



PORK CHECKOFF REPORT

MARCH APRIL 2022

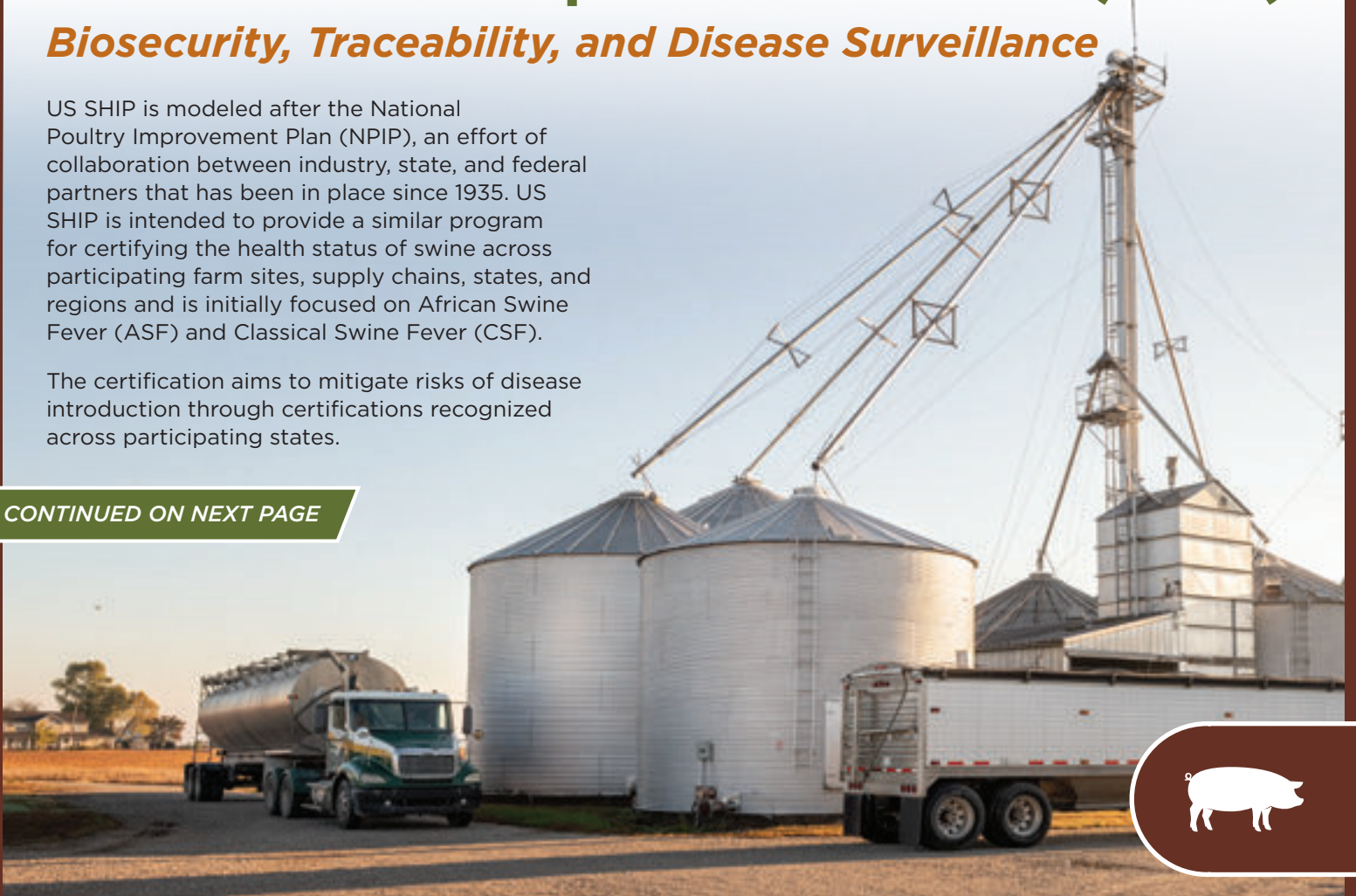


Swine Health Improvement Plan (SHIP) *Biosecurity, Traceability, and Disease Surveillance*

US SHIP is modeled after the National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP), an effort of collaboration between industry, state, and federal partners that has been in place since 1935. US SHIP is intended to provide a similar program for certifying the health status of swine across participating farm sites, supply chains, states, and regions and is initially focused on African Swine Fever (ASF) and Classical Swine Fever (CSF).

