February 4, 2026**

**7:00AM**

Registration, trade show opens at 7:30am

**MAIN STAGE**

**8:00AM - 9:00AM**

Momentum Isn't Given. It's Built *Cheryl Day, OPC*

**9:00AM - 10:00AM**

From Investment to Impact

*David Newman, Ph.D., CEO, National Pork Board*

**10:00 - 10:30AM BREAK**

**10:30AM - 11:30AM**

Multiple Markets. Selling More Pork.

*Dave Rigo, Saddleberk; Dave Murray, Indiana Packers Corp.*

**11:30AM - 12:30PM**

NPPC's Political Strategy

*Bryan Humphreys, CEO, NPPC; Duane Stateler, NPPC*

*President; Pat Hord, NPPC Vice President*

**12:30PM - 1:30PM**

OPC Awards Ceremony & Luncheon

**1:30PM - 3:00PM: KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

Economic & Consumer Insights

*Leo Feler, Ph.D., Chief Economist, Numerator*

# DAY 2 AGENDA

**Wednesday February 4, 2026**

## **BREAKOUT ROOM A**

### **8:00AM - 9:00AM ENGLISH SESSION**

Employee Skill Development & Training

*Madison Adams, Hord Family Farms*

### **9:30AM - 10:30AM ENGLISH SESSION**

Employee Retention

*Ashley Hengen, PIC*

### **11:00AM - 12:00PM ENGLISH/SPANISH SESSION**

Communications & Teamwork for Farm Teams

*Rodrigo Teuber, DVM, Hord Family Farms*

## **BREAKOUT ROOM B**

### **8:00AM - 9:00AM SPANISH SESSION**

Gilt Development Best Practices

*Yolanda Castelo, Topigs*

### **9:30AM - 10:30AM SPANISH SESSION**

Employee Skill Development & Training

*Zenaido Loyola, Dykhuis Farms*

### **11:00AM - 12:00PM SPANISH SESSION**

Day 1 Care

*Chayo (Rosario) Salgado Ortega, Fine Swine*

## **BREAKOUT ROOM C**

### **8:00AM - 9:00AM ENGLISH SESSION**

Animal Health & Biosecurity Basics

*Terri Specht-Benson, DVM, Heimerl Farms*

### **9:30AM - 10:30AM ENGLISH SESSION**

Recordkeeping - Digital & Paper Tools

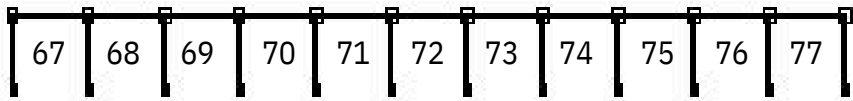
*Kori Hilsheimer, AMVC Management Services*

