



# CPPPA eNEWS

SEPTEMBER 2009



## SPECIAL "SWINE FLU" UPDATE

Because one of our primary goals is to educate, CPPPA is dedicating much of this eNEWS to sharing information about the N1H1 virus. The following 3 recommendations come from Dr. John Carr, whose detailed N1H1 report appears later in this newsletter (with permission from NAPPA: [www.petpigs.com](http://www.petpigs.com)).

- No persons with clinical signs of influenza should have contact with pigs.
- No persons who believe they have had contact within 3 days of a person exhibiting signs of Novel H1N1 should have contact with pigs.
- All visitors from abroad should avoid contact with pigs for 7 days after arrival.

For more information on N1H1, read Dr. Carr's article on pages 2-3.

## Urgent: Pigs in need!

If you're in the fortunate position of being able to expand your family and take in a pig or two, we ask you to thoughtfully consider caring for loving creatures who, by no fault of their own, are in need of new homes.

Most urgently, Willy and Issy need new forever families. Their current owner will keep them only until **October 18** and if a new family doesn't claim them by then, the pigs will be dropped off at the Sacramento City Shelter.

Both pigs were abandoned early in their lives and have lived in the shelter before. Please help keep them from being abandoned again!

Willy was rescued 3 1/2 years ago and little blue-eyed Issy was saved 4 years ago. Please know the owner is giving up the pigs because of a personal matter and not for any reason reflective of the pigs' behaviors.

For more details, photos and contact information on these, as well as several other pigs in need, please visit: <http://www.cppa4pigs.org/Rescues.html>



Issy (left)  
and Willy  
(below)



### A bear, a lion, and a pig meet...

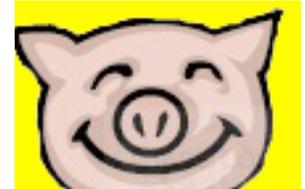
The bear says, "If I roar in the forest, the entire forest shivers with fear."



The lion says, "If I roar in the jungle, the entire jungle is afraid of me."



The pig says, "Big deal ... I only have to cough, and the entire planet goes into mass panic."



## NOVEL INFLUENZA A (H1N1) BY DR. JOHN CARR

The emergence of a new influenza strain in April 2009 has caused a great deal of public concern. Influenza is one of a few pathogens that can spread between man and other animals zoonotic. It is particularly worrisome because it can move between very different animals, not just between mammals, but also between birds and man. Most pathogens can only move to closely related species, for instance between man and monkeys.

The most serious effects of influenza are that it can kill. The mortality rate with novel influenza viruses has been above 90%. Therefore, there was a great deal of concern both real and political. As the outbreak and initial mortalities occurred in Mexico, this country effectively went into lockdown from the end of April into May. However, a few tourists from Mexico left during the end of April and spread the novel virus around the world.

Fortunately, while the new virus could spread from person to person, the rate of spread was relatively slow for an influenza virus and the mortality rate was low, allowing countries to invoke a series of measures to identify high-risk visitors. These were placed in quarantine with limited movement and contact with the outside world, until demonstrated to be negative or not shedding.

### Why the reference to swine influenza?

In 1918 the world suffered a major influenza pandemic, in which 50 million or more people died. In North America this virus mutated to a point where it could move into pigs. H1N1 became the predominant strain of influenza virus in pigs and the condition in pigs is called "swine influenza."

Over the last 90 years, this particular H1N1 has caused transient problems in pigs and has, over the last 30 years, been joined with a couple of influenza virus strains - H3N2 for example. It has been recognized that the resident H1N1 strain continued to evolve in the pig and from time to time infected people. However, people infected only rarely passed the virus on to other people. The particular Novel H1N1 of April 2009 unfortunately can clearly pass from person to person. The transmission of influenza virus strains is through the respiratory tract and the virus is killed rapidly in the air. Meat and meat products will **not** transmit the virus.

(story continued on next page)



## H1N1 Continued...

### Is this a real threat?

Yes, on two fronts. It is a threat to the people who may contract the virus from an infected person, albeit the infection can only spread for a couple of days.

While it is now expected the mortality will be low, people with clinical influenza of any strain can be seriously sick and require hospitalization. Seasonal influenzas, many of which are H1N1 viruses, officially kill 500,000 people a year worldwide

-mainly people who are unfortunately infirm.

This particular virus may also be a little unusual as it does not initially present clinically with a high fever, but moderate to severe coughing is a classical sign.

**It is a threat to pet pigs.** While the novel virus has not been found naturally in pigs currently, including in Mexico, its transmission to pigs occurred in May 2009 in Canada. Here a clinically sick worker, within 2

days of arriving from Mexico, transmitted the virus to pigs he was in contact with. The pigs became sick and recovered, but there would be economic and production losses. Many pet pigs are free of all influenza strains. This is an important part of our Biosecurity program and we should work to keep our negative status.

For further information, visit: [www.portec.com.au](http://www.portec.com.au)

## Enough flu talk - here are some FUN links!

The Bob-A-Lot treat dispenser keeps pigs active. <http://www.cppa4pigs.org/Care-Products.html>

The Pet Support Suit - scroll all the way down to see it modeled on a pig: [www.petsupportsuit.com](http://www.petsupportsuit.com)

Happy Birthday to Cooper - CPPA's most senior pig member, who recently turned 20! To read more about our eldest members, visit our website at: [www.cppa4pigs.org/Question\\_of\\_the\\_Month.html](http://www.cppa4pigs.org/Question_of_the_Month.html)

## GoodSearch launches GoodShop!

### SAVE MONEY FOR YOURSELF WHILE EARNING MONEY FOR PIGS!

We've been encouraging everyone to use GoodSearch for years now, and we appreciate all who have been doing so as CPPA receives one cent for each search (if you've selected CPPA as your designated cause).

Now, through the creation of a new easy-to-install toolbar, you can earn additional donations for CPPA and save yourself some money when you click the

"GoodShop" button and shop online.

More than 1,300 top stores (including Apple, Best Buy, Gap, PetSmart, and Staples) will donate a percentage of each sale to the purchaser's selected organization.

There's no extra cost to you and GoodShop provides thousands of money-saving coupons to those who use this toolbar!

The GoodSearch toolbar also includes a search box which is powered by Yahoo!

This is an easy way to support our group. Spread the word!

Here's a link to the toolbar for more information: <http://www.goodsearch.com/toolbar/>

## Cookie Reminder:

When you clean your computer's cookies, Good Search will "forget" CPPA is your chosen cause. So double-check that CPPA is selected when you search.

