

# Test for PEDV

*Vigilance is key to turning the tide on PEDV*



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The porcine epidemic diarrhea virus (PEDV) continues to threaten the United State's swine industry. To aid producers and veterinarians in identifying the virus and those animals affected, the Texas A&M Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory (TVMDL) in Amarillo offers a PEDV polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test.

Although PED is endemic in many countries, the virus was only identified in the United States in May 2013. According to the United States Department of Agriculture, an estimated 7 million piglets have died from PEDV in the past year. Thirty states, including Texas, have now reported at least one positive case of PED. The virus, spread by fecal matter, can be transmitted by pigs as well as by adhesion to inanimate objects such as boots, clothing and trucks.

The PED PCR test, offered at TVMDL, provides a much-needed service to the swine industry as facilities work to protect their herds from the virus. In January 2014, TVMDL Amarillo began offering the PCR test for the identification of PEDV in fecal and intestinal samples of scouring pigs.

PEDV is an industry problem, and not localized on breeding operations. In fact, TVMDL Amarillo received samples from large swine shows that tested positive for the virus. TVMDL testing services are available and intended for use by the porcine industry as a whole.

The PEDV PCR allows TVMDL diagnosticians to detect the virus from feces or intestine specimens. The test cost is \$25 in-state and \$30 for out-of-state testing, and the test is now available to order at the Amarillo lab.

Development of this assay is indicative of TVMDL's responsiveness to industry and U.S. livestock concerns. With the integration of this test, the laboratory continues to stay at the forefront of emerging disease detection.

For more information, visit [tvmdl.tamu.edu](http://tvmdl.tamu.edu), or contact TVMDL Amarillo toll free at **1.888.646.5624**.



The Texas A&M Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory protects animal and human health through diagnostics. An agency of the Texas A&M University System, TVMDL comprises two full-service laboratories, in College Station and Amarillo, and two poultry laboratories, in Center and Gonzales. TVMDL is among 12 core laboratories in the National Animal Health Laboratory Network, a group of state and regional laboratories designed to provide a nationwide surge testing, response, and recovery capacity in the event of an animal disease outbreak.

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