### **11:00AM - 12:00PM ENGLISH SESSION**

Pork Industry Technology in the Future

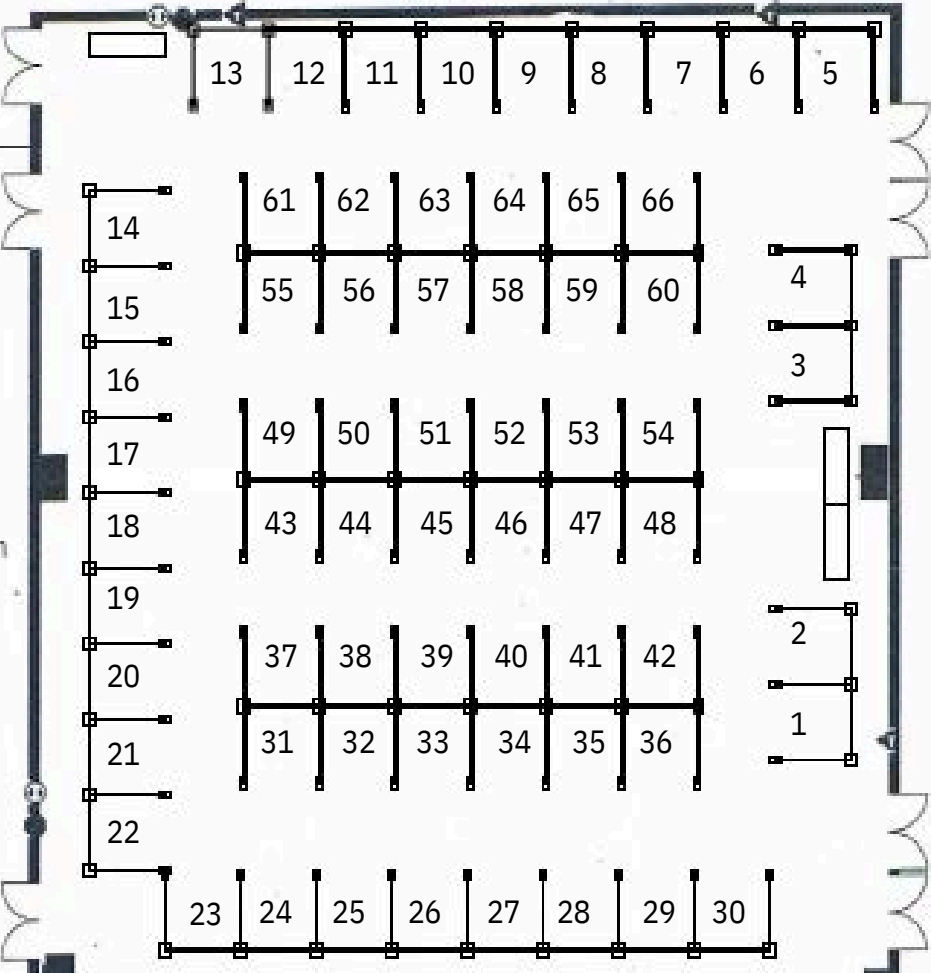
*Liane Hart, Verility, Inc.*

# 2026 OHIO PORK CONGRESS



Wingate Hotel  
Parking Garage  
Registration  
Meeting Room

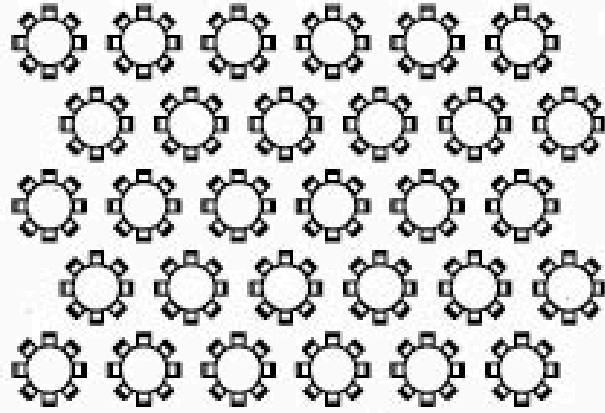
to Large Kitchen



S. Main Street



Loading Dock



AUDITORIUM



Booths: 6' d x 8' w

Access to Small Kitchen

## BOOTH ASSIGNMENTS

## COMPANY

## BOOTH

## PRODUCTS / SERVICES

A1 Ag Services	45	Literature
AcuFast	33	Genetics
ADA Enterprises	11	Equipment
Ag Credit	49	Financial services for farmers, agribusiness, & rural homeowners
Altenburg Construction	19	Slat replacement professionals
Atmosphere Global LLC	55	Biosecurity, disinfectants, detergents, equipment
Aurora Pharmaceutical	62	Animal pharmaceutical products
Automated Production	3-4	Ventilation, feeding, heating, remote management equipment
Bambauer Fertilizer & Seed	60	Pit Master - Manure management
BinSentry	48	Monitoring tech: increase profit, lower costs, improve safety for feed
Boehringer-Ingelheim Animal Health	29	Swine vaccines
Central Life Sciences	15	Insect control
Cerdos, LLC	58	Reproductive health solutions
CFAES, Extension; OSU Dept. Animal Sciences	73	Educational info; topics around manure management, composting biosecurity

## BOOTH ASSIGNMENTS

## COMPANY

## BOOTH

## PRODUCTS / SERVICES

Clipper Distributing	34	Intervention disinfectant
Commercial Concepts, AI	14	AI
Crystal Springs Hog Equipment	77	Feeders, stalls, crates, etc.
CSA Animal Nutrition	66	Animal nutrition services
DNA Genetics	37	Genetics
Endovac Animal Health	46	Animal health
Eocene Environmental Group	71	Ag consulting
Farm Credit Mid-America	20	Financial services
Farmer Boy	1-2	Livestock & poultry equipment, supplies, and housing
Farmweld	28	Gating, feeders, flooring
Furst McNess	26	Animal nutrition
Genepro, Inc	41	AI supplies
GrainProteinTech Climate Control & Air Treatment	51	Ventilation
Hog Slat	47	Equipment, housing
Homan, Inc	52	Construction & equipment

