



Visit to Colombian pig farmer with DVFA and partner authorities

Cooperation for a safer pig production

The first phase of the Strategic Sector Cooperation (SSC) between Colombia and Denmark was initiated in 2016. The project focus is on veterinary and food safety issues in the Colombian pig meat sector with a more specific focus on following thematic areas:

1. Chemical residues - Monitoring of residues of drugs and contaminants – implementing a Multi Annual National Control Plan (MANCP)
2. Pathogens – Salmonella action plan
3. Contingency planning in case of disease outbreaks – African Swine Fever
4. Preparation of third country inspections
5. Animal welfare during transport
6. Pig farm development in Colombia

Key activities in 2019

In March, DVFA facilitated a workshop in Colombia on how to develop a salmonella action plan including workshops with public authorities, private sector and research institutions.

In April, a workshop on monitoring of residues of drugs and contaminants with the incentive to address the issue of Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) took place in Colombia. Workshops addressed how a monitoring plan can be designed, the importance of continuous revision as well as how to follow up on non-compliant results.

In May, the newly inaugurated Colombian administration from the Colombian partner institutions visited Denmark for a Steering Committee meeting as well as to experience the Danish pig meat sector and gain knowledge on how both public and private actors work together to achieve a more sustainable production.

In September, the DVFA facilitated a seminar introducing the principles of risk based control in feed as well

as introducing the Danish quality assurance system for the official control in Europe and the MANCP. Later the same month, The Danish Pig Research Centre (SEGES) and DVFA visited Colombia to identify possibilities and solutions that can assist to develop and prepare the Colombian pork industry for the future. The conclusions of the visit was written into a report which identified nine target areas and recommendations for developing the Colombian pig meat sector including identification of areas where Denmark can assist Colombia in this transformation.

In October, DVFA participated in a 4-day Forum for Responsible Use of Antibiotics with the Colombian industry, authorities and international experts providing Colombia with the Danish perspective on responsible use of antibiotics.

In December, DVFA revisited Colombia to continue the activity on how to develop an MANCP as well as how to ensure valid samples of feed for control introducing the partners to the theory of sampling.

Main achievements and lessons learned in 2019

Based on Danish experience two cross-institutional technical working groups was established in Colombia, one working on the implementation of a salmonella reduction plan, and one preparing a monitoring plan of residues of drugs and contaminants in pig meat. The working group on salmonella is supported by a research collaboration project facilitated by Copenhagen University. The working group on monitoring of chemical residues has decided to take one step further and now works on implementing a MANCP.

Due to the strong focus on AMR the Colombian pig meat sector has now initiated several initiatives to lower the use of antibiotics at farm level looking towards Denmark as a practical example. Furthermore, a new feed law was adjusted to include Danish experts' recommendations and ICA laboratory has changed its procedures for the handling of samples to improve the detection of substances to the benefit of public health.

The SSC project has played an important role in opening doors for Danish companies creating synergies with the daily work of the Danish Trade Council at the Embassy. Danish companies have achieved market access for fresh and frozen pig meat and Danish pig genetics. In April 2019, the first shipment of 90 Danish breeding pigs arrived to Colombia.

Status: Phase II

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Partners: National Institute of Agriculture (ICA) & Colombian Food and Drug Administration (INVIMA)

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