The certification aims to mitigate risks of disease introduction through certifications recognized across participating states.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



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MN PORK CALENDAR

APRIL

APRIL 5

PQA+ & TQA - Le Center Le Sueur County Fairgrounds - 4-H Family Center

320 S Plut Ave.,
Le Center, MN

PQA+: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
TQA: 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

**Pre-register: colleen@mnpork.com
or 1-800-537-7675**

MAY

MAY 3

PQA+ & TQA - Faribault Rice County Fairgrounds - UM Extension 4-H Office

1900 Fairgrounds Dr. #17
Faribault, MN

PQA+: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
TQA: 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

**Pre-register: colleen@mnpork.com
or 1-800-537-7675**

JUNE

JUNE 9

PQA+ ONLY - Mankato Minnesota Pork Office

151 Saint Andrews Court, Suite 810
Mankato, MN

PQA +: 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

**Pre-register: colleen@mnpork.com
or 1-800-537-7675**

JUNE 20-22

Young Leaders in Agriculture Conference

Best Western Ramkota Hotel and
Conference Center
Sioux Falls, South Dakota

Online Registration open May 15



Swine Health Improvement Plan (SHIP)

CONTINUED FROM COVER

The program is centered on disease prevention and demonstration of freedom of disease outside of control areas in support of animal health, commerce, and trade. US SHIP is designed to be applicable across the full-spectrum of US pork industry participants from the small show pig farmers to the large commercial producers and packing facilities.

Minnesota has committed to participating in US SHIP and MPB encourages all swine producers to enroll their production and packing site(s) in this program. Industry and Minnesota representatives attended the inaugural US SHIP House of Delegates in August 2021 and approved the initial requirements for certification in the program.

THE BENEFITS OF US SHIP ENROLLMENT INCLUDE:

- Strengthened ASF/CSF preparedness (prevention, response and recovery) for Minnesota
- Establish a uniform biosecurity, traceability, sampling/testing approach across participating states in “peacetime” as well as “wartime.”
- Participation in a collaborative industry (producers/packers), state, and federal program in which producers can help establish appropriate standards for health certification.

ENROLLMENT IN US SHIP IS BY SITE AND FAIRLY STRAIGHTFORWARD:

- Complete the enrollment form (either single-premise or multi-premise form).
- Complete the biosecurity enrollment survey provided after you submit your enrollment form.
- Show ability to provide 30 days of swine movement records in an electronic format.

Enroll in US SHIP here: <https://www.bah.state.mn.us/swine/>

For more information, please contact Dr. Brian Hoefs, senior veterinarian at the Minnesota Board of Animal Health, at (651) 201-6825 or brian.hoefs@state.mn.us.



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OVERVIEW

AWARDS RECEPTION

Each year, MPB recognizes individuals and families who have made significant contributions through pork promotion, consumer and producer education, youth mentoring and service to the pork industry and acknowledges them at the Awards Reception. This year's reception was held on February 14 at the Chankaska Creek Ranch, Winery, and Distillery. We commend each award recipient for their dedication to the industry and their efforts to improve it.

2022 AWARD RECIPIENTS:

- Distinguished Service: Dr. Peter Davies
- Environmental Steward: Larry Liepold
- Family of the Year: Spronk Family
- Pork Promoter of the Year: Chef Charlie Torgerson
- Swine Manager of the Year: Brian Majerus
- Legislator of Distinction: Rep. Collin Peterson

TRADE SHOW

The Pork Congress Trade Show kicked off early Tuesday morning, February 15, and extended through noon on Wednesday, February 16, welcoming more than 174 exhibiting companies and close to 2,000 attendees. The exhibits were located throughout the Grand Hall and in the Arena of the center. Exhibitors and attendees alike expressed their support and gratitude of the show's location change to Mankato. Mankato's proximity to much of the state's pork production allowed more pig farmers and employees to attend.

Attendees spent the days spotting new innovations in the industry and making new contacts at Minnesota's

best swine-specific trade show. Toward closing hours of the show Tuesday night, the Minnesota Pork Board hosted a social hour on the trade show floor for all attendees and exhibitors to attend. Drinks and delicious pork hors d'oeuvres presented great opportunities for exhibitors to reconnect with attendees they met with earlier in the day.