Trade Show

# BOOTH ASSIGNMENTS

## COMPANY

## BOOTH

## PRODUCTS / SERVICES

IHT Group	10	Heat mats
IKADAN, USA	59	Poly propylene plastic & cast iron pig flooring
Innovational Water Solutions	40	Water treatment disinfection
Jimdi, Inc	16	Swine flooring
JYGA Technologies	21-22	GESTAL feeding systems, free access electronic feeders
Kalmbach Feeds, Inc	23	Feed
Kersia Group	64	Biosecurity
Martin Insurance	5	Farm insurance
Maurer-Stutz	50	Ag. engineering services & CNMP's
MAXIMUS	61	Maximus controller, ESF, hog sorter
Merck Animal Health	44	Vaccine & pharma
Midwest Livestock Systems	63	General contracting, remodels & additions, parts & service
Motomco	65	Rodent control
National Pork Producers Council	30	Strategic Investment Program (SIP)
New Fields Ag	56	BAC (Botanical Antimicrobial Cleaner)

Trade Show

# BOOTH ASSIGNMENTS

## COMPANY

## BOOTH

## PRODUCTS / SERVICES

Novus International	57	Feed ingredients
Ohio Farm Bureau	35-36	Membership & related services
Orbit Technology	27	Biosecurity technology
OSU Vet Med	74	Vet education
Paradise Energy Solutions	43	Solar equipment
PIC	54	Genetics
PigEasy, LLC	9	Feeders, breeding equipment, water bracket, farm tools
PigTek, Chore-Time	25	Barn equipment
Pit Chager	53	Pit additives
Soppe Systems, Inc	6	Natural pig care solutions
TechMix, LLC	42	Animal health supplements
The Pig Sourcing Group	8	Pig sourcing
Thorp Equipment, Inc	38	Swine gating, feeders, steel doors
Topigs Norsvin USA	39	Swine genetics
Tunnel Plus	31-32	Ventilation equipment
United Animal Health	12-13	Nutrition & feed additives

Trade Show

# BOOTH ASSIGNMENTS

COMPANY	BOOTH	PRODUCTS / SERVICES
Washpower, Inc	7	Wash robots
Zoetis	24	Pharmaceuticals
DSM Nutritional Products	69	Nutritional products

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## Speaker **Madison Adams**

Madison Adams is a sow farm success leader with Hord Farms, supporting sow farm teams and daily production success across the organization. With nearly 11 years of experience at Hord Farms, she brings a well-rounded background in sow production, research, nurseries, and finishers. Adams is passionate about building strong, confident teams through clear training, accountability, and consistent animal care. She believes that investing in people is essential to the long-term success of any pork production system. Outside of her daily work demands, Madison can often be found balancing life on her own small farm while taking on multiple home renovation projects.



## Speaker **Glen Arnold**

Glen Arnold is a professor with The Ohio State University and serves as an Extension field specialist in the area of manure nutrient management application. His research efforts have been to move livestock producers and commercial manure applicators toward applying manure to growing crops such as corn, wheat, and forages to capture more of the manure nutrients and extend the manure application season.



## Speaker **Andréia Arruda, DVM**

Andréia Arruda, DVM, is an associate professor in the Department of Veterinary Preventive Medicine at The Ohio State University, specializing in veterinary epidemiology, swine health, and biosecurity. Her research focuses on infectious disease surveillance, outbreak preparedness, and the use of innovative tools, including network modeling to strengthen animal-health systems. Arruda has authored more than 70 peer-reviewed publications and has led or collaborated on more than 40 funded research projects supported by USDA, the National Pork Board, National Institutes of Health, and industry partners. She is a frequently invited speaker at the American Association of Swine Veterinarians annual meeting and the Leman Swine Conference. Arruda continues to support the Ohio pork industry through applied research, disease surveillance efforts, and her ongoing collaboration with the Ohio Pork Council.



## Speaker **Jorge Cajamarca, DVM**

Jorge Cajamarca, DVM, is a technical services senior specialist with PIC. He provides professional services and support to PIC customers and partners in a way that improves the probability, profitability, and realization of the performance potential of PIC products. Cajamarca delivers a blend of academia & institutional knowledge to his customers/partners through customized programs, which include: production practices, performance improvement initiatives, genetic dissemination and specific technical and/or research projects.



