

Economic incentives for disease prevention in pig and cattle herds regarding exotic diseases

- based on an empirical survey of Danish farmers' attitude to biosecurity and biosecurity plan

Mogens Lund, Research director  
Norwegian Agricultural Economics Research Institute, Oslo, Norway

### **Abstract**

The aim of the presentation is to investigate farmers' attitudes to biosecurity and use of biosecurity plans. The presentation is based on a questionnaire distributed to Danish farmers with cattle and pigs in 2013.

The survey is limited to medium and larger farms, i.e. farm with 200 animal units or more. The questionnaire was sent out to a total of 531 farmers, where some have made biosecurity plans and others have not. The survey covers only Danish cattle and pig farms. A total of 136 farmers (25.6%) responded to the questionnaire within the prescribed time limits.

The presentation provides a descriptive analysis of the respondents' answers and hence formulating hypotheses about the importance of e.g. the educational background, differences between cattle - and pig farms and the difference between those farmers who have biosecurity plans and those who have not. The presentation also assesses the relationship between attitudes towards biosecurity plans and the economic importance of disease prevention. These hypotheses are tested with standard  $\chi^2$  test to test for significant differences. It is concluded, among other things, that the veterinarian is the most used source of information and education means that respondents are demanding more knowledge about biosecurity.