SEMINARS

Another focal point of the event revolved around the multiple seminars highlighting front-of-mind topics:

- US Swine Health Improvement Plan Stakeholder Perspectives and Next Steps
- WeCare Sustainability Goals and Metrics – Motivations and On-Farm Case Study
- PRRS Panel Discussion
- Ground Pork: Leveraging Insight to Build a Business Case
- Use of Video Cameras to Investigate and Solve Problems
- My Farm, Inflation Rates, and What it all Means
- Where are We Headed? The Future of Gerrymandering & Politics

If you were unable to attend a seminar, recordings of the public seminars may be found on our website: <https://www.mnpork.com/farmer-resources/pork-congress-seminars-recordings/>.

The Minnesota Pork Board (MPB) and Minnesota Pork Producers Association (MPPA) annual meetings were held following the Minnesota Pork Congress on February 16. Attendees reviewed financial reports, resolutions and advisements, Board of Directors and Pork Act Delegate elections, remarks from the National Pork Board and National Pork Producers Council, and 2022 goals, among other items. Those eligible also voted for and welcomed new Board of Directors members.

The Minnesota Pork Board and Minnesota Pork Producers Association appreciate the support shown for moving the Pork Congress location and would like to say "Thank you" to all the exhibitors, sponsors, and attendees who made the event so successful. We look forward to seeing you at the 2023 Minnesota Pork Congress in Mankato!



Meet the 2022 Minnesota Pork Board BOARD OF DIRECTORS

At the Minnesota Pork Board's 2022 annual meeting held at the Mayo Clinic Health System Event Center on Wednesday, February 16, four members were elected to serve Minnesota's pig farmers. Each elected representative will provide their guidance and expertise for the three scope areas of checkoff work including education, promotion, and research. The new members - Mike Boerboom, Meg Freking, Mary Langhorst, and Brian Johnson - will officially join the other eight board members following the 2022 Pork Industry Forum.

*Back row L to R: Brian Johnson, Chris Compart, Todd Selvik, Brad Hennen, Roger Punt, Mike Boerboom, Brian Schwartz
Front row L to R: Mary Langhorst, Myrna Welter, Amber Portner, Abbie Redalen, Meg Freking*



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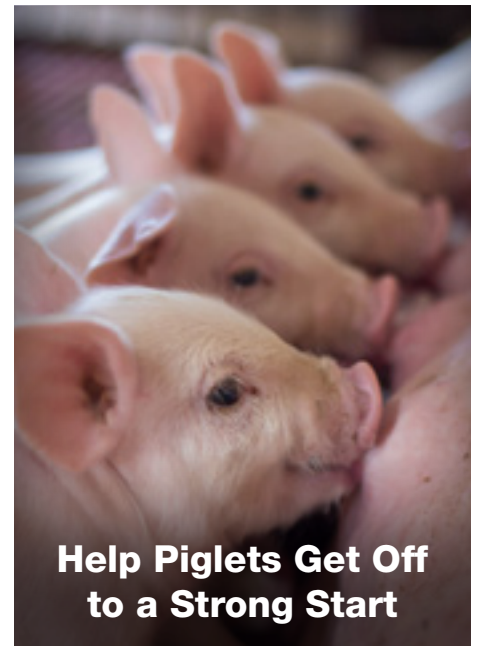
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Minnesota Pork's Sustainability White Paper

Outlines Past, Present, and Future Ambitions for Social, Economic, and Environmental Sustainability

Minnesota Pork continues to be directed by the strategic imperatives laid out in its 2021 Strategic Plan. This includes the area of sustainability. Partnerships with like-minded collaborators including Ernst and Young (EY), National Pork Board, and The Nature Conservancy have positioned Minnesota Pork to authentically and substantively represent the past, present and future of sustainable pork production in Minnesota.

With the above partners, the Minnesota Pork Board compiled a white paper outlining observations about current and future needs, past successes, and signals of continuous improvement. Additionally, it provided a level set on state, organizational, and national intentions for sustainability goals.

The white paper begins by laying out the work being done on farms today to properly care for animals, provide for people, and responsibly utilize and protect the environmental resources needed to raise pigs and produce pork. Stewardship remains central to the viability of farmers now and into the future. The white paper helps illustrate this concept while making sure people understand a one-size-fits-all approach to sustainability will not be successful and is not the best practice when working with diverse people and environments.