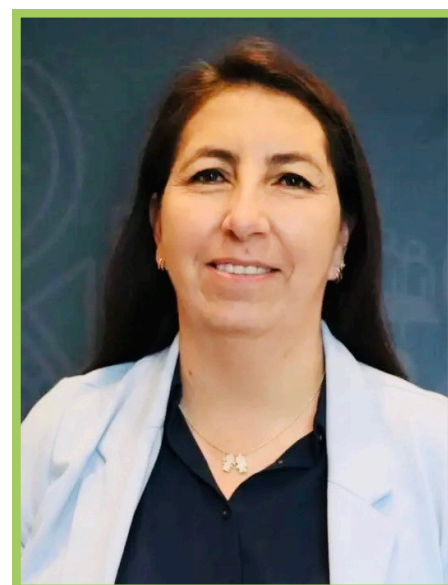
## Speaker **Lindsay Case, Ph.D.**

Lindsay Case is director of new product commercialization at PIC North America. She helps producers and the broader pork chain unlock new value through genetic innovation. She leads the efforts to bring the PRRS-resistant pig to market in approved countries and to quantify and communicate the environmental benefits enabled by genetic improvement — what PIC calls "Genetic Carbon." Since joining PIC in 2011, Case has held leadership roles in genetic services, commercial operations, and international teams. This experience has given her a deep understanding of the science and business of animal genetics, as well as the cultural and economic forces shaping the global pork industry. Case is passionate about advancing the sustainability, resilience, and productivity of livestock production by improving animal health, welfare, and the efficient production of high-quality protein. She holds a doctorate in genetics from the University of Guelph and an MBA from the University of Michigan.



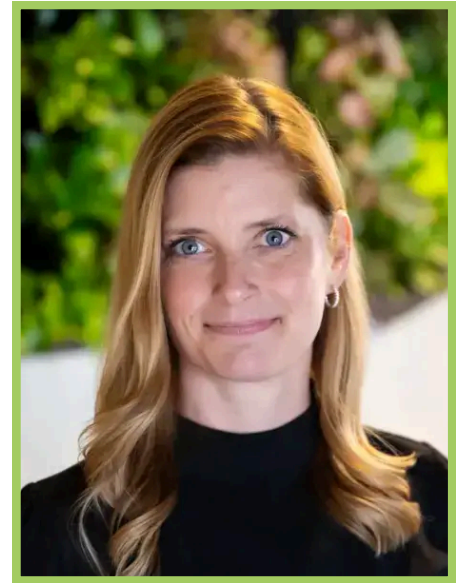
## Speaker **Yolanda Castelo**

Yolanda Castelo is the performance support services manager at Topigs Norsvin USA, leading the team to help pork producers nationwide implement genetic strategies and improve herd performance. She spent 22 years at Smithfield Hog Production in leadership roles, holds a B.A. from Zamorano University, an M.S. from the University of Florida and an MBA from East Carolina University.



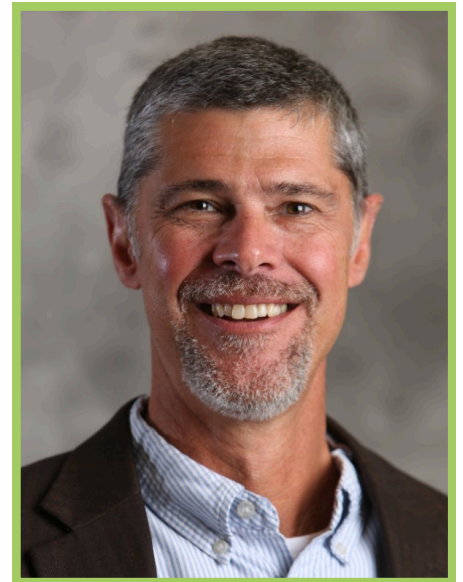
## Speaker Sara Crawford, Ph.D.

Sara Crawford, an Ohio native, serves as senior vice president of the Eocene Environmental Group, where she provides executive leadership focused on sustainability, regenerative agriculture, and food-system innovation. Since joining Eocene in 2022, she has brought deep expertise in agriculture, animal and meat sciences, and environmental stewardship to support solutions across the food supply chain. Prior to Eocene, Crawford served as vice president of sustainability for the National Pork Board, where she helped advance science-based sustainability initiatives for the U.S. pork industry centered on on-farm sustainability benchmarking for continuous improvement. Her experience also includes roles as a vendor specialist with OSI Group and as department chair of the animal sciences program at Delaware Valley University. Crawford holds a doctorate in animal sciences, along with master's and bachelor's degrees, from The Ohio State University.



## Speaker Dave Murray

Dave Murray serves as vice president of livestock procurement for Indiana Packers Corporation in Delphi, Indiana. There, he is responsible for sourcing hogs and maintaining strong relationships with pork producers across the region. In this role, Murray works closely with producers, markets, and internal teams to ensure a reliable supply chain that supports animal well-being, operational efficiency, and long-term business sustainability. Prior to joining Indiana Packers, he gained valuable industry experience with Mariah Packing, further strengthening his understanding of procurement, processing, and producer-packer collaboration. With this breadth of experience in livestock procurement and pork production, Murray has a practical understanding of the challenges and opportunities facing today's producers. His work emphasizes transparency, collaboration, and data-driven decision-making. He holds a bachelor's degree from Hanover College.



