DISEASES OF SWINE
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The diseases of swine could be classified as:

- Bacterial
- Viral
- Parasitic and
- Other diseases

Viral:

Swine Fever/Hog cholera/Pig Typhoid:

- Cause: Togo virus.
- It is highly contagious and usually acute.
- Young ones are more susceptible than adult.
- Transmission:
  - Through urine and faeces, nose as well as mouth secretions
  - Contaminated feed and water
  - Introduction of new animals (Infected) into herd
  - By bird or streams
  - Direct contact with infected pigs.
- Incubation period: 7 – 10 days.

Symptoms:

Fever 41°C, staggering gait, eye discharge, eye lids stick together, red blanches may be seen on the skin especially at the abdomen; cough and difficulty in breathing. Usually animal dies within 7 days and some survive show partial recovery.

Prevention:

- Pigs should be vaccinated against swine fever once in a year.
- Proper sanitation
- Houses and equipments should be cleaned and disinfected
- Purchase new animals from a vaccinated farm

Pork we eat
Foot and Mouth Disease

Cause: Aphtho virus

Symptoms: Vesicles and erosions in the mouth, snout and feet.

Transmission: Air borne, Recovered animals, Field rats and birds

Treatment: Foot and mouth lesions should be cleaned with 2 % alum or potassium permanganate.

Antibiotics and supportive treatments.

Prevention: Vaccination of pigs once in four months against Foot and Mouth Disease

Bacterial

Swine erysipelas: Erysipelothrix rhutioptiae

Symptoms:
- Diamond shape skin lesion
- Stiff joint and lameness
- Hogs resting on the haunches or their breast bone
- Transmission: Affected animals excrete the causal organism in their urine and faeces.
- Pigs get infection from contaminated food and water.
- Organisms remain alive and multiply in moist soil.
- In India it is common during June - September.

Brucellosis

Cause: Brucella suis.

Causes abortion, still birth, infertility, orchitis and lameness.

Transmission: Ingestion of food and water contaminated with uterine discharge of aborted animal. Through coitus, skin abrasion and conjunctiva and milk.

Symptoms: Abortion at last trimester.

Note: Infected animal should be culled.
Tuberculosis:

It is a chronic bacterial disease and is highly communicable to human beings.

Cause: Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycobacterium bovis

Transmission: By inhalation and contact with infected animal.

Symptoms: Unthriftiness, nodular swelling in neck region, pulmonary symptoms and enlargement of bones and joints.

Note: Infected animal should be culled.

Colibacillosis:
Also called gut oedema.

- Cause: Escherichia coll.
- Transmission: Through contaminated feed and water.
- Symptoms: Stagerring gait, incoordination, puffy eye lid giving a sleepy appearance and in later stage get partially paralysed.

Parasitic Infections

- Round, hook and tape worm can infect the swine.
- Regular deworming with broad spectrum

Zoonotic diseases

Taeniasis, Salmonellosis, Toxoplasmosis, Trichinellosis, Brucellosis, Q fever, Japanese encephalitis and Leptospirosis.

Other causes: Piglet Anaemia

✓ Iron/Copper/Cobalt and B Complex deficiency are the most common occurrence of anaemia in swine population can be prevented by feeding Ferrous Sulphate regularly.
Best method is to give Iron dextron injection to piglets on the day of birth.

Bio-security measures

Disinfection of all sheds on weekly basis
Water sanitation at regular interval
Entry of visitors into pig sheds restricted
Foot bath (lime) permanently provided at the entrance
Regular vaccination (Swine Fever and FMD) and deworming
Carcass to be disposed in pits and covered with lime powder away from the premises
Isolation of sick animals and allocating separate labour
Antibiotic therapy- As per the veterinarians directions.