STAKEHOLDER INPUT

Many sources of input were sought in drafting the white paper. Beyond Minnesota and National Pork Board contributions, The Nature Conservancy, state agency leaders, and farmers were engaged to provide a well-rounded picture of sustainability in Minnesota. This included a look at Minnesota's state sustainability goals and ambitions through the lens of opportunity and challenges for the pig farmer. The We Care[®] Ethical Principles and the National Pork Board Sustainability Framework align well with many of the outside ambitions.

Complimentary to the National Pork Board Sustainability Framework, an overview of the on-farm sustainability report project is explained in the white paper. It demonstrates how farmers can participate in a third-party validation process that provides a personalized review of the on-farm practices unique to each farm and their related environmental benefit. The report provides valuable information to the individual farmer but will also provide insights to practices and approaches that affect sustainability as seen in the state and national blinded and aggregated reports.

The on-farm sustainability report program remains open to all US pig farmers, including contract growing partners. This program was established with checkoff dollars and continues to be a key proof point when state and national organizations meet with customers and law makers. These individual reports that are compiled for state and national reports assist in the organizations work to best represent pig farmers while allowing customers and consumers to feel good about purchasing and buying pork. Contact the Minnesota Pork and National Pork Board office to learn more or to request an on-farm sustainability report.

KEY OBSERVATIONS

A key attribute of the white paper includes observations from farm interviews conducted to better understand farmer perceptions and perspective on the social, economic, and environmental sustainability of pork production in Minnesota.

Key Observations Include:

1. Pig farmers in Minnesota understand the need to care for their land. They don't always see the benefits of formal "one-size-fits-all" sustainability programs.
2. Land conservation practices are gaining traction among pig farmers in Minnesota.
3. Many pig farmers don't seek opportunities available through state and federal programs due to program limitations, perceptions, and past experiences.
4. Labor challenges have created shifting priorities

around hiring and workforce practices.

5. Most pig farmers are already collecting on-farm production data, but there are few defined processes for sharing with other farmers or the public.

NEXT STEPS ON PATH FORWARD

The white paper concludes with ideas and opportunities for a path forward including the largest areas of opportunity and potential impact on sustainability. One section outlines certain emissions reduction strategies that a farm could consider implementing and its corresponding impact to the farm and environment.

There are a couple key uses for the white paper moving forward. It serves as a resource to pig farmers in understanding the current and future intentions for continuous improvement including some of the tools, resources, and programs that exist to support improvement in all areas of sustainability.

Minnesota Pork intends to utilize the white paper to help inform elected officials on the progress and needs of the pork industry moving forward. It will also serve as a good starting point as we create messaging and content to help consumers better understand Minnesota pork's sustainability story.

"Climate-smart" agriculture is not a buzzword phrase that will be going away. This resource will arm farmers and Minnesota pork staff with examples of the progress farmers have made to remain sustainable and what is possible moving forward. It also outlines key areas where pork organizations can continue to serve farmers with information, resources, and advocacy.

There are many conversations, and increasing investments, going into agriculture to help address climate goals and impacts. Armed with resources and information, pig farmers are on their way to continuing the leadership in sustainability necessary to provide confidence to consumers, elected officials, food companies, and neighbors that they are socially, economically, and environmentally sustainable.