## Speaker Leo Feler, Ph.D.

Leo Feler, Ph.D., is chief economist at Numerator, a consumer research firm, and visiting economist at the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago. Feler regularly briefs c-suite executives of Fortune 500 companies on the state of the U.S. consumer and implications of policy changes on consumer behavior and the U.S. economy. Together with economists at the Federal Reserve, Feler developed a "Better Way of Understanding the U.S. Consumer." Feler's research focuses on understanding how consumers react to changing economic conditions, how consumers perceive the economy, and how their perceptions often differ from reality, using a representative panel of U.S. households to track what consumers say and do in real-time. Feler is featured regularly in popular media such as *The New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Washington Post*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Time Magazine*, CNN, PBS NewsHour, NBC News, and CBS News. Feler has been a keynote speaker at several conferences around the world, including presentations with the Food Industry Association, World50, Unilever, Hershey, Coca-Cola, Reynolds Consumer Products, and many other consumer packaged goods companies.



## Speaker **Anna Forseth, DVM**

Anna Forseth, DVM, is the director of animal health with the National Pork Producers Council (NPPC). Forseth and the NPPC team represent pork producers and 42 affiliated state pork associations, advocating for the social, environmental, and economic sustainability of the U.S. pork industry. In her role, Forseth is responsible for pre-harvest animal health issues including foreign animal disease prevention and preparedness, biotechnology, and swine welfare. A Montana native who grew up on the family's farrow-to-finish swine operation, Forseth received a bachelor's degree in animal science from Montana State University, her DVM from Colorado State University and a master's in veterinary preventive medicine from Iowa State University.



## Speaker **Iain Harris**

Iain Harris represents Fine Swine and serves as a board member of the Ohio Pork Council. Raised on a pig farm in England, Harris pursued his goal of building a career in American pork production and now brings more than four decades of professional experience to the industry. He has spent the past 20 years with Fine Swine, where he oversees all areas of production across a large sow system, with most farms located in Ohio. Harris is known for his ability to identify farm-level operational efficiencies that improve animal care, employee engagement, and overall performance. He places strong emphasis on leadership development and helping teams understand the “why” behind operational decisions. His goal is to deliver practical, people-first outcomes that are best for the entire farm. He and his wife Lori have three adult children.



## Speaker **Liane Hart**

Liane has 30 years of experience in the animal health industry and is considered an expert in her field. She has designed and led successful multi-million dollar global product launches, portfolio strategies, new business developments, in-market planning, and is also well versed in regulatory affairs. While the majority of her recent accomplishments are in equine and companion animal, she is also very proficient and skilled in the beef, dairy and swine markets. Hart has a B.S. in animal science and a M.S. in breeding and genetics both from Purdue University School of Agriculture. She continues to have outstanding achievements as a thoroughbred racehorse assistant trainer and breeder as well as the owner and manager of Cedar Brick Farm in Greenfield, Indiana.



## Speaker **Bethany Heitkamp, DVM**

Bethany Heitkamp is a veterinarian for Cooper Farms and is involved in animal health, welfare, and biosecurity with Dr. Don Davidson and Dr. Marie Severyn. Cooper Farms has 30,000 sows and raises 800,000 market pigs a year. In addition to the pigs, Cooper Farms grows 6 million heavy turkey toms a year and houses 8 million layers. Before Cooper Farms, Heitkamp worked with Four Star Veterinary Service in Chickasaw, Ohio, with Dr. Bill Minton. Heitkamp achieved her veterinary degree from The Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine. Heitkamp lives with her husband, Kurt, and their three children, Emma, Audrey, and Lucas, on their farm in Maria Stein, Ohio.



## Speaker **Ashley Hengen**

Ashley Hengen is a human resources manager with PIC, where she has spent nearly eight years supporting global supply chain, production, and technical teams across the pork industry. Her work focuses on strengthening employee engagement, improving retention, and building high-performing teams within complex production environments. Hengen has led people-focused initiatives that have significantly reduced turnover and enhanced workforce stability. Prior to joining PIC, she worked with the Government of Saskatchewan in public housing, where she developed a strong interest in policy development and organizational improvement. She holds a bachelor of science in kinesiology with a minor in sociology and is certified in organizational change management, as well as DISC assessment. Her experience bridges people strategy and operational success in modern pork production.



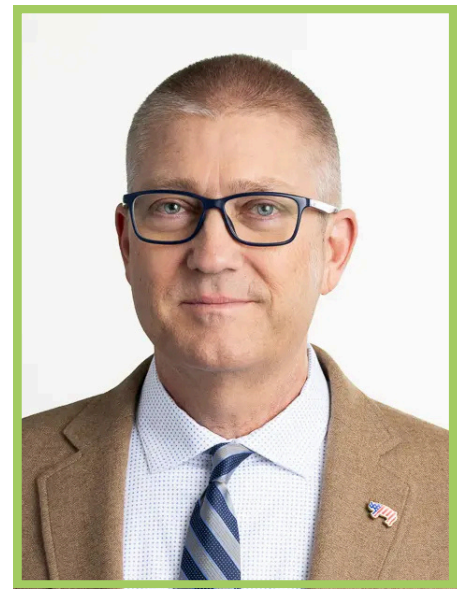
## Speaker **Kori Hilsheimer**

Kori Hilsheimer is data team manager for AMVC Management Services, where she helps pork producers turn on-farm data into actionable insights that improve performance and decision-making. With more than 11 years of experience in the pork industry, Hilsheimer brings a unique blend of hands-on production knowledge and data expertise. She began her career managing sow farms in Pennsylvania and overseeing nursery and finishing sites before transitioning into data management, where she now supports production teams across all phases of pork production. A graduate of Virginia Tech with a degree in animal and poultry sciences and an emphasis in livestock production, Hilsheimer remains passionate about using data to strengthen herd health, productivity, and long-term sustainability for today's pork operations.



## Speaker Pat Hord

Pat Hord serves as CEO of Hord Family Farms, a fifth-generation family farming operation located in Ohio, Pennsylvania, Minnesota, and surrounding states. The farm produces corn, soybeans, wheat, and hay, in addition to its sow and wean-to-finish units. Other enterprises include beef cattle and grain elevators. The company employs 350 team members and partners with over 200 farmer swine growers. Hord currently serves on the National Pork Producers Council board of directors as vice president and represents producers on multiple NPPC committees. He also serves on Ohio-based Wendy's animal wellbeing committee. Hord's local leadership includes the Ohio Pork Producers Council executive committee, Crawford County Economic Development Board, and the Lifewise Academy board. He is also a member of Crossroads Church. Hord and his wife Janel are parents of four children and five grandchildren.



## Speaker Bryan Humphreys

Bryan Humphreys serves as chief executive officer of the National Pork Producers Council, where he leads the organization's policy, advocacy, and operational efforts. Raised on his family's farm in Iowa, Humphreys brings a firsthand understanding of challenges facing producers. Prior to becoming CEO, he served as a senior vice president at the National Pork Board, helping guide producer outreach and strengthen industry relationships. He previously served as executive vice president of the Ohio Pork Council, leading award-winning producer image campaigns and building strong partnerships. Humphreys also held an earlier role at NPPC as director of grassroots operations, after his time working at the party level in Minnesota on political campaigns — all of which equips him well to effectively navigate today's increasingly complex and politicized regulatory environment. He holds degrees from Iowa State University and George Washington University.



## Speaker Mark Knauer, Ph.D.

Mark Knauer is a swine extension specialist at North Carolina State University, where his work focuses on swine genetics, selection, and production management. Raised on a pure-line pig and cattle operation in southern Wisconsin, Knauer brings a lifelong, practical understanding of pork production to his research and outreach. He earned his B.S. in agricultural education and M.S. in animal breeding from Iowa State University, followed by a Ph.D. in animal breeding and genetics from North Carolina State University. Prior to returning to academia, Knauer worked at the National Pork Board, helping oversee Checkoff-funded research to create practical tools for producers. His career uniquely bridges on-farm experience, applied research, and national pork industry leadership.



## Speaker **Melanie Langley**

Melanie Langley is director of people care at Fine Swine LLC, where she leads recruitment, employee support, leadership development, and key human-resources initiatives across the company's Ohio pork operations. Since she joined Fine Swine in 2020 as a recruiter, Langley's energy, initiative, and results-driven leadership quickly led to her promotion the following year. Fluent in Spanish and Portuguese, she plays a critical role in strengthening communication, culture, and workforce stability within a diverse production team. Langley holds a bachelor of science in criminal justice with a minor in theology from Liberty University. Known as a true go-getter, she is passionate about building strong teams, developing leaders from within, and supporting the people who make modern pork production successful.



## Speaker **Zenaido Loyola**



## Speaker **Amanda Minton**

Amanda Minton leads customer reproductive and technical support at AcuFast. There, she also oversees the boar stud supply chain and works closely with the R&D team to advance reproductive technology innovation. She holds a bachelor's degree in animal science from Purdue University and a master's degree in reproductive physiology from the University of Missouri. Minton brings extensive experience in swine reproduction, genetics, and technical services, including prior roles with PIC supporting boar studs and sow farms domestically and internationally. She later joined The Maschhoffs, overseeing boar stud operations and reproductive research, and subsequently served with Acuity Genetics in operational leadership and reproductive-focused research before its merger with Fast Genetics in 2023.