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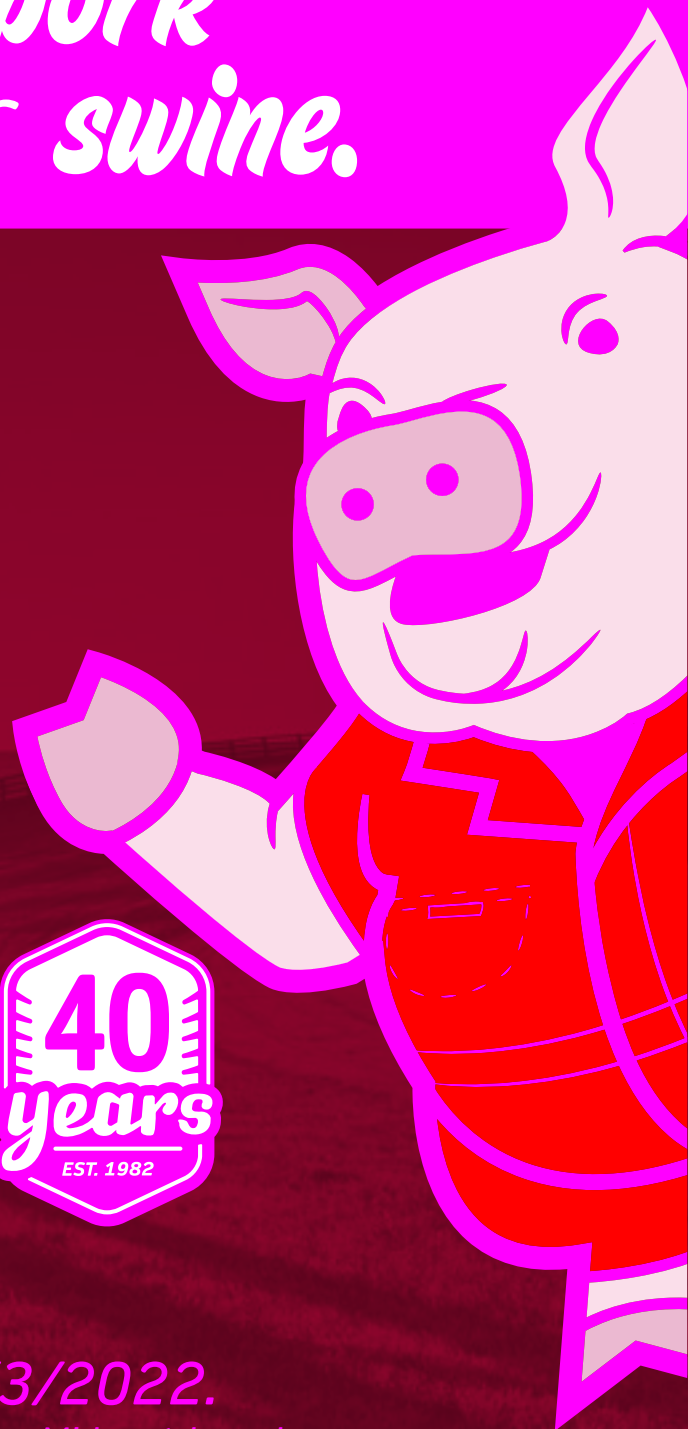
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2022 YOUNG LEADERS IN AGRICULTURE CONFERENCE

In its eighth year, the Young Leaders in Agriculture Conference (YLAC) will be held June 20-22 in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

All 18-22 year olds who have a passion for any area of agriculture are encouraged to attend the Young Leaders in Agriculture Conference. This year's conference focuses on continuing the development of young agricultural leaders by exposing them to the diversity of today's challenges, opinions, and ideas surrounding food production all while building strong industry advocates and expanding professional networks.

Registration opens May 15, 2022.



Minnesota Pork Board Scholarship Applications Now Open

Scholarship applications due May 16, 2022

The Minnesota Pork Board awards up to five \$1,000 scholarships to young people pursuing careers in agricultural business, agricultural communications, agricultural education, agricultural engineering, agronomy, animal science, animal physiology, environmental sciences, nutrition, livestock reproduction, large animal veterinary medicine, and other related fields.

Qualified applicants must have an emphasis in the pork industry.



APPLICANT QUALIFICATIONS:

- Minnesota resident
- Pursuing an undergraduate degree at a two or four-year institution with an emphasis in swine production or related field.
- Applicant must be entering either his/her freshman, sophomore, junior or senior year of college.
- Individuals can only receive one Minnesota Pork Industry Scholarship during his/her post-secondary tenure

QUALIFIED APPLICANTS MUST SUBMIT:

- Completed scholarship application form
- Letter indicating his/her intentions for future involvement in pork production/agricultural industry
- 750 word or less essay on a current or future pork industry challenge and his/her proposed solutions for the issue
- Two letters of recommendation
- Professional resume

For more information or questions contact Jill Resler, chief operating officer at the Minnesota Pork Board at 507-345-8814 or jill@mnpork.com.

To apply, visit <https://www.mnpork.com/porkfacts/scholarships/>.



Pork Industry Innovation Challenge

The Pork Checkoff is launching the first-ever Pork Industry Innovation Challenge to encourage individuals and companies to help solve some of the biggest challenges facing the U.S. pork industry. The focus of the 2022 challenge is foreign animal disease mortality management. Specifically, the industry is seeking new and innovative methods of pig mortality disposal. These methods could be used on farms if there were to be a foreign animal disease outbreak, such as African Swine Fever, in the United States.

New and innovative methods would go beyond the existing methods of burial, incineration, composting and landfills and provide pig farmers with more options for pig mortality disposal if needed. Having plans and solutions in place can help support pig farmers and their ability to continue operating.

Ideal solutions will solve the mortality disposal challenge and protect air/water quality, improve soil health and nutrients, and help with the overall sustainability of all natural resources.



The entry period began in February and runs through July 2022. All companies, students, residents, and producers can submit a proposal if the applicant is 18 and a legal resident of the United States. Top innovators can receive up to \$46,000.

To learn more about the challenge, visit <https://www.porkcheckoff.org/pork-industry-innovation-challenge/>.



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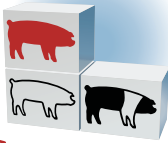
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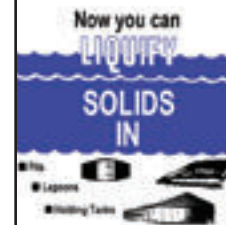
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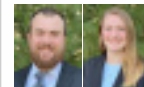
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SHEET PAN GNOCCHI WITH KIELBASA AND VEGETABLES

A dinner that's made all on one pan and ready in just over 30 minutes? This Sheet Pan Gnocchi Bake with Kielbasa delivers in record time with unbeatable flavor and convenience.

Hectic weeknights are no match for this hearty Sheet Pan Gnocchi with Kielbasa and Vegetables. It's a true one-pan wonder, so clean-up is easy. This full meal made on one sheet pan is a feast for the tastebuds and the eyes, with a rainbow of colors from bell peppers, red onions, baby spinach, and grape tomatoes. Using flavorful fully-cooked kielbasa means there are no extra steps. Plus, you get a short cooking time so dinner is ready, start to finish in just over 30 minutes.

pork please!



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INGREDIENTS

- 2 (12-ounce) bags frozen cauliflower gnocchi or shelf-stable gnocchi
- 1 (14-ounce) smoked kielbasa, cut into 6 pieces
- 2 medium bell peppers (2 ½ cups), cut into 1-inch pieces
- ½ medium red onion, thinly sliced (1 ½ cup)
- 1 pint grape or cherry tomatoes (10-12 ounces)
- 3 garlic cloves, minced
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 3 sprigs fresh rosemary (or 1 teaspoon dried rosemary, lightly crushed or chopped)
- ¼ cup fresh basil leaves, thinly sliced (or 1 teaspoon dried basil)
- ½ cups shredded Parmesan
- Fine salt and black pepper
- 3 cups fresh baby spinach, lightly packed

Created in partnership with The Real Food Dietitians.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Preheat the oven to 425°. Line a large rimmed baking sheet with parchment paper.
2. Place the gnocchi (do not thaw if using frozen gnocchi), peppers, onions, tomatoes, and garlic on the baking sheet. If using dried rosemary and/or basil, add those to the pan now. Drizzle with olive oil and toss to coat.
3. Spread the vegetables in an even layer on the pan and place the kielbasa on top of the vegetable mixture. If using fresh rosemary, lay sprigs on top of the vegetables.
4. Place the baking sheet in the oven and bake for 25 minutes, stirring halfway through.
5. Remove the pan from the oven and top with the spinach (do not stir). Return the pan to the oven and bake for an additional 2 minutes. Remove the pan and stir.
6. Season with salt and pepper. Sprinkle with basil and shredded parmesan just before serving.

University of Minnesota Extension Swine Needs Assessment

The University of Minnesota Extension Swine Team invites you to participate in their Needs Assessment survey. The results will help of the U of M team better determine the educational needs of the pork industry in Minnesota. All Minnesota pork producers, caretakers,

and ag professionals are encouraged to participate. The survey is anonymous and can be quickly and easily completed online.

Should you have any questions, please reach out to University of Minnesota swine educators, Sarah Schieck Boelke or Diane DeWitte at (320) 235-0726.

The U of MN Extension Swine Needs Assessment can be found at z.umn.edu/NeedsAssessmentSurvey.



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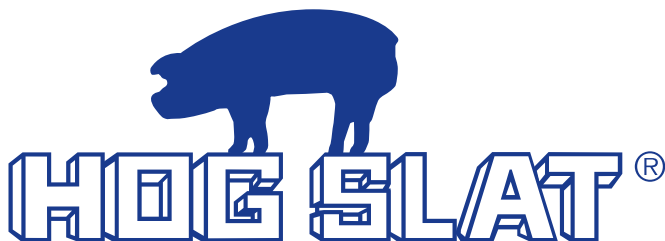


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