## Speaker **David Newman, Ph.D.**

David Newman serves as chief executive officer of the National Pork Board, where he leads Pork Checkoff-funded promotion, research, and education efforts on behalf of the nation's nearly 60,000 pork producers. Prior to becoming CEO, Newman led the organization's market growth team, overseeing initiatives focused on domestic and international demand development, as well as pork's role in health and nutrition. Earlier in his career, he held faculty positions at North Dakota State University and Arkansas State University, where he provided leadership in meat science and swine research programs. Newman is a former president of the National Pork Board's board of directors and has served in multiple governance roles. In addition to his professional leadership, he remains actively involved in pork production as owner of Newman Farm Heritage Berkshire Pork at his family farm in southern Missouri.



## Speaker **Chayo Salgado Ortega**

Ma Del Rosario Salgado brings more than 15 years of pig production experience spanning both Mexico and the United States. She holds a bachelor's degree in biology and spent 10 years working directly with small-scale pig farmers in Mexico before joining Fine Swine LLC, a leading Ohio-based pork production company. During her five years with Fine Swine, Salgado has advanced from Day 1 leader to farrowing leader and now serves as a production leader. In this role, she assists, trains, and supervises farm teams while helping design practical strategies to address production efficiency, leadership development, and on-farm challenges across multiple Fine Swine operations. Her experience reflects the critical role skilled leadership plays in today's modern pork production systems.



## Speaker **Jeremy Pittman, DVM**

Jeremy Pittman, DVM, is senior director of U.S. veterinary services for Smithfield Hog Production, where he leads veterinary strategy and swine health initiatives across the company's domestic operations. He previously served for 18 years as a staff veterinarian for Smithfield's North Region. Pittman earned his veterinary degree from North Carolina State University and a master's degree in veterinary preventive medicine from Iowa State University. A diplomate of the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners (Swine Health Management), he also serves as adjunct faculty at NCSU's College of Veterinary Medicine and on the boards of the National Pork Producers Council and the Swine Health Information Center. His career reflects a strong commitment to applied science, leadership, and advancing swine health across the U.S. pork industry.



## Speaker **David Rigo**

Dave Rigo serves as chief executive officer of Saddleberk Farms, an Ohio-based pork company known for its commitment to Berkshire-based pork, known for its exceptional flavor profile. Rigo leads Saddleberk with a consumer-first mindset, focusing on how pork is raised, marketed, and experienced by shoppers who are increasingly willing to pay more for premium quality and taste. Under his leadership, Saddleberk has built a strong brand centered on transparency, storytelling, and delivering a consistently superior eating experience. Rigo has worked directly with retailers, including Kroger, as well as chefs and food partners to position heritage pork in ways that resonate with modern consumers. His approach bridges on-farm practices with evolving retail and shopper expectations, demonstrating how flavor, authenticity, and trust drive demand for premium pork in today's marketplace.



## Speaker **Matthew Rooda**

Matthew Rooda is founder and CEO of SwineTech®, a technology company dedicated to improving workforce management and animal care in pork production. Raised in pig production, Rooda brings firsthand industry experience to his leadership and innovation. He studied at the University of Iowa and later earned an MBA from Johns Hopkins University with a specialization in healthcare innovation and technology. In 2015, he founded SwineTech to apply proven human healthcare principles to pork production systems. Under his leadership, the company's PigFlow® platform has helped pork producers strengthen communication, consistency, and daily execution, improving employee engagement, operational efficiency, and animal well-being. Rooda also hosts the Popular Pig Podcast, where he connects producers and industry experts to share practical insights and emerging ideas shaping the future of the pork industry.



## Speaker **Hoguer Albarado Sanchez**

Hoguer Albarado Sanchez has more than a decade of experience in pork production, combining international perspective with hands-on leadership. He holds a bachelor's degree in biology and began his career in 2011 providing technical support and advisory services to pig producers in his home country of Mexico. In 2020, Sanchez joined Fine Swine LLC, a family-owned, Ohio-based pork production company known for its strong focus on animal care, employee development, and operational excellence. After two years, he was promoted to gestation manager, later serving as general manager of one of the company's farms. He currently works as part of Fine Swine's general production team, contributing leadership and expertise across multiple stages of pork production.



## Speaker Terri Specht-Benson, DVM

Terri Specht-Benson, DVM, graduated from The Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine and has been heavily involved in swine medicine since 2012. She practiced in western Ohio for three years and has been staff veterinarian for Heimerl Farms since 2015. Specht-Benson most recently started her own consulting business. She is involved in the industry by being a member of the Ohio Swine Health Committee, Ohio Pork Council Board member, Ohio Livestock Standards Care Board member. Another passion of hers is being a county 4-H livestock judging team coach for many years helping young leaders in agriculture. Specht-Benson and her husband, Josh, have two beautiful children.



## Speaker Duane Stateler

Duane Stateler is a fourth-generation pork producer who as the owner-operator of Stateler Family Farms, along with his son, Anthony, oversees all aspects of production and operations. The enterprise features a wean/feeder-to-finish pork business that markets 15,600 head annually. They also have 900 acres of crop production, raising corn, soybeans, and wheat. Stateler currently serves on the National Pork Producers Council Board of Directors as president and represents producers on various national committees. Stateler is a member of the Ohio Pork Council Board, and is active in numerous Ohio Pork Council committees, as well as the Ohio Farm Bureau, Hancock Country Farm Bureau, Ohio Livestock Coalition, McComb Farmers Co-op, Blanchard Valley Farmers Co-op, Ohio Soybean Association and Ohio Corn and Wheat Association. Duane has served his local community as a volunteer for the McComb Fire Department, McComb School Board, State Fire Investigators office and State Arson Taskforce. Duane and his wife, Margie, reside on the family farm in McComb, Ohio.



## Speaker Dennis Summers, DVM

Dennis Summers serves as the State Veterinarian for Ohio where he plays a key leadership role in protecting animal health, strengthening biosecurity, and preparing for foreign animal disease threats impacting Ohio's livestock industries. A graduate of The Ohio State University, Summers earned his bachelor's degree in agriculture before completing his doctor of veterinary medicine. He spent over eight years in private practice across Vermont, Ohio, and Pennsylvania, focusing on large-animal medicine. In 2014, he joined ODA as a public health veterinarian in the Division of Meat Inspection before moving to the Division of Animal Health as a field veterinarian. Summers was appointed Assistant State Veterinarian in 2018 before he became State Veterinarian in 2021. Summers also serves as a captain in the U.S. Army Reserve.



## Speaker **Rodrigo Teuber, DVM**

Rodrigo Teuber, DVM, is vice president of live operations at Hord Family Farms. A veterinarian born and raised in Chile, Teuber brings more than 20 years of experience across the global pork industry. His career began with Agricola Chorombo in Chile, where he worked in integrated egg, poultry, and pork production. After moving to the United States, he served as a technical services manager with PIC North America, supporting genetic and production programs across the pork-value chain. Later, Teuber held leadership roles with Christensen Farms as regional general manager and with Pipestone Holdings as regional director of production, working closely with family farms on health, management, nutrition, and business performance. In his current role at Hord Family Farms, Teuber oversees live production operations across a diversified livestock and grain-farming system.



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# 2025 OHIO PORK COUNCIL AWARDS

*Friend of Pork*  
**Jeff Karshner**



*OPC Service*  
**Dr. Andréia Arruda**



*Pork Industry Excellence*  
**The Hord Family**



*Pork Promoter of the Year*  
**Cardington-Lincoln FFA**



*Swine Manager of the Year*  
**Chayo Rosario Salgado**



*Swine Manager of the Year*  
**Alan Adam**



# Ohio Pork Council

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# Ohio Pork Council

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## 2025 Ohio Pork Wins

- ➔ \$16.7 million is total ad value
- ➔ Reached over 100,000 students in 43 states through virtual field trips
- ➔ Estimated pork sales > \$470,500 linked to AdAdapted campaigns





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**To be your  
voice, we need  
your voice.**

**Nick Seger**  
Seger Farms, Inc.  
Minster, OH

“As a father of five young children and a full-time pork producer, getting away from the farm can be difficult. While there are many issues that directly affect my family’s independent swine operation, I can’t always be in Columbus or Washington, DC to talk with lawmakers and advocate for my farm. That’s why I support the National Pork Producer Council’s (NPPC) Strategic Investment Program (SIP). By investing in SIP, I have hired an array of dedicated experts at both NPPC and the Ohio Pork Council (OPC) to promote the interests of my family’s multi-generational farm on my behalf. This allows me to focus on raising pigs, while NPPC and OPC focus on raising awareness of common-sense legislation and regulation that will help me and my family succeed for decades to come. I ask that you join me as an SIP investor today because our livelihoods depend on it.”



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*Thanks For Attending*

# OHIO PORK CONGRESS!

Support the Friends of Pork PAC Auction!

## RECEPTION

Tuesday, February 3 at 4:00 pm  
Drinks & Appetizers

## PAC AUCTION

Tuesday, February 3 at 5:00 pm  
**BID EARLY! BID OFTEN!**

## PRODUCER APPRECIATION DINNER

Tuesday, February 3 following PAC auction  
**Ticketed event: Must have a ticket to